



August 28, 2020

Dear Contract Owner:

Zurich American Life Insurance Company is pleased to continue with our customized process for producing and distributing semi-annual reports for the registered funds underlying the investment choices you have selected in your Destinations VA or Farmers VA I variable annuity contract.

Your customized semi-annual report is enclosed. The report provides an update on the relevant funds' performance as of June 30, 2020. Fund performance does not take into account the fees charged by your contract. If these fees had been included, the performance would have been lower. As always, past performance cannot predict or guarantee future returns.

Zurich American  
Life Insurance Company  
  
Administrative Office:  
PO Box 7728  
Overland Park, KS 66207-0728  
  
Telephone 877-301-5376  
Fax 1-866-315-0729

In addition, please be advised that beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the SEC, paper copies of the shareholder reports for the registered funds available under your Contract will no longer be sent by mail, unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports from us. Instead, the reports will be made available on a website, and you will be notified by mail each time a report is posted and provided with a website link to access the report.

ZURICHAMERICANLIFEINSURANCE.COM

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge. You can inform us that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by calling the Service Center toll-free at 1-800-449-0523. Your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all registered funds available under your Contract.

We hope that the enclosed information is helpful. If you have any questions concerning your contract, please do not hesitate to call our Service Center at (800) 449-0523 (toll free).

Thank you for placing your variable annuity contract with us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Audrey Martin', is written in a cursive style.

Audrey Martin  
Head of Business Performance Management and Execution

Enclosure

## SUPPLEMENT TO THE CURRENTLY EFFECTIVE PROSPECTUSES OF EACH OF THE LISTED FUNDS

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Cash Account Trust	DWS Government Money Market Series	Investors Cash Trust
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio	DWS Health and Wellness Fund	DWS Treasury Portfolio
DWS Tax-Exempt Portfolio	DWS High Income Fund	<b>Deutsche DWS Variable Series I:</b>
DWS California Tax-Free Income Fund	DWS Intermediate Tax-Free Fund	DWS Bond VIP
DWS Capital Growth Fund	DWS International Growth Fund	DWS Capital Growth VIP
DWS Communications Fund	DWS Large Cap Focus Growth Fund	DWS Core Equity VIP
DWS Core Equity Fund	DWS Latin America Equity Fund	DWS CROCI® International VIP
DWS CROCI® Equity Dividend Fund	DWS Managed Municipal Bond Fund	DWS Global Small Cap VIP
DWS CROCI® International Fund	DWS Massachusetts Tax-Free Fund	<b>Deutsche DWS Variable Series II:</b>
DWS CROCI® U.S. Fund	DWS Money Market Prime Series	DWS Alternative Asset Allocation VIP
DWS Emerging Markets Equity Fund	DWS Multi-Asset Conservative Allocation Fund	DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP
DWS Emerging Markets Fixed Income Fund	DWS Multi-Asset Growth Allocation Fund	DWS Global Equity VIP
DWS Enhanced Commodity Strategy Fund	DWS Multi-Asset Moderate Allocation Fund	DWS Global Income Builder VIP
DWS Equity 500 Index Fund	DWS New York Tax-Free Income Fund	DWS Government Money Market VIP
DWS ESG Core Equity Fund	DWS RREEF Global Infrastructure Fund	DWS High Income VIP
DWS ESG Global Bond Fund	DWS RREEF Global Real Estate Securities Fund	DWS International Growth VIP
DWS ESG International Core Equity Fund	DWS RREEF MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund	DWS Small Mid Cap Growth VIP
DWS ESG Liquidity Fund	DWS RREEF Real Assets Fund	DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP
DWS Floating Rate Fund	DWS RREEF Real Estate Securities Fund	<b>Deutsche DWS Investments VIT Funds:</b>
DWS Global High Income Fund	DWS S&P 500 Index Fund	DWS Equity 500 Index VIP
DWS Global Income Builder Fund	DWS Science and Technology Fund	DWS Small Cap Index VIP
DWS Global Macro Fund	DWS Short Duration Fund	
DWS Global Small Cap Fund	DWS Short-Term Municipal Bond Fund	
DWS GNMA Fund	DWS Small Cap Core Fund	
DWS Government Cash Management Fund	DWS Small Cap Growth Fund	
DWS Government Cash Reserves Fund	DWS Strategic High Yield Tax-Free Fund	
Institutional	DWS Total Return Bond Fund	

**The recent Consent Order involving Deutsche Bank AG (“DB”), described below, does not involve the Funds or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc., DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the “DWS Service Providers”). The DWS Service Providers have informed the Board of Trustees/Directors (the “Board”) that, subject to the receipt of temporary and permanent exemptive orders (described below), the DWS Service Providers believe the Consent Order will not have any material impact on the Funds or the ability of the DWS Service Providers to perform services for the Funds.**

On June 17, 2020, DB resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order (“Consent Order”), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management or distribution activities of any of the DWS Service Providers. DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”), of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB’s 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Funds absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Funds and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past.

Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Funds, and in accordance with the desire of the Board, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide advisory and distribution services to the Funds.

*Please Retain This Supplement for Future Reference.*

**THE ALGER FUNDS**

Alger Capital Appreciation Fund  
 Alger Growth & Income Fund  
 Alger Health Sciences Fund  
 Alger International Focus Fund  
 Alger Mid Cap Focus Fund  
 Alger Mid Cap Growth Fund  
 Alger Small Cap Focus Fund  
 Alger Small Cap Growth Fund  
 Alger Weatherbie Specialized Growth Fund  
 Alger 25 Fund  
 Alger 35 Fund

**THE ALGER INSTITUTIONAL FUNDS**

Alger Capital Appreciation Institutional Fund  
 Alger Focus Equity Fund  
 Alger Mid Cap Growth Institutional Fund  
 Alger Small Cap Growth Institutional Fund

**THE ALGER FUNDS II**

Alger Dynamic Opportunities Fund  
 Alger Emerging Markets Fund  
 Alger Responsible Investing Fund  
 Alger Spectra Fund

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS**

Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio  
 Alger Growth & Income Portfolio  
 Alger Large Cap Growth Portfolio  
 Alger Mid Cap Growth Portfolio  
 Alger Small Cap Growth Portfolio  
 Alger Weatherbie Specialized Growth Portfolio  
 Alger Balanced Portfolio

**ALGER GLOBAL FOCUS FUND**

(each, a “Fund” and collectively, the “Funds”)

**Supplement dated June 15, 2020 to the  
 Summary Prospectuses, Prospectuses and  
 Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) of each Fund**

*The following changes are made to each Fund’s summary prospectuses, prospectuses and SAIs, as applicable.*

**Share Class Conversion**

Effective on or about the close of business on July 24, 2020, shareholders invested directly in Class B shares of the Funds (the “Original Shares”) will be converted into Class A shares of the Funds (the “New Shares”) with the same relative aggregate net asset value as the Original Shares held immediately prior to the conversion. The New Shares currently have lower total expense ratios, and equal or lower distribution fees and/or shareholder servicing fees payable under the Funds’ 12b-1 plans than the Original Shares. No sales load, fee, or other charge will be imposed on the conversion of these shares and, once converted, the New Shares will not be subject to the contingent deferred sales charge (if any) currently charged on the redemption of the Original Shares. Please refer to your Fund’s prospectus for more information on the New Shares. The conversion is not expected to be a taxable event for federal income tax purposes and should not result in recognition of gain or loss by converting shareholders. As disclosed in the Funds’ prospectuses, Class B and Class C shares are subject to limited availability and are no longer offered directly to shareholders. Shareholders investing directly in Class C shares were previously notified by the Fund and converted to Class A shares. Financial intermediaries may, in connection with a change in account type or otherwise in accordance with a financial intermediary’s policies and procedures, exchange one class of shares for Class A Shares of the same Fund. Shareholders should consult their financial intermediaries for the availability and timing of such exchanges. Going forward, if a shareholder transfers Class B or Class C shares of a Fund held through a financial intermediary to a direct account, such shares will be immediately converted into Class A shares of the Fund.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Original Shares</b>	<b>New Shares</b>
Alger International Focus Fund	Class B Shares	Class A Shares
Alger Mid Cap Growth Fund	Class B Shares	Class A Shares
Alger Small Cap Growth Fund	Class B Shares	Class A Shares

## Distributor

Effective immediately, the section of each Fund's prospectus entitled "Shareholder Information—Distributor" is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

### **Distributor**

Fred Alger & Company, LLC  
360 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10010

Although the Distributor is the broker-of-record on certain direct shareholder accounts, the Distributor does not interact directly with such shareholders and therefore, does not believe it makes recommendations to such shareholders regarding the holdings in their accounts.

## Contingent Deferred Sales Charges

Effective immediately, the following changes are made to each Fund's prospectuses for Class A, Class B, and Class C Shares and each Fund's SAI, as applicable:

The first paragraph and accompanying table in the section of each Fund's prospectus for Class A, Class B, and Class C Shares, as applicable, entitled "Shareholder Information—Sales Charges—Class A Shares" is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

When you buy Class A Shares you may pay the following sales charge:

<b>Purchase Amount</b>	<b>Sales Charge as a % of Offering Price</b>	<b>Sales Charge as a % of Net Asset Value</b>	<b>Dealer Allowance as a % of Offering Price</b>
Less than \$25,000	5.25%	5.54%	5.00%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	4.50%	4.71%	4.25%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	4.00%	4.17%	3.75%
\$100,000 - \$249,999	3.50%	3.63%	3.25%
\$250,000 - \$499,999	2.50%	2.56%	2.25%
\$500,000 - \$749,999	2.00%	2.04%	1.75%
\$750,000 - \$999,999	1.50%	1.52%	1.25%
\$1,000,000 and over	*	*	1.00%

\* Purchases of Class A Shares which, when combined with current holdings of Class A Shares of the Alger Family of Funds offered with a sales charge, equal or exceed \$1,000,000 in the aggregate may be made at net asset value without any initial sales charge, but may be subject to a contingent deferred sales charge ("CDSC") of 1.00% on redemptions made within 12 months of purchase. The CDSC is waived if the shareholder's financial intermediary notified the Distributor before the shareholder purchased the Class A Shares that the financial intermediary would waive the 1.00% Dealer Allowance noted in the chart above.

The end of the section of each Fund's prospectus for Class A, Class B, and Class C Shares, as applicable, entitled "Shareholder Information—Waivers of Sales Charges" is amended to add the following disclosure:

- investors purchasing Class A Shares directly from the Fund which, when combined with current holdings of Class A Shares of the Alger Family of Funds offered with a sales charge, equal or exceed \$1,000,000 in the aggregate, when such Class A Shares are redeemed within 12 months of purchase.

*The first paragraph in the section of each of The Alger Institutional Funds', The Alger Funds II's and Alger Global Focus Fund's SAI, and the second paragraph of The Alger Funds' SAI entitled "Redemptions—Contingent Deferred Sales Charge (Class A[, B] and C)" is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:*

Certain Class A Shares also are subject to a CDSC. Those Class A Shares (as well as when combined with all other Class A Shares of The Alger Family of Funds) purchased in an amount of \$1 million or more which have not been subject to the class's initial sales charge and which have not been held for a full year may be subject to a CDSC of 1% at the time of redemption.

*The end of the section of each of The Alger Funds', The Alger Institutional Funds', The Alger Funds II's and Alger Global Focus Fund's SAI entitled "Redemptions—Waivers of Sales Charges (Class A[, B] and C)" is amended to add the following disclosure:*

- investors purchasing Class A Shares directly from the Fund which, when combined with current holdings of Class A Shares of the Alger Family of Funds offered with a sales charge, equal or exceed \$1,000,000 in the aggregate, when such Class A Shares are redeemed within 12 months of purchase.

### Responsible Investing

*Effective on or about August 1, 2020, the following changes are made to the Alger Responsible Investing Fund (the "Responsible Investing Fund"):*

*The first sentence of the second paragraph in the section of the Responsible Investing Fund's summary prospectuses entitled "Principal Investment Strategy" and prospectuses entitled "Summary Section—Alger Responsible Investing Fund—Principal Investment Strategy" is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:*

Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of companies of any size with an environmental, social and governance ("ESG") rating of average or above by a third-party ESG rating agency (an "ESG Rating Agency") that also demonstrate, in the view of Fred Alger Management, LLC, promising growth potential.

*The first sentence in the section of the Responsible Investing Fund's prospectuses entitled "Additional Information About the Funds' Investment Strategies and Investments—Alger Responsible Investing Fund" is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:*

Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of companies of any size with an ESG rating of average or above by an ESG Rating Agency that also demonstrate, in the view of Alger Management, promising growth potential.

### Portfolio Management

*Effective immediately, the first paragraph in the section of each Fund's summary prospectuses entitled "Management" and prospectuses entitled "Summary Section—[Fund]—Management," except Alger Mid Cap Focus Fund, Alger Small Cap Focus Fund, Alger Responsible Investing Fund, Alger 25 Fund, Alger 35 Fund, Alger Balanced Portfolio and Alger Large Cap Growth Portfolio, is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:*

When a Fund is co-managed, the responsibilities of such portfolio managers may be shared, divided or otherwise assigned based on various factors including, but not limited to, level of Fund assets to be managed, their experience, their sector expertise, and such other factors as the Manager believes is most efficient and effective. In all cases, each portfolio manager collaborates with the other portfolio manager(s) and analysts to develop overall strategy, outlook, and themes; which impact industry, sector and security allocations in the Fund. Responsibilities amongst portfolio managers may be fully or partially allocated to one of the portfolio managers for the purposes of day-to-day portfolio management and stock selection, implementation of trades, strategic and performance oversight, risk management, or oversight of guidelines; whether externally driven or internally developed by the Manager.

## Intermediary Waivers

Effective immediately, the section of each Fund's prospectus for Class A, Class B, and Class C Shares, as applicable, entitled "Appendix A—Waivers and Discounts Available from Intermediaries" is amended to add the following disclosure:

### **Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.**

Shareholders purchasing Fund shares through an Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. ("OPCO") platform or account are eligible only for the following load waivers (front-end sales charge waivers and contingent deferred, or back-end, sales charge waivers) and discounts, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this Fund's prospectus or SAI. To receive a waiver, such waiver must be requested when an eligible trade is made.

<b>Front-end Sales Load Waivers on Class A Shares available at OPCO</b>
Employer-sponsored retirement, deferred compensation and employee benefit plans (including health savings accounts) and trusts used to fund those plans, provided that the shares are not held in a commission-based brokerage account and shares are held for the benefit of the plan
Shares purchased by or through a 529 Plan
Shares purchased through a OPCO affiliated investment advisory program
Shares purchased through reinvestment of capital gains distributions and dividend reinvestment when purchasing shares of the same fund (but not any other fund within the fund family)
Shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions within the same fund family, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end or deferred sales load (known as Rights of Restatement)
Shareholders in the Fund's Class C shares will have their shares converted at net asset value to Class A shares (or the appropriate share class) of the Fund if the shares are no longer subject to a CDSC and the conversion is in line with the policies and procedures of OPCO
Employees and registered representatives of OPCO or its affiliates and their family members
Trustees of the Fund, and employees of the Fund's investment adviser or any of its affiliates, as described in this prospectus
<b>CDSC Waivers on A, B and C Shares available at OPCO</b>
Death or disability of the shareholder
Shares sold as part of a systematic withdrawal plan as described in the Fund's prospectus
Return of excess contributions from an IRA Account
Shares sold as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts due to the shareholder reaching the qualified age based upon applicable IRS regulations as described in the prospectus
Shares sold to pay OPCO fees but only if the transaction is initiated by OPCO
Shares acquired through a right of reinstatement
<b>Front-end load Discounts Available at OPCO: Breakpoints, Rights of Accumulation &amp; Letters of Intent</b>
Breakpoints as described in this prospectus
Rights of Accumulation (ROA) which entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holding of fund family assets held by accounts within the purchaser's household at OPCO. Eligible fund family assets not held at OPCO may be included in the ROA calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial advisor about such assets

### **Robert W. Baird & Co.**

Shareholders purchasing Fund shares through a Robert W. Baird & Co. ("Baird") platform or account will only be eligible for the following sales charge waivers (front-end sales charge waivers and CDSC waivers) and discounts, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI. To receive a waiver, such waiver must be requested when an eligible trade is made.

<b>Front-End Sales Charge Waivers on Investor A Shares Available at Baird</b>
Shares purchased through reinvestment of capital gains distributions and dividend reinvestment when purchasing share of the same Fund

Share purchase by employees and registers representatives of Baird or its affiliate and their family members as designated by Baird
Shares purchased using the proceeds of redemptions within the Alger Family of Funds, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same accounts, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end or deferred sales charge (known as rights of reinstatement)
A shareholder in the Fund's Investor C shares will have their shares converted at net asset value to Investor A shares of the same Fund if the shares are no longer subject to CDSC and the conversion is in line with the policies and procedures of Baird
Employer-sponsored retirement plans or charitable accounts in a transactional brokerage account at Baird, including 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans. For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs or SAR-SEPs
<b>CDSC Waivers on Investor A and C Shares Available at Baird</b>
Shares sold due to death or disability of the shareholder
Shares sold as part of a systematic withdrawal plan as described in the Fund's prospectus
Shares bought due to returns of excess contributions from an IRA account
Shares sold as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts due to the shareholder reaching the qualified age based on applicable Internal Revenue Service regulations as described in the Fund's prospectus
Shares sold to pay Baird fees but only if the transaction is initiated by Baird
Shares acquired through a right of reinstatement
<b>Front-End Sales Charge Discounts Available at Baird: Breakpoints and/or Rights of Accumulations</b>
Breakpoints as described in the Fund's prospectus
Rights of accumulations which entitles shareholders to breakpoint discounts will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holding of assets within the Alger Family of Funds held by accounts within the purchaser's household at Baird. Eligible assets within the Alger Family of Funds not held at Baird may be included in the rights of accumulations calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial advisor about such assets
Letters of Intent (LOI) allow for breakpoint discounts based on anticipated purchases within the Alger Family of Funds through Baird, over a 13-month period of time

S-CappApp 61520	S-FocusEquityI 61520	S-IntFocus 61520	S-SmallCapInsZ-2 61520	S-TAFII-Retail 61520
S-CapAppZ 61520	S-FocusEquityY 61520	S-MidCapABC 61520	S-SmallCapI-2 61520	S-TAFII-INST 61520
S-CapAppIR 61520	S-FocusEquityZ 61520	S-MidCapZ 61520	S-Spectra 61520	S-TAIF-Retail 61520
S-CapAppY 61520	S-GlobalFocus 61520	S-MidCapIR 61520	S-SpectraIns 61520	S-TAIF-Instl. 61520
S-CapAppInsZ-2 61520	S-GblFocusIns 61520	S-MidCapInsZ-2 61520	S-SpectraY 61520	S-Global Focus-Retail 61520
S-CapAppI-2 61520	S-GblFocusZ 61520	S-MidCapI-2 61520	S-SpectraZ 61520	S-Global Focus-Instl. 61520
S-CapAppS 61520	S-GthInc 61520	S-MidCapS 61520	S-SMidCapAC 61520	S-APPI-2 61520
S-DynOpp 61520	S-GthIncZ 61520	S-RespAC 61520	S-SMidI 61520	S-APPS 61520
S-DynOppZ 61520	S-GrIncI-2 61520	S-RespI 61520	S-SMidY 61520	S-TAFSAI 61520
S-EmergMkt 61520	S-HealthAC61520	S-RespZ 61520	S-SMidZ 61520	S-TAFIISAI 61520
S-EmergMktIns 61520	S-HealthZ 61520	S-SmallCapABC 61520	S-WSGI-2 61520	S-(ISAI) 61520
S-EmergMktZ 61520	S-IntFocusABC 61520	S-SmallCapZ 61520	S-TAF Retail 61520	S-AGFFSAI 61520
S-FocusEquityAC 61520	S-IntFocusIns 61520	S-SmallCapIns 61520	S-TAF-Instl. 61520	

**ALGER**

**THE ALGER  
PORTFOLIOS**

Alger Balanced Portfolio

**SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT**

JUNE 30, 2020 (UNAUDITED)





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### Optional Internet Availability of Alger Shareholder Reports

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, paper copies of the Portfolios' shareholder reports will no longer be sent by mail, unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports from the Portfolio, the insurance company that offers your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract, or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the reports will be made available on a website, and you will be notified by mail each time a report is posted and provided with a website link to access the report.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from the Portfolio electronically by signing up for paperless delivery at [www.icsdelivery.com/alger](http://www.icsdelivery.com/alger). If you own these shares through a financial intermediary or an insurance company, contact your financial intermediary or insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge. You can inform the Portfolio, the insurance company, or financial intermediary that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by contacting us at 1-866-345-5954 or [fundreports.com](http://fundreports.com). If you own these shares through a financial intermediary or an insurance company, contact your financial intermediary or an insurance company, to elect to continue to receive paper copies of your shareholder reports. Your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all funds held within the Alger Fund Complex, your insurance company, or your financial intermediary.

Dear Shareholders,

**Reasons for Optimism Surface as Pandemic Drives Market Volatility**

At Alger, we see plenty of reasons for optimism regarding equity investing and the well-being of society as governments seek to curtail the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), but we acknowledge that the pandemic will continue to create both personal and economic hardships for the foreseeable future. During the recent months of uncertainty and fear, we have strived to support our shareholders by drawing upon our 55 years of investing experience to seek companies that are best positioned to potentially generate durable earnings growth, and we have shared our insights on managing equities during challenging times to help our clients manage their apprehension.

In this letter, which discusses the six-month reporting period ended June 30, 2020, I provide additional perspectives on navigating markets during the pandemic and explain why I believe equities, while continuing to be volatile, may produce additional gains.

**A Challenging Time**

From the start of the reporting period until February 19 of this year, the S&P 500 Index climbed 5.08%. The spread of COVID-19 worldwide and fears of a potential recession and contraction of corporate earnings, however, caused investor sentiment to plummet and from the February 19 historical market peak to March 23 the index dropped 33.79%. As countries issued stay-at-home orders and shut down businesses to contain the pandemic, economic data weakened considerably, and in April the Congressional Budget Office predicted that second quarter U.S. gross domestic product would decline 12%, or the equivalent to a decline in the annual rate of 40%, while the unemployment rate climbed to 14.7%. Data during the reporting period eventually resulted in the National Bureau of Economic Research declaring in June that the 128-month period of economic expansion in the U.S.—the longest in the country's history—had officially ended in February.

During the reporting period, the Federal Reserve (the “Fed”) responded aggressively to the pandemic by implementing two rate cuts that totaled 150 basis points, bringing the fed funds target rate to .0% - .25%. The Fed also unveiled a round of quantitative easing that dwarfs prior easing programs while U.S. legislators created programs initially valued at more than \$2 trillion to support businesses, increase unemployment benefits and provide one-time payments to certain individuals.

**Reasons for Optimism**

Hope that the stimulus plans could help mitigate the economic impact of the pandemic and progress with governments re-opening their economies caused equities to bounce back and, from March 24 until June 30, the S&P 500 Index recorded a 39.31% gain. Investor sentiment was also supported by anticipation that earnings growth will return next year, with analysts predicting S&P 500 profits to increase 12.7% during the first quarter of 2021, according to FactSet Research Systems. Additionally, consumers appeared to be increasing their spending after having tightened their purse strings during the earlier months of the pandemic, with retail and food services expenditures increasing 17.7% month over month

in May. A moderation in the growth rate of new COVID-19 cases in the U.S. from mid-April to mid-June, which occurred despite certain states experiencing an acceleration of COVID-19 patients, was also positive for investor sentiment.

Despite the strong market rally later in the reporting period, the S&P 500 recorded a 3.08% loss for the six-month period. Broadly speaking, companies with strong balance sheets and innovative products that are experiencing growing demand as a result of the pandemic outperformed while “old economy” industries such as energy, manufacturing, brick and mortar retailers and certain travel companies including airlines, cruise ship operators and hotels performed worst.

### **Keeping Change in Perspective**

At Alger, we believe history illustrates that companies with innovative products and services can dominate by disrupting their respective industries and capturing market share. We believe these types of companies can potentially reward investors by growing their earnings despite economic headwinds.

Consider the following examples:

- The “Spanish Flu” pandemic and recession, which lasted from 1918 to 1919 and claimed 50 million lives. During this period, automobile ownership grew at a double-digit rate.
- The Great Depression, which lasted from 1929 through 1939. In 1937 DuPont introduced neoprene, which is a synthetic rubber. By 1939, every automobile and airplane manufactured in the U.S. included products made with the material. Hewlett-Packard and Polaroid were also born during the Great Depression.
- The “Asian Flu” pandemic and recession, which occurred in the late 1950s. During this event television ownership increased 12% in 1958 after the introduction of color TV.
- The recession of the early 1990s. During this event, personal computer penetration grew.
- The Global Financial Crisis and Great Recession of 2008. During this event, smartphone subscribers, digital advertising and online retail sales all increased.

### **Pandemic Hastens Change**

Today, internet-connected devices, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, genetic sciences, medtech and healthcare advances, and other technologies are fostering innovation that is occurring at unprecedented levels. In many instances, the COVID-19 pandemic is accelerating the already rapid pace at which new products and services disrupt their industries and capture market share. During the early months of the pandemic, credit card data showed that overall consumer spending declined substantially as shopping malls closed, but consumers’ online shopping has seen near exponential acceleration while people have been under stay-at-home orders.<sup>1</sup> The increased adoption of e-commerce by consumers is comparable to the total growth that would have occurred over the coming two years without the pandemic. This acceleration is occurring after decades of growth in online retailing, which increased 14.9% last year while overall retail sales increased only 3.8% over the same period. This strong growth trend of course benefits large online

retailers such as Amazon.com, Inc. but it is also helping smaller retailers who have had the foresight to adopt and even primarily build their businesses online, rather than in physical stores, often using ecommerce software platforms from companies such as Shopify, Square and Hubspot.

The structure and rhythm of the American workplace (and indeed the globally) may be forever changed as a result of the response to COVID-19. With offices shut down, many businesses have had to immediately expand remote working to the majority, if not all, of their employees. Many lessons will be learned from this mass shift to telecommuting. However, we believe that even after this healthcare crisis passes and offices re-open, there will be a shift in the perception and therefore the use of telecommuting. In particular, for many businesses and for many job roles, we believe both workers and employers are seeing efficiency gains while “working from home” and will adopt more flexible policies in the future to not only allow working from home but perhaps encourage it more broadly and frequently within their future workforce. The use of many of the new technologies that support online collaboration, videoconferencing, and business process management, even as workers are remote, is being tested now on an emergency and broad basis, and the technologies are proving themselves to be largely exceptional in their potential for changing how we work in the future. To support this massive shift, technology needs to not only provide collaborative workstations for employees, but also increased network capacity and security. Nearly every provider of internet bandwidth or data center computing power is reporting significant increases in demand. Additionally, security firms such as CrowdStrike that provide end-point protection against viruses, malware and other digital threats are experiencing increased demand for cloud-based security systems. In both government and commercial firms, the need for real-time communication with the public or their employees has driven the adoption of new communications platforms to manage the dialogue. Software company Everbridge, for example, announced during the first quarter of this year that it had processed more than 13 million messages related to the pandemic.

We have long been investors in the healthcare sector, which we view as one of the most dynamic and innovative sectors in the U.S. and, indeed, the world. Today, we are seeing the valor of doctors and nurses in New York in particular, Alger’s home for more than 55 years, and across the U.S. and the globe. We believe this crisis will bring benefits to healthcare systems worldwide as lessons learned from this pandemic will result in new investment in public health, strengthening our hospitals’ and service providers’ capacity to respond rapidly and flexibly to future crises. It will also potentially accelerate investment in innovations in the research lab, from testing clinical treatments and processes to the delivery of healthcare services by our doctors and nurses on the frontline of patient care. Early growth trends like telemedicine have already proven critical in this crisis, and after it ends, we believe telemedicine will have become the new way of delivering healthcare to people in the U.S.—that is a technology trend whose adoption “curve” will have gone from birth to mainstream potentially faster than any we have seen before.

### **Going Forward**

We believe market volatility will continue in the coming months due to declining earnings and heightened uncertainty, with many companies having withdrawn their guidance due to the difficulty of forecasting the duration of the pandemic and its final economic impact.

We are optimistic that an eventual recovery in earnings growth as well as low interest rates and a return to more normal conditions resulting from a potential COVID-19 vaccine or new treatments for COVID-19 could support equity markets. Unlike most recessions, the current economic slowdown is being driven by a public health crisis rather than structural issues, such as the toxic debt built upon a housing bubble that triggered the Global Financial Crisis. Regardless of the timing of an economic recovery and the course of the pandemic, we believe investors should take a long-term approach rather than try to time markets. We also think investors will be best served by using in-depth fundamental research to find companies that are gaining market share and producing durable earnings growth with innovative products and services and, more specifically, are able to benefit from the global economic dislocation occurring from the pandemic. Additionally, we believe innovative companies with strong balance sheets that can finance their own growth initiatives rather than rely on leverage may be best positioned to outperform. At Alger, we will continue to seek companies that are benefiting from change as we seek to help our valued clients meet their financial needs.

### **Portfolio Matters**

#### **Alger Balanced Portfolio**

The Alger Balanced Portfolio returned -1.85% during the fiscal six-month period ended June 30, 2020. The equity portion of the Portfolio underperformed the -3.08% return of the S&P 500 Index and the fixed income portion underperformed the 7.21% return of the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Gov't/Credit Bond Index.

#### **Contributors to Performance**

Regarding the equity portion of the Portfolio, the largest sector weightings were Information Technology and Healthcare. The largest sector overweight was Financials and the largest underweight was Information Technology. The Materials and Real Estate sectors provided the greatest contributions to relative performance.

Regarding individual positions, Microsoft Corp.; Apple, Inc.; Amazon.com, Inc.; Home Depot, Inc.; and Facebook, Inc., Cl. A were among the top contributors to performance.

Microsoft created the world's leading desktop operating system. The company is transitioning its products to the cloud under the guidance of CEO Satya Nadella. Microsoft also owns LinkedIn, the Xbox brand and the video chat and voice call platform, Skype. Additionally, Microsoft is building artificial intelligence services and an enterprise cloud offering called Azure. The company has been generating very strong free cash flow that it is returning to shareholders as dividends and share repurchases. At the same time, investors are cheering the positive life cycle change as the company reports strong success in moving its products to the cloud and in growing its enterprise cloud service. Additionally, even though Microsoft's subscription-based software offerings and cloud computing services are not entirely immune to economic slowdowns, they are proving resilient because they enhance customers' growth initiatives and help them to diminish costs.

#### **Detractors from Performance**

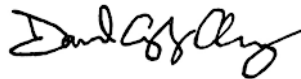
The Consumer Discretionary and Financials sectors were among the sectors that detracted from results. Regarding individual positions, JPMorgan Chase & Co.; Boeing Co.; Honeywell International, Inc.; Wells Fargo & Co.; and CME Group, Inc., Cl. A were among the top detractors from performance. Honeywell is an industrial company providing critical

technical products and services to the aerospace and building industries where it enjoys significant market shares. Honeywell's share price declined in the period because of the company's cyclical sensitivity to slower macroeconomic demand for capital goods and construction products due to COVID-19. This was particularly significant within the global airline industry.

At the end of the reporting period, the fixed income portion of the Portfolio consisted of 12 corporate bonds and one U.S. Treasury bill. The corporate bonds represented 33% of Portfolio assets and the Treasury bills represented 3% of Portfolio assets. The option-adjusted spread of the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate Bond Index entered the year with spreads and yields near five-year lows. Both yields and spreads spiked dramatically during the peak of the COVID-19 fears in mid-March, with spreads moving to their highest levels since the financial crisis in 2008. With forceful Federal Reserve liquidity actions and a strong fiscal policy response to the virus, spreads and yields fell back nearly as quickly as they had risen. Spreads ended the period well above year-end levels, but below the peak of early 2019, while yields moved down to new lows. As a result, total returns for corporate bonds were strong to start 2020.

As always, we strive to deliver consistently superior investment results to you, our shareholders, and we thank you for your continued confidence in Alger.

Sincerely,



Daniel C. Chung, CFA  
Chief Investment Officer  
Fred Alger Management, LLC

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<sup>1</sup>Bank of America.

Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Index performance does not reflect the deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes.

This report and the financial statements contained herein are submitted for the general information of shareholders of the Alger Balanced Portfolio. This report is not authorized for distribution to prospective investors in the Portfolio unless preceded or accompanied by an effective prospectus for the Portfolio. The Portfolio's returns represent the fiscal six-month period return of Class I-2 shares. Returns include reinvestment of dividends and distributions.

**The performance data quoted in these materials represent past performance, which is not an indication or guarantee of future results.**

Standardized performance results can be found on the following pages. The investment return and principal value of an investment in the Portfolio will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. For performance data current to the most recent month-end, visit us at [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com), or call us at (800) 992-3863.

The views and opinions of the Portfolio's management in this report are as of the date of the Shareholders' Letter and are subject to change at any time subsequent to this date. There is no guarantee that any of the assumptions that formed the basis for the opinions stated herein are accurate or that they will materialize. Moreover, the information forming the basis for such assumptions is from sources believed to be reliable; however, there is no guarantee that such information is accurate. Any securities mentioned, whether owned in the Portfolio or otherwise, are considered in the context of the construction of an overall portfolio of securities and therefore reference to them should not be construed as a recommendation or offer to purchase or sell any such security. Inclusion of such securities in the Portfolio and transactions in such securities, if any, may be for a variety of reasons, including, without limitation, in response to cash flows, inclusion in a benchmark, and risk control. The reference to a specific security should also be understood in such context and not viewed as a statement that the security is a significant holding in the Portfolio. Please refer to the Schedule of Investments for the Portfolio which is included in this report for a complete list of Portfolio holdings as of June 30, 2020. Securities mentioned in the Shareholders' Letter, if not found in the Schedule of Investments, may have been held by the Portfolio during the six-month fiscal period.

#### **Risk Disclosure**

Investing in the stock market involves certain risks, including the potential loss of principal. Your investment in Portfolio shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Portfolio. The value of these securities, like other investments, may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. Your Portfolio shares at any point in time may be worth less than what you invested, even after taking into account the reinvestment of Portfolio dividends and distributions. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Portfolio and its investments. Growth stocks may be more volatile than other stocks as their prices tend to be higher in relation to their companies' earnings and tend to be more sensitive to market, political, and economic developments. The risks of investing in fixed-income securities include sensitivity to interest-rate and credit rating changes, call risk, increased volatility for lower rated securities, and pre-payment risk. Income-producing securities may cut or fail to declare dividends due to market downturns or for other reasons. A significant portion of assets will be invested in technology companies, which may be significantly affected by competition, innovation, regulation, and product obsolescence, and may be more volatile than the securities of other companies. Financial services companies are subject to extensive government regulation, which may limit their activities, and may be subject to a high degree of volatility.

For a more detailed discussion of the risks associated with the Portfolio, please see the Portfolio's Prospectus.

**Before investing, carefully consider the Portfolio's investment objective, risks, charges, and expenses. For a prospectus containing this and other information about The Alger Portfolios, call us at (800) 992-3863 or visit us at [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com). Read it carefully before investing.**

**Fred Alger & Company, LLC, Distributor. Member NYSE Euronext, SIPC.**

**NOT FDIC INSURED. NOT BANK GUARANTEED. MAY LOSE VALUE.**

Definitions:

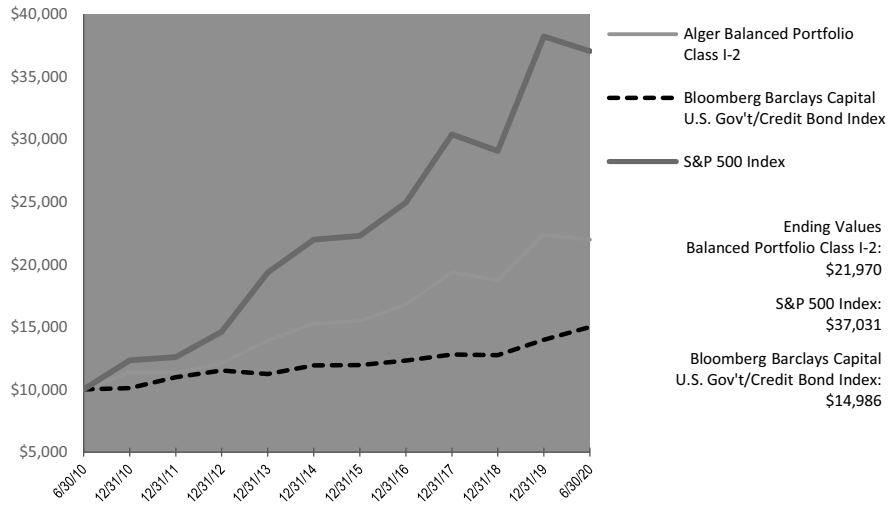
- The S&P 500 Index: An index of large company stocks considered to be representative of the U.S. stock market.
- The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Gov't/Credit Bond Index measures the performance to government and corporate bonds.



**ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Fund Highlights Through June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)**

HYPOTHETICAL \$10,000 INVESTMENT IN CLASS I-2 SHARES

— 10 years ended 6/30/20



The chart above illustrates the change in value of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment made in Alger Balanced Portfolio Class I-2 shares and the S&P 500 Index (an unmanaged index of common stocks) and the Bloomberg Barclays Capital U.S. Gov't/Credit Bond Index (an unmanaged index of government and corporate bonds) for the ten years ended June 30, 2020. Figures for each of the Alger Balanced Portfolio Class I-2 shares, the Bloomberg Barclays Capital U.S. Gov't/Credit Bond Index and the S&P 500 Index include reinvestment of dividends. Figures for the Alger Balanced Portfolio Class I-2 shares also include reinvestment of capital gains.

**ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Fund Highlights Through June 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>PERFORMANCE COMPARISON AS OF 6/30/20</b>				
<b>AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS</b>				
	1 YEAR	5 YEARS	10 YEARS	Since 9/5/1989
<b>Class I-2 (Inception 9/5/89)</b>	6.12%	7.31%	8.19%	7.51%
Bloomberg Barclays Capital U.S. Gov't/Credit Bond Index	10.02%	4.74%	4.13%	6.17%
S&P 500 Index	7.51%	10.73%	13.99%	9.62%

*The performance data quoted represents past performance, which is not an indication or a guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal will fluctuate and the Portfolio's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be higher or lower than the performance quoted. For performance current to the most recent month end, visit us at [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com) or call us at (800) 992-3863.*

*Returns indicated assume reinvestment of all distributions, no transaction costs or taxes, and are net of management fees and fund operating expenses only. Total return does not include deductions at the Portfolio or contract level for the cost of insurance charges, premium load, administrative charges, mortality and expense risk charges or other charges that may be incurred under the variable annuity contract, variable life insurance plan or retirement plan for which the Portfolio serves as an underlying investment vehicle. If these charges were deducted, the total return figures would be lower. Please refer to the variable insurance product or retirement plan disclosure documents for any additional applicable expenses. Investing in the stock market involves gains and losses and may not be suitable for all investors.*

**PORTFOLIO SUMMARY†**  
**June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)**

SECTORS/SECURITY TYPES	Alger Balanced Portfolio
Communication Services	7.4%
Consumer Discretionary	5.3
Consumer Staples	4.9
Energy	2.3
Financials	7.7
Healthcare	9.2
Industrials	3.6
Information Technology	15.4
Materials	1.0
Real Estate	2.6
Utilities	0.8
Total Equity Securities	60.2
Corporate Bonds	32.6
U.S. Treasury Obligations	3.2
Total Debt Securities	35.8
Short-Term Investments and Net Other Assets	4.0
	<b>100.0%</b>

† Based on net assets for the Portfolio.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—57.0%</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>AEROSPACE &amp; DEFENSE—1.0%</b>		
General Dynamics Corp.	1,083	\$ 161,865
Raytheon Technologies Corp.	2,371	146,101
TransDigm Group, Inc.	398	175,936
		<b>483,902</b>
<b>ASSET MANAGEMENT &amp; CUSTODY BANKS—2.2%</b>		
BlackRock, Inc., Cl. A	1,026	558,237
The Blackstone Group, Inc., Cl. A	5,831	330,384
The Carlyle Group, Inc.	6,227	173,733
		<b>1,062,354</b>
<b>BIOTECHNOLOGY—1.7%</b>		
AbbVie, Inc.	3,679	361,204
Amgen, Inc.	1,056	249,068
Gilead Sciences, Inc.	2,516	193,581
		<b>803,853</b>
<b>BROADCASTING—0.2%</b>		
ViacomCBS, Inc., Cl. B	3,524	<b>82,180</b>
<b>BUILDING PRODUCTS—0.2%</b>		
Johnson Controls International PLC	3,449	<b>117,749</b>
<b>CABLE &amp; SATELLITE—0.8%</b>		
Comcast Corp., Cl. A	9,967	<b>388,514</b>
<b>COMMODITY CHEMICALS—0.2%</b>		
Dow, Inc.	2,258	<b>92,036</b>
<b>COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT—0.8%</b>		
Cisco Systems, Inc.	8,567	<b>399,565</b>
<b>COMPUTER &amp; ELECTRONICS RETAIL—0.3%</b>		
Best Buy Co., Inc.	1,464	<b>127,763</b>
<b>CONSUMER ELECTRONICS—0.3%</b>		
Garmin Ltd.	1,641	<b>159,998</b>
<b>DATA PROCESSING &amp; OUTSOURCED SERVICES—0.3%</b>		
Visa, Inc., Cl. A	730	<b>141,014</b>
<b>DIVERSIFIED BANKS—3.0%</b>		
Bank of America Corp.	12,178	289,228
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	10,405	978,694
Wells Fargo & Co.	5,357	137,139
		<b>1,405,061</b>
<b>ELECTRIC UTILITIES—0.4%</b>		
NextEra Energy, Inc.	875	<b>210,149</b>
<b>ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS &amp; EQUIPMENT—0.7%</b>		
Eaton Corp. PLC	2,452	214,501
Hubbell, Inc., Cl. B	781	97,906
		<b>312,407</b>
<b>FINANCIAL EXCHANGES &amp; DATA—0.7%</b>		
CME Group, Inc., Cl. A	1,969	<b>320,041</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—57.0% (CONT.)</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FOOD DISTRIBUTORS—0.3%</b>		
Sysco Corp.	2,924	\$ 159,826
<b>HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT—0.4%</b>		
Medtronic PLC	1,995	182,942
<b>HEALTHCARE SERVICES—0.7%</b>		
CVS Health Corp.	5,182	336,675
<b>HOME IMPROVEMENT RETAIL—2.1%</b>		
The Home Depot, Inc.	3,936	986,007
<b>HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS—1.1%</b>		
The Procter & Gamble Co.	4,503	538,424
<b>HYPERMARKETS &amp; SUPER CENTERS—0.8%</b>		
Walmart, Inc.	3,100	371,318
<b>INDUSTRIAL CONGLOMERATES—1.2%</b>		
Honeywell International, Inc.	3,844	555,804
<b>INDUSTRIAL GASES—0.8%</b>		
Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.	1,571	379,334
<b>INTEGRATED OIL &amp; GAS—1.2%</b>		
Chevron Corp.	2,090	186,491
Exxon Mobil Corp.	5,101	228,116
TOTAL SA#	3,486	134,072
		<b>548,679</b>
<b>INTEGRATED TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES—1.7%</b>		
AT&T, Inc.	8,245	249,246
Verizon Communications, Inc.	10,027	552,789
		<b>802,035</b>
<b>INTERACTIVE MEDIA &amp; SERVICES—4.5%</b>		
Alphabet, Inc., Cl. A*	536	760,075
Alphabet, Inc., Cl. C*	508	718,114
Facebook, Inc., Cl. A*	2,818	639,883
		<b>2,118,072</b>
<b>INTERNET &amp; DIRECT MARKETING RETAIL—1.6%</b>		
Amazon.com, Inc.*	269	742,123
<b>INVESTMENT BANKING &amp; BROKERAGE—1.3%</b>		
Morgan Stanley	12,323	595,201
<b>LEISURE FACILITIES—0.3%</b>		
Vail Resorts, Inc.	848	154,463
<b>MANAGED HEALTHCARE—1.4%</b>		
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	2,167	639,157
<b>MOVIES &amp; ENTERTAINMENT—0.2%</b>		
Warner Music Group Corp., Cl. A*	2,535	74,783
<b>MULTI-LINE INSURANCE—0.2%</b>		
The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.	2,647	102,042
<b>MULTI-UTILITIES—0.4%</b>		
Sempra Energy	1,710	200,463

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—57.0% (CONT.)</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>OIL &amp; GAS EXPLORATION &amp; PRODUCTION—0.4%</b>		
ConocoPhillips	4,449	\$ 186,947
<b>OIL &amp; GAS REFINING &amp; MARKETING—0.2%</b>		
Valero Energy Corp.	1,282	75,407
<b>OIL &amp; GAS STORAGE &amp; TRANSPORTATION—0.2%</b>		
ONEOK, Inc.	2,694	89,495
<b>PHARMACEUTICALS—5.0%</b>		
AstraZeneca PLC#	5,302	280,423
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	3,563	209,504
Eli Lilly & Co.	1,827	299,957
GlaxoSmithKline PLC#	5,029	205,133
Johnson & Johnson	4,248	597,395
Merck & Co., Inc.	2,793	215,983
Novartis AG#	2,267	198,000
Pfizer, Inc.	10,581	345,998
		<b>2,352,393</b>
<b>RAILROADS—0.5%</b>		
Union Pacific Corp.	1,307	220,974
<b>RESTAURANTS—0.7%</b>		
McDonald's Corp.	1,229	226,714
Starbucks Corp.	1,429	105,160
		<b>331,874</b>
<b>SEMICONDUCTOR EQUIPMENT—1.0%</b>		
KLA Corp.	2,517	489,506
<b>SEMICONDUCTORS—2.0%</b>		
Broadcom, Inc.	1,559	492,036
QUALCOMM, Inc.	3,508	319,965
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd.#	2,724	154,641
		<b>966,642</b>
<b>SOFT DRINKS—1.8%</b>		
PepsiCo, Inc.	3,622	479,046
The Coca-Cola Co.	8,634	385,767
		<b>864,813</b>
<b>SYSTEMS SOFTWARE—6.7%</b>		
Microsoft Corp.	15,814	3,218,306
<b>TECHNOLOGY HARDWARE STORAGE &amp; PERIPHERALS—4.6%</b>		
Apple, Inc.	5,971	2,178,221
<b>TOBACCO—0.9%</b>		
Altria Group, Inc.	7,090	278,283
Philip Morris International, Inc.	1,822	127,649
		<b>405,932</b>
<b>TOTAL COMMON STOCKS</b>		
(Cost \$15,671,639)		<b>26,974,444</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

MASTER LIMITED PARTNERSHIP—0.3%	SHARES	VALUE
<b>OIL &amp; GAS STORAGE &amp; TRANSPORTATION—0.3%</b>		
Cheniere Energy Partners LP (Cost \$150,738)	4,546	\$ 159,019
		159,019
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST—2.9%	SHARES	VALUE
<b>HEALTHCARE—0.4%</b>		
Welltower, Inc.	3,445	178,279
<b>INDUSTRIAL—0.4%</b>		
Americold Realty Trust	4,853	176,164
<b>MORTGAGE—0.3%</b>		
Blackstone Mortgage Trust, Inc., Cl. A	6,717	161,813
<b>SPECIALIZED—1.8%</b>		
Crown Castle International Corp.	2,997	501,547
CyrusOne, Inc.	2,548	185,367
Lamar Advertising Co., Cl. A	2,654	177,181
		864,095
<b>TOTAL REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST</b> (Cost \$1,067,635)		1,380,351
	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT	VALUE
<b>CORPORATE BONDS—32.6%</b>		
<b>AGRICULTURAL &amp; FARM MACHINERY—3.8%</b>		
John Deere Capital Corp., 2.75%, 3/15/22	1,750,000	1,818,581
<b>BIOTECHNOLOGY—1.2%</b>		
AbbVie, Inc., 3.6%, 5/14/25	500,000	553,242
<b>DATA PROCESSING &amp; OUTSOURCED SERVICES—1.1%</b>		
PayPal Holdings, Inc., 1.35%, 6/1/23	500,000	510,121
<b>DIVERSIFIED BANKS—4.5%</b>		
JPMorgan Chase & Co., 4.35%, 8/15/21	1,000,000	1,043,824
Wells Fargo & Co., 3.3%, 9/9/24	1,000,000	1,096,199
		2,140,023
<b>INTEGRATED TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES—3.1%</b>		
Verizon Communications, Inc., 5.15%, 9/15/23	1,300,000	1,481,230
<b>PACKAGED FOODS &amp; MEATS—4.4%</b>		
Campbell Soup Co., 2.5%, 8/2/22	2,000,000	2,061,253
<b>SEMICONDUCTOR EQUIPMENT—1.2%</b>		
KLA Corp., 4.65%, 11/1/24	500,000	573,752
<b>SEMICONDUCTORS—3.6%</b>		
Altera Corp., 4.1%, 11/15/23	1,500,000	1,681,641
<b>SPECIALIZED—2.8%</b>		
Crown Castle International Corp., 3.2%, 9/1/24	1,200,000	1,303,632
<b>TECHNOLOGY HARDWARE STORAGE &amp; PERIPHERALS—6.9%</b>		
Apple, Inc., 1.13%, 5/11/25	1,200,000	1,226,737
HP, Inc., 4.38%, 9/15/21	2,000,000	2,091,596
		3,318,333
<b>TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS</b> (Cost \$14,778,751)		15,441,808

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
<b>U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS—3.2%</b>			
ZCP, 8/6/20	1,500,000	\$	<b>1,497,702</b>
(Cost \$1,497,702)			<b>1,497,702</b>
<b>Total Investments</b>			
(Cost \$33,166,465)	96.0%	\$	<b>45,453,324</b>
Unaffiliated Securities (Cost \$33,166,465)			45,453,324
Other Assets in Excess of Liabilities	4.0%		1,888,226
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>47,341,550</b>

# *American Depositary Receipts.*

\* *Non-income producing security.*

**See Notes to Financial Statements.**



**ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)**

	Alger Balanced Portfolio
<b>ASSETS:</b>	
Investments in unaffiliated securities, at value (Identified cost below)* see accompanying schedule of investments	\$ 45,453,324
Cash and cash equivalents	1,784,037
Receivable for shares of beneficial interest sold	13,114
Dividends and interest receivable	178,166
Prepaid expenses	14,775
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>47,443,416</b>
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>	
Payable for shares of beneficial interest redeemed	22,824
Accrued investment advisory fees	29,348
Accrued printing fees	19,188
Accrued professional fees	18,205
Accrued custody fees	4,773
Accrued transfer agent fees	800
Accrued administrative fees	1,137
Accrued shareholder administrative fees	413
Accrued other expenses	5,178
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>101,866</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 47,341,550</b>
<b>NET ASSETS CONSIST OF:</b>	
Paid in capital (par value of \$.001 per share)	34,131,551
Distributable earnings	13,209,999
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 47,341,550</b>
* Identified cost	\$ 33,166,465 <sup>(a)</sup>

*See Notes to Financial Statements.*

<sup>(a)</sup> At June 30, 2020, the net unrealized appreciation on investments, based on cost for federal income tax purposes of \$33,060,187, amounted to \$12,393,137, which consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation of \$13,311,567 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation of \$918,430.

**ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities June 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

	Alger Balanced Portfolio
<hr/>	
<b>NET ASSETS BY CLASS:</b>	
Class I-2	\$ 47,341,550
<hr/>	
<b>SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST OUTSTANDING — NOTE 6:</b>	
Class I-2	3,070,806
<hr/>	
<b>NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE:</b>	
Class I-2	\$ 15.42
<hr/>	

*See Notes to Financial Statements.*

**ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Statement of Operations for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)**

	Alger Balanced Portfolio
<b>INCOME:</b>	
Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes*)	\$ 381,755
Interest	220,614
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>602,369</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
Investment advisory fees — Note 3(a)	164,655
Shareholder administrative fees — Note 3(f)	2,319
Administration fees — Note 3(b)	6,378
Custodian fees	22,412
Transfer agent fees — Note 3(f)	567
Printing fees	11,661
Professional fees	20,148
Registration fees	12,369
Trustee fees — Note 3(g)	849
Fund accounting fees	8,254
Other expenses	2,031
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>251,643</b>
<b>NET INVESTMENT INCOME</b>	<b>350,726</b>
<b>REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON INVESTMENTS:</b>	
Net realized gain on unaffiliated investments	360,635
Net change in unrealized (depreciation) on unaffiliated investments	(1,668,505)
Net realized and unrealized (loss) on investments	(1,307,870)
<b>NET DECREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$ (957,144)</b>
* Foreign withholding taxes	\$ 3,158

*See Notes to Financial Statements.*

**ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Statements of Changes in Net Assets (Unaudited)**

	Alger Balanced Portfolio	
	For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2020	For the Year Ended December 31, 2019
Net investment income	\$ 350,726	\$ 762,931
Net realized gain on investments	360,635	1,025,967
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	(1,668,505)	6,286,842
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(957,144)	8,075,740
Dividends and distributions to shareholders:		
Class I-2	—	(1,880,741)
Total dividends and distributions to shareholders	—	(1,880,741)
Increase (decrease) from shares of beneficial interest transactions – Note 6:		
Class I-2	(1,176,319)	1,242,901
Total increase (decrease)	(2,133,463)	7,437,900
Net Assets:		
Beginning of period	49,475,013	42,037,113
<b>END OF PERIOD</b>	<b>\$ 47,341,550</b>	<b>\$ 49,475,013</b>

*See Notes to Financial Statements.*

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS**  
**Financial Highlights for a share outstanding throughout the period (Unaudited)**

Alger Balanced Portfolio	Class I-2					
	Six months ended 6/30/2020 <sup>(i)</sup>	Year ended 12/31/2019	Year ended 12/31/2018	Year ended 12/31/2017	Year ended 12/31/2016	Year ended 12/31/2015
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 15.71	\$ 13.67	\$ 17.20	\$ 15.32	\$ 14.39	\$ 14.48
<b>INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>						
Net investment income <sup>(ii)</sup>	0.11	0.25	0.28	0.29	0.29	0.29
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(0.40)	2.41	(0.84)	2.08	0.94	(0.08)
Total from investment operations	(0.29)	2.66	(0.56)	2.37	1.23	0.21
Dividends from net investment income	–	(0.23)	(0.72)	(0.49)	(0.30)	(0.30)
Distributions from net realized gains	–	(0.39)	(2.25)	–	–	–
Net asset value, end of period	\$ 15.42	\$ 15.71	\$ 13.67	\$ 17.20	\$ 15.32	\$ 14.39
Total return	(1.85)%	19.50%	(3.32)%	15.44%	8.51%	1.47%
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>						
Net assets, end of period (000's omitted)	\$ 47,342	\$ 49,475	\$ 42,037	\$ 47,501	\$ 71,534	\$ 75,350
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	1.08%	1.10%	1.14%	0.96%	0.96%	0.92%
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	1.51%	1.67%	1.61%	1.77%	1.97%	1.97%
Portfolio turnover rate	12.46%	5.71%	5.04%	10.89%	3.58%	9.64%

*See Notes to Financial Statements.*

<sup>(i)</sup> Ratios have been annualized; total return and portfolio turnover rate have not been annualized.

<sup>(ii)</sup> Amount was computed based on average shares outstanding during the period.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)**

**NOTE 1 — General:**

The Alger Portfolios (the “Fund”) is an open-end registered investment company organized as a business trust under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Fund qualifies as an investment company as defined in Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification 946-Financial Services – Investment Companies. The Fund operates as a series company currently offering seven series of shares of beneficial interest: Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio, Alger Large Cap Growth Portfolio, Alger Growth & Income Portfolio, Alger Mid Cap Growth Portfolio, Alger Weatherbie Specialized Growth Portfolio, Alger Small Cap Growth Portfolio and Alger Balanced Portfolio (collectively the “Portfolios”). These financial statements include only the Alger Balanced Portfolio (the “Portfolio”). The Portfolio’s investment objective is current income and long-term capital appreciation which it seeks to achieve through investing in equity and fixed-income securities. Shares of the Portfolio are available to investment vehicles for variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies offered by separate accounts of life insurance companies, as well as qualified pension and retirement plans. The Portfolio offers Class I-2 shares.

**NOTE 2 — Significant Accounting Policies:**

*(a) Investment Valuation:* The Portfolio values its financial instruments at fair value using independent dealers or pricing services under policies approved by the Fund’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”). Investments held by the Portfolio are valued on each day the New York Stock Exchange (the “NYSE”) is open, as of the close of the NYSE (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time).

Investments in money market funds and short-term securities held by the Portfolio having a remaining maturity of sixty days or less are valued at amortized cost which approximates market value.

Equity securities, including traded rights, warrants and option contracts for which valuation information is readily available, are valued at the last quoted sales price or official closing price on the primary market or exchange on which they are traded as reported by an independent pricing service. In the absence of quoted sales, such securities are valued at the bid price or, in the absence of a recent bid price, the equivalent as obtained from one or more of the major market makers for the securities to be valued.

Debt securities generally trade in the over-the-counter market. Debt securities with remaining maturities of more than sixty days at the time of acquisition are valued on the basis of the last available bid prices or current market quotations provided by dealers or pricing services. In determining the value of a particular investment, pricing services may use certain information with respect to transactions in such investments, quotations from dealers, pricing matrixes, market transactions in comparable investments, various relationships observed in the market between investments and calculated yield measures based on valuation technology commonly employed in the market for such investments. Asset-backed and mortgage-backed securities are valued by independent pricing services using models that consider estimated cash flows of each tranche of the security, establish a

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

benchmark yield and develop an estimated tranche-specific spread to the benchmark yield based on the unique attributes of the tranche. Debt securities with a remaining maturity of sixty days or less are valued at amortized cost which approximates market value.

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available are valued at fair value, as determined in good faith pursuant to procedures established by the Board and described further herein.

Securities in which the Portfolio invests may be traded in foreign markets that close before the close of the NYSE. Developments that occur between the close of the foreign markets and the close of the NYSE may result in adjustments to the closing foreign prices to reflect what the Portfolio's investment adviser, pursuant to policies established by the Board, believes to be the fair value of these securities as of the close of the NYSE. The Portfolio may also fair value securities in other situations, for example, when a particular foreign market is closed but the Portfolio is open.

FASB Accounting Standards Codification 820 – Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (“ASC 820”) defines fair value as the price that the Portfolio would receive upon selling an investment in a timely transaction to an independent buyer in the principal or most advantageous market of the investment. ASC 820 established a three-tier hierarchy to maximize the use of observable market data and minimize the use of unobservable inputs and to establish classification of fair value measurements for disclosure purposes. Inputs refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability and may be observable or unobservable. Observable inputs are based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Portfolio. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the Portfolio's own assumptions based on the best information available in the circumstances. The three-tier hierarchy of inputs is summarized in the three broad Levels listed below.

- Level 1 – quoted prices in active markets for identical investments
- Level 2 – significant other observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar investments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)
- Level 3 – significant unobservable inputs (including the Portfolio's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments)

The Portfolio's valuation techniques are generally consistent with either the market or the income approach to fair value. The market approach considers prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets to measure fair value. The income approach converts future amounts to a current, or discounted, single amount. These fair value measurements are determined on the basis of the value indicated by current market expectations about such future events. Inputs for Level 1 include exchange-listed prices and broker quotes in an active market. Inputs for Level 2 include the last trade price in the case of a halted security, an exchange-listed price which has been adjusted for fair value factors, and prices of closely related securities. Additional Level 2 inputs include an evaluated price which is based upon a compilation of observable market information such as spreads for fixed income and preferred securities. Inputs for

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

Level 3 include, but are not limited to, revenue multiples, earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (“EBITDA”) multiples, discount rates, time to exit and the probabilities of success of certain outcomes. Such unobservable market information may be obtained from a company’s financial statements and from industry studies, market data, and market indicators such as benchmarks and indexes. Because of the inherent uncertainty and often limited markets for restricted securities, the valuations assigned to such securities by the Portfolio may significantly differ from the valuations that would have been assigned by the Portfolio had there been an active market for such securities.

Valuation processes are determined by a Valuation Committee (“Committee”) authorized by the Board and comprised of representatives of the Portfolio’s investment adviser and officers of the Portfolio. The Committee reports its fair valuation determinations and related valuation information to the Board. The Board is responsible for approving the valuation policy and procedures.

While the Committee meets on an as-needed basis, the Committee generally meets quarterly to review and evaluate the effectiveness of the procedures for making fair value determinations. The Committee considers, among other things, the results of quarterly back testing of the fair value model for foreign securities, pricing comparisons between primary and secondary price sources, the outcome of price challenges put to the Portfolio’s pricing vendor, and variances between transactional prices and the previous day’s price.

*(b) Cash and Cash Equivalents:* Cash and cash equivalents include U.S. dollars, foreign cash and overnight time deposits.

*(c) Securities Transactions and Investment Income:* Securities transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Realized gains and losses from securities transactions are recorded on the identified cost basis. Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date and interest income is recognized on the accrual basis.

Premiums and discounts on debt securities purchased are amortized or accreted over the lives of the respective securities.

*(d) Foreign Currency Transactions:* The books and records of the Portfolio are maintained in U.S. dollars. Foreign currencies, investments and other assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing rates of exchange on the valuation date. Purchases and sales of investment securities and income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of such transactions.

Net realized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses from the disposition of foreign currencies, currency gains and losses realized between the trade dates and settlement dates of security transactions, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The effects of changes in foreign currency exchange rates on investments in securities are included in realized and unrealized gain or loss on investments in the accompanying Statement of Operations.

*(e) Option Contracts:* When the Portfolio writes an option, an amount equal to the premium



**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

received by the Portfolio is recorded as a liability and is subsequently adjusted to reflect the current fair value of the option written. Premiums received from writing options that expire unexercised are treated by the Portfolio on the expiration date as realized gains from investments. The difference between the premium and the amount paid on effecting a closing purchase transaction, including brokerage commissions, is also treated as a realized gain, or, if the premium is less than the amount paid for the closing purchase transaction, as a realized loss. If a call option is exercised, the premium is added to the proceeds from the sale of the underlying security in determining whether the Portfolio has realized a gain or loss. If a put option is exercised, the premium reduces the cost basis of the securities purchased by the Portfolio. The Portfolio as writer of an option bears the market risk of an unfavorable change in the price of the security underlying the written option.

The Portfolio may also purchase put and call options. The Portfolio pays a premium which is included in the Portfolio's accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities as an investment and subsequently marked to market to reflect the current value of the option. Premiums paid for purchasing options which expire unexercised are treated as realized losses. The risk associated with purchasing put and call options is limited to the premium paid. Premiums paid for purchasing options which are exercised or closed are added to the amounts paid or offset against the proceeds on the underlying security to determine the realized gain or loss.

*(f) Lending of Fund Securities:* The Portfolio may lend its securities to financial institutions, provided that the market value of the securities loaned will not at any time exceed one third of the Portfolio's total assets including borrowings, as defined in its prospectus. The Portfolio earns fees on the securities loaned, which are included in interest income in the accompanying Statement of Operations. In order to protect against the risk of failure by the borrower to return the securities loaned or any delay in the delivery of such securities, the loan is collateralized by cash or securities that are maintained with Brown Brothers Harriman & Company, the Portfolio's Custodian ("BBH" or the "Custodian"), in an amount equal to at least 102 percent of the current market value of U.S. loaned securities or 105 percent for non-U.S. loaned securities. The market value of the loaned securities is determined at the close of business of the Portfolio. Any required additional collateral is delivered to the Custodian and any excess collateral is returned to the borrower on the next business day. In the event the borrower fails to return the loaned securities when due, the Portfolio may take the collateral to replace the securities. If the value of the collateral is less than the purchase cost of replacement securities, the Custodian shall be responsible for any shortfall, but only to the extent that the shortfall is not due to any diminution in collateral value, as defined in the securities lending agreement. The Portfolio is required to maintain the collateral in a segregated account and determine its value each day until the loaned securities are returned. Cash collateral may be invested as determined by the Portfolio. Collateral is returned to the borrower upon settlement of the loan. There were no securities loaned as of June 30, 2020.

*(g) Dividends to Shareholders:* Dividends and distributions payable to shareholders are recorded

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

by the Portfolio on the ex-dividend date.

Dividends from net investment income, if available, are declared and paid annually. Dividends from net realized gains, offset by any loss carryforward, are declared and paid annually after the end of the fiscal year in which earned.

The characterization of distributions to shareholders for financial reporting purposes is determined in accordance with federal income tax rules. Therefore, the source of the Portfolio's distributions may be shown in the accompanying financial statements as either from, or in excess of, net investment income, net realized gain on investment transactions, or return of capital, depending on the type of book/tax differences that may exist. Capital accounts within the financial statements are adjusted for permanent book/tax differences. Reclassifications result primarily from the differences in tax treatment of net operating losses, passive foreign investment companies, and foreign currency transactions. The reclassifications are done annually at year-end and have no impact on the net asset value of the Portfolio and are designed to present the Portfolio's capital accounts on a tax basis.

*(h) Federal Income Taxes:* It is the Portfolio's policy to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code Subchapter M applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders. Provided that the Portfolio maintains such compliance, no federal income tax provision is required.

FASB Accounting Standards Codification 740 – Income Taxes (“ASC 740”) requires the Portfolio to measure and recognize in its financial statements the benefit of a tax position taken (or expected to be taken) on an income tax return if such position will more likely than not be sustained upon examination based on the technical merits of the position. No tax years are currently under investigation. The Portfolio files income tax returns in the U.S. Federal jurisdiction, as well as the New York State and New York City jurisdictions. The statute of limitations on the Portfolio's tax returns remains open for the tax years 2016-2019. Management does not believe there are any uncertain tax positions that require recognition of a tax liability.

*(i) Allocation Methods:* The Fund accounts separately for the assets, liabilities and operations of the Portfolio. Expenses directly attributable to the Portfolio are charged to the Portfolio's operations; expenses which are applicable to all Portfolios are allocated among them based on net assets.

*(j) Estimates:* These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which require using estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts therein. These unaudited interim financial statements reflect all adjustments that are, in the opinion of management, necessary to present a fair statement of results for the interim period. Actual results may differ from those estimates. All such estimates are of a normal recurring nature.

*(k) Recent Accounting Pronouncements:* In August 2018, FASB issued Accounting Standards Update 2018-13 “Disclosure Framework - Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurement” (“ASU 2018-13”) which modifies disclosure requirements for fair value measurements, principally for Level 3 securities and transfers between levels of the

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

fair value hierarchy. ASU 2018-13 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019 and for interim periods within those fiscal years. The Portfolio has complied with ASU 2018-13 for the period ended June 30, 2020, resulting in (1) new disclosures for the total unrealized gain or loss attributable to fair value changes in Level 3 securities, and (2) the elimination of the disclosure of (a) the reasons for and amounts of transfers between Level 1 and Level 2, and (b) the Portfolio's valuation processes for Level 3 securities.

**NOTE 3 — Investment Advisory Fees and Other Transactions with Affiliates:**

(a) *Investment Advisory Fees:* Fees incurred by the Portfolio, pursuant to the provisions of the Fund's Investment Advisory Agreement with Fred Alger Management, LLC ("Alger Management" or the "Investment Manager"), are payable monthly and computed based on the following rates. The actual rate paid as a percentage of average daily net assets, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, is set forth below under the heading "Actual Rate":

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Actual Rate
Alger Balanced Portfolio <sup>(a)</sup>	0.71%	0.55%	0.71%

<sup>(a)</sup> Tier 1 rate is paid on assets up to \$1 billion and Tier 2 rate is paid on assets in excess of \$1 billion.

(b) *Administration Fees:* Fees incurred by the Portfolio, pursuant to the provisions of the Fund's Fund Administration Agreement with Alger Management, are payable monthly and computed based on the average daily net assets of the Portfolio at the annual rate of 0.0275%.

(c) *Brokerage Commissions:* During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Portfolio paid Alger LLC \$71 in connection with securities transactions.

(d) *Interfund Loans:* The Portfolio, along with other funds in the Alger Fund Complex (as defined below), may borrow money from and lend money to each other for temporary or emergency purposes. To the extent permitted under its investment restrictions, the Portfolio may lend uninvested cash in an amount up to 15% of its net assets to other funds. If the Portfolio has borrowed from other funds and has aggregate borrowings from all sources that exceed 10% of the Portfolio's total assets, the Portfolio will secure all of its loans from other funds. The interest rate charged on interfund loans is equal to the average of the overnight time deposit rate and bank loan rate available to the Portfolio. There were no interfund loans outstanding as of June 30, 2020.

(e) *Other Transactions with Affiliates:* Certain officers of the Fund are directors and/or officers of Alger Management, the Distributor, or their affiliates.

(f) *Shareholder Administrative Fees:* The Fund has entered into a Shareholder Administrative Services Agreement with Alger Management to compensate Alger Management for liaising with, and providing administrative oversight of, the Portfolio's transfer agent, and for other related services. The Portfolio compensates Alger Management at the annual rate of 0.01% of the average daily net assets for these services.

(g) *Trustee Fees:* Each trustee who is not an "interested person" of the Fund, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended ("Independent Trustee") receives a fee

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

of \$134,000 per annum, paid pro rata based on net assets by each fund in the Alger Fund Complex, plus travel expenses incurred for attending board meetings. The term "Alger Fund Complex" refers to the Fund, The Alger Institutional Funds, The Alger Funds II, The Alger Funds and Alger Global Focus Fund, each of which is a registered investment company managed by Alger management. The Independent Trustee appointed as Chairman of the Board of Trustees receives additional compensation of \$20,000 per annum paid pro rata based on net assets by each fund in the Alger Fund Complex. Additionally, each member of the Audit Committee receives a fee of \$13,000 per annum, paid pro rata by each fund in the Alger Fund Complex.

*(b) Interfund Trades:* The Portfolio may engage in purchase and sale transactions with other funds advised by Alger Management or Weatherbie. There were no interfund trades during the six months ended June 30, 2020.

**NOTE 4 — Securities Transactions:**

Purchases and sales of securities, other than U.S. Government securities and short-term securities, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, were as follows:

	PURCHASES	SALES
Alger Balanced Portfolio	\$ 6,157,673	\$ 5,290,774

Transactions in foreign securities may involve certain considerations and risks not typically associated with those of U.S. companies because of, among other factors, the level of governmental supervision and regulation of foreign security markets, and the possibility of political or economic instability. Additional risks associated with investing in emerging markets include increased volatility, limited liquidity, and less stringent regulatory and legal systems.

**NOTE 5 — Borrowings:**

The Portfolio may borrow from the Custodian on an uncommitted basis. The Portfolio pays the Custodian a market rate of interest, generally based upon a rate of return with respect to each respective currency borrowed taking into consideration relevant overnight and short-term reference rates, the range of distribution between and among the interest rates paid on deposits to other institutions, less applicable commissions, if any. The Portfolio may also borrow from other funds in the Alger Fund Complex, as discussed in Note 3(d). For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Portfolio had no borrowings from the Custodian or other funds in the Alger Fund Complex.

**NOTE 6 — Share Capital:**

The Portfolio has an unlimited number of authorized shares of beneficial interest of \$.001 par value. During the six months ended June 30, 2020 and the year ended December 31, 2019, transactions of shares of beneficial interest were as follows:

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

	FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2020		FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019	
	SHARES	AMOUNT	SHARES	AMOUNT
<b>Alger Balanced Portfolio</b>				
<b>Class I-2:</b>				
Shares sold	133,430	\$ 2,002,977	400,185	\$ 6,067,637
Dividends reinvested	—	—	120,637	1,880,740
Shares redeemed	(211,085)	(3,179,298)	(446,811)	(6,705,476)
<b>Net increase (decrease)</b>	<b>(77,655)</b>	<b>\$ (1,176,319)</b>	<b>74,011</b>	<b>\$ 1,242,901</b>

**NOTE 7 — Income Tax Information:**

At December 31, 2019, the Portfolio, for federal income tax purposes, had no capital loss carryforwards and no capital loss carryforwards were utilized in 2019.

Net capital losses incurred after October 31 and within the taxable year are deemed to arise on the first business day of the Portfolio's next taxable year.

The difference between book-basis and tax-basis unrealized appreciation (depreciation) is determined annually and is attributable primarily to the tax deferral of losses on wash sales, U.S. Internal Revenue Code Section 988 currency transactions, the tax treatment of partnership investments, the realization of unrealized appreciation of passive foreign investment companies, and return of capital from real estate investment trust investments.

**NOTE 8 — Fair Value Measurements:**

The major categories of securities and their respective fair value inputs are detailed in the Portfolio's Schedule of Investments. Based upon the nature, characteristics, and risks associated with its investments as of June 30, 2020, the Portfolio has determined that presenting them by security type and sector is appropriate.

Alger Balanced Portfolio	TOTAL	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
<b>COMMON STOCKS</b>				
Communication Services	\$ 3,465,584	\$ 3,465,584	\$ —	—
Consumer Discretionary	2,502,228	2,502,228	—	—
Consumer Staples	2,340,313	2,340,313	—	—
Energy	900,528	900,528	—	—
Financials	3,484,699	3,484,699	—	—
Healthcare	4,315,020	4,315,020	—	—
Industrials	1,690,836	1,690,836	—	—
Information Technology	7,393,254	7,393,254	—	—
Materials	471,370	471,370	—	—
Utilities	410,612	410,612	—	—
<b>TOTAL COMMON STOCKS</b>	<b>\$ 26,974,444</b>	<b>\$ 26,974,444</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>MASTER LIMITED PARTNERSHIP</b>				
Energy	159,019	159,019	—	—
<b>REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST</b>				
Financials	161,813	161,813	—	—
Real Estate	1,218,538	1,218,538	—	—
<b>TOTAL REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST</b>	<b>\$ 1,380,351</b>	<b>\$ 1,380,351</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>—</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

Alger Balanced Portfolio	TOTAL	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
<b>CORPORATE BONDS</b>				
Communication Services	\$ 1,481,230	\$ —	\$ 1,481,230	\$ —
Consumer Staples	2,061,253	—	2,061,253	—
Financials	2,140,023	—	2,140,023	—
Healthcare	553,242	—	553,242	—
Industrials	1,818,581	—	1,818,581	—
Information Technology	6,083,847	—	6,083,847	—
Real Estate	1,303,632	—	1,303,632	—
<b>TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS</b>	<b>\$ 15,441,808</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 15,441,808</b>	<b>\$ —</b>
<b>SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS</b>				
<b>U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS</b>	<b>1,497,702</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,497,702</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES</b>	<b>\$ 45,453,324</b>	<b>\$ 28,513,814</b>	<b>\$ 16,939,510</b>	<b>\$ —</b>

Certain of the Portfolio's assets and liabilities are held at carrying amount or face value, which approximates fair value for financial statements purposes. As of June 30, 2020, such assets were categorized within the ASC 820 disclosure hierarchy as follows:

	TOTAL	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,784,037	\$ —	\$ 1,784,037	\$ —

**NOTE 9 — Derivatives:**

FASB Accounting Standards Codification 815 – Derivatives and Hedging (“ASC 815”) requires qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair value amounts of and gains and losses on derivative instruments, and disclosures about credit-risk-related contingent features in derivative agreements.

Options—The Portfolio seeks to capture the majority of the returns associated with equity market investments. To meet this investment goal, the Portfolio invests in a broadly diversified portfolio of common stocks and may also buy and sell call and put options on equities and equity indexes. The Portfolio may purchase call options to increase its exposure to the stock market and also provide diversification of risk. The Portfolio may purchase put options in order to protect from significant market declines that may occur over a short period of time. The Portfolio may write covered call and cash-secured put options to generate cash flows while reducing the volatility of the portfolio. The cash flows may be an important source of the Portfolio's return, although written call options may reduce the Portfolio's ability to profit from increases in the value of the underlying security or equity portfolio. The value of a call option generally increases as the price of the underlying stock increases and decreases as the stock decreases in price. Conversely, the value of a put option generally increases as the price of the underlying stock decreases and decreases as the stock increases in price. The combination of the diversified stock portfolio and the purchase and sale of options is intended to provide the Portfolio with the majority of the returns associated with equity market investments but with reduced volatility and returns that are augmented with the cash flows from the sale of options.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

There were no derivative instruments held by the Portfolio throughout the period or as of June 30, 2020.

**NOTE 10 — Risk Disclosures:**

Investing in the stock market involves certain risks, including the potential loss of principal. Your investment in Portfolio shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Portfolio. The value of these securities, like other investments, may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. Your Portfolio shares at any point in time may be worth less than what you invested, even after taking into account the reinvestment of Portfolio dividends and distributions. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Portfolio and its investments. Growth stocks tend to be more volatile than other stocks as their prices tend to be higher in relation to their companies' earnings and may be more sensitive to market, political, and economic developments. The risks of investing in fixed-income securities include sensitivity to interest-rate and credit rating changes, call risk, increased volatility for lower rated securities, and pre-payment risk. Income-producing securities may cut or fail to declare dividends due to market downturns or for other reasons. A significant portion of assets will be invested in technology companies, which may be significantly affected by competition, innovation, regulation, and product obsolescence, and may be more volatile than the securities of other companies. Financial services companies are subject to extensive government regulation, which may limit their activities, and may be subject to a high degree of volatility.

**NOTE 11 — Subsequent Events:**

Management of the Portfolio has evaluated events that have occurred subsequent to June 30, 2020, through the issuance date of the Financial Statements. No such events have been identified which require recognition and/or disclosure.

### **Shareholder Expense Example**

---

As a shareholder of the Portfolio, you incur two types of costs: transaction costs, if applicable; and ongoing costs, including management fees, distribution (12b-1) fees, if applicable, and other fund expenses. This example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Portfolio and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds.

The example below is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period starting January 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2020 and held for the entire period.

### **Actual Expenses**

---

The first line for each class of shares in the table below provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in this line, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the first line under the heading entitled “Expenses Paid During the Six Months Ended June 30, 2020” to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during this period.

### **Hypothetical Example for Comparison Purposes**

---

The second line for each class of shares in the table below provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the actual expense ratio for each class of the Portfolio’s shares and an assumed rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Portfolio’s actual return. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Portfolio and other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of other funds.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transactional costs or deduction of insurance charges against assets or annuities. Therefore, the second line under each class of shares in the table is useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds. In addition, if these transactional costs were included, your costs would have been higher.



**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Unaudited) (Continued)**

		Beginning Account Value January 1, 2020	Ending Account Value June 30, 2020	Expenses Paid During the Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 <sup>(a)</sup>	Annualized Expense Ratio For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 <sup>(b)</sup>
<b>Alger Balanced Portfolio</b>					
<b>Class I-2</b>	Actual	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 981.50	\$ 5.32	1.08%
	Hypothetical <sup>(c)</sup>	1,000.00	1,019.49	5.42	1.08

<sup>(a)</sup> Expenses are equal to the annualized expense ratio of the share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182/366 (to reflect the one-half year period).

<sup>(b)</sup> Annualized.

<sup>(c)</sup> 5% annual return before expenses.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio  
 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Unaudited) (Continued)**

**Privacy Policy**

**U.S. Consumer Privacy Notice**

**Rev. 12/20/16**

<b>FACTS</b>	<b>WHAT DOES ALGER DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?</b>
Why?	Financial companies choose how they share your personal information. Federal law gives consumers the right to limit some but not all sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you how we collect, share, and protect your personal information. Please read this notice carefully to understand what we do.
What?	The types of personal information we collect and share depend on the product or service you have with us. This information can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Security number and</li> <li>• Account balances and</li> <li>• Transaction history and</li> <li>• Purchase history and</li> <li>• Assets</li> </ul> When you are no longer our customer, we continue to share your information as described in this notice.
How?	All financial companies need to share personal information to run their everyday business. In the section below, we list the reasons financial companies can share their personal information; the reasons Alger chooses to share; and whether you can limit this sharing.

<b>Reasons we can share your personal information</b>	<b>Does Alger share?</b>	<b>Can you limit this sharing?</b>
<b>For our everyday business purposes</b> — such as to process your transactions, maintain your account(s), respond to court orders and legal investigations, or report to credit bureaus	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>For our marketing purposes</b> — to offer our products and services to you	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>For joint marketing with other financial companies</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>We don't share</b>
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes</b> — information about your transactions and experiences	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes</b> — information about your creditworthiness	<b>No</b>	<b>We don't share</b>
<b>For nonaffiliates to market to you</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>We don't share</b>
<b>Questions? Call 1-800-342-2186</b>		

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio  
 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>Who we are</b>	
Who is providing this notice?	Alger includes Fred Alger Management, LLC and Fred Alger & Company, LLC as well as the following funds: The Alger Funds, The Alger Funds II, The Alger Institutional Funds, The Alger Portfolios, and Alger Global Focus Fund.
<b>What we do</b>	
How does Alger protect my personal information?	To protect your personal information from unauthorized access and use, we use security measures that comply with federal law. These measures include computer safeguards and secured files and buildings.
How does Alger collect my personal information?	We collect your personal information, for example, when you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open an account or</li> <li>• Make deposits or withdrawals from your account or</li> <li>• Give us your contact information or</li> <li>• Provide account information or</li> <li>• Pay us by check.</li> </ul>
Why can't I limit all sharing?	Federal law gives you the right to limit some but not all sharing related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sharing for affiliates' everyday business purposes — information about your credit worthiness</li> <li>• affiliates from using your information to market to you</li> <li>• sharing for nonaffiliates to market to you</li> </ul> State laws and individual companies may give you additional rights to limit sharing.
<b>Definitions</b>	
Affiliates	Companies related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our affiliates include Fred Alger Management, LLC, Weatherbie Capital, LLC and Fred Alger &amp; Company, LLC as well as the following funds: The Alger Funds, The Alger Funds II, The Alger Institutional Funds, The Alger Portfolios, and Alger Global Focus Fund.</li> </ul>
Nonaffiliates	Companies not related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies.
Joint marketing	A formal agreement between nonaffiliated financial companies that together market financial products or services to you.

### **Proxy Voting Policies**

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A description of the policies and procedures the Portfolio uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities and the proxy voting record is available, without charge, by calling (800) 992-3863 or online on the Fund's website at <http://www.alger.com> or on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

### **Fund Holdings**

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The Board has adopted policies and procedures relating to disclosure of the Portfolio's securities. These policies and procedures recognize that there may be legitimate business reasons for holdings to be disclosed and seek to balance those interests to protect the proprietary nature of the trading strategies and implementation thereof by the Portfolio.

Generally, the policies prohibit the release of information concerning portfolio holdings, which have not previously been made public, to individual investors, institutional investors, intermediaries that distribute the Portfolio's shares and other parties which are not employed by the Investment Manager or its affiliates except when the legitimate business purposes for selective disclosure and other conditions (designed to protect the Portfolio) are acceptable.

The Portfolio files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC semi-annually in shareholder reports on Form N-CSR and after the first and third fiscal quarters as an exhibit to its reports on Form N-PORT. The Portfolio's Forms N-CSR and N-PORT are available online on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

In addition, the Portfolio makes publicly available its month-end top 10 holdings with a 10 day lag and its month-end full portfolio with a 60 day lag on its website [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com) and through other marketing communications (including printed advertising/sales literature and/or shareholder telephone customer service centers). No compensation or other consideration is received for the non-public disclosure of portfolio holdings information.

In accordance with the foregoing, the Portfolio provides portfolio holdings information to third parties including financial intermediaries and service providers who need access to this information in the performance of their services and are subject to duties of confidentiality (1) imposed by law, including a duty not to trade on non-public information, and/or (2) pursuant to an agreement that confidential information is not to be disclosed or used (including trading on such information) other than as required by law. From time to time, the Fund will communicate with these third parties to confirm that they understand the Portfolio's policies and procedures regarding such disclosure. This agreement must be approved by the Portfolio's Chief Compliance Officer.

The Board periodically reviews a report disclosing the third parties to whom the Portfolio's holdings information has been disclosed and the purpose for such disclosure, and it considers whether or not the release of information to such third parties is in the best interest of the Portfolio and its shareholders.

In addition to material the Portfolio routinely provides to shareholders, the Investment Manager may make additional statistical information available regarding the Alger Family

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Balanced Portfolio**  
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Unaudited) (Continued)**

of Funds. Such information may include, but not be limited to, relative weightings and characteristics of the Portfolio versus an index (such as P/E ratio, alpha, beta, capture ratio, maximum drawdown, standard deviation, EPS forecasts, Sharpe ratio, information ratio, R-squared, and market cap analysis), security specific impact on overall portfolio performance, month-end top ten contributors to and detractors from performance, portfolio turnover, and other similar information. Shareholders should visit [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com) or may also contact the Funds at (800) 992-3863 to obtain such information.

## **THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS**

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360 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10010  
(800) 992-3863  
www.alger.com

### **Investment Manager**

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Fred Alger Management, LLC  
360 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10010

### **Distributor**

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Fred Alger & Company, LLC  
360 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10010

### **Transfer Agent and Dividend Disbursing Agent**

---

UMB Fund Services, Inc.  
235 W. Galena Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53212

### **Custodian**

---

Brown Brothers Harriman & Company  
50 Post Office Square  
Boston, MA 02110

### **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

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Deloitte & Touche LLP  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, NY 10112

This report is submitted for the general information of the shareholders of Alger Balanced Portfolio. It is not authorized for distribution to prospective investors unless accompanied by an effective Prospectus for the Portfolio, which contains information concerning the Portfolio's investment policies, fees and expenses as well as other pertinent information.

**ALGER**

Inspired by Change, Driven by Growth.



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BalancedSAR

**ALGER**

**THE ALGER  
PORTFOLIOS**

Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio

**SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT**

JUNE 30, 2020 (UNAUDITED)





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### Optional Internet Availability of Alger Shareholder Reports

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Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, paper copies of the Portfolios' shareholder reports will no longer be sent by mail, unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports from the Portfolio, the insurance company that offers your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract, or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the reports will be made available on a website, and you will be notified by mail each time a report is posted and provided with a website link to access the report.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from the Portfolio electronically by signing up for paperless delivery at [www.icsdelivery.com/alger](http://www.icsdelivery.com/alger). If you own these shares through a financial intermediary or an insurance company, contact your financial intermediary or insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge. You can inform the Portfolio, the insurance company, or financial intermediary that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by contacting us at 1-866-345-5954 or [fundreports.com](http://fundreports.com). If you own these shares through a financial intermediary or an insurance company, contact your financial intermediary or an insurance company, to elect to continue to receive paper copies of your shareholder reports. Your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all funds held within the Alger Fund Complex, your insurance company, or your financial intermediary.

Dear Shareholders,

**Reasons for Optimism Surface as Pandemic Drives Market Volatility**

At Alger, we see plenty of reasons for optimism regarding equity investing and the well-being of society as governments seek to curtail the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), but we acknowledge that the pandemic will continue to create both personal and economic hardships for the foreseeable future. During the recent months of uncertainty and fear, we have strived to support our shareholders by drawing upon our 55 years of investing experience to seek companies that are best positioned to potentially generate durable earnings growth, and we have shared our insights on managing equities during challenging times to help our clients manage their apprehension.

In this letter, which discusses the six-month reporting period ended June 30, 2020, I provide additional perspectives on navigating markets during the pandemic and explain why I believe equities, while continuing to be volatile, may produce additional gains.

**A Challenging Time**

From the start of the reporting period until February 19 of this year, the S&P 500 Index climbed 5.08%. The spread of COVID-19 worldwide and fears of a potential recession and contraction of corporate earnings, however, caused investor sentiment to plummet and from the February 19 historical market peak to March 23 the index dropped 33.79%. As countries issued stay-at-home orders and shut down businesses to contain the pandemic, economic data weakened considerably, and in April the Congressional Budget Office predicted that second quarter U.S. gross domestic product would decline 12%, or the equivalent to a decline in the annual rate of 40%, while the unemployment rate climbed to 14.7%. Data during the reporting period eventually resulted in the National Bureau of Economic Research declaring in June that the 128-month period of economic expansion in the U.S.—the longest in the country's history—had officially ended in February.

During the reporting period, the Federal Reserve (the “Fed”) responded aggressively to the pandemic by implementing two rate cuts that totaled 150 basis points, bringing the fed funds target rate to .0% - .25%. The Fed also unveiled a round of quantitative easing that dwarfs prior easing programs while U.S. legislators created programs initially valued at more than \$2 trillion to support businesses, increase unemployment benefits and provide one-time payments to certain individuals.

**Reasons for Optimism**

Hope that the stimulus plans could help mitigate the economic impact of the pandemic and progress with governments re-opening their economies caused equities to bounce back and, from March 24 until June 30, the S&P 500 Index recorded a 39.31% gain. Investor sentiment was also supported by anticipation that earnings growth will return next year, with analysts predicting S&P 500 profits to increase 12.7% during the first quarter of 2021, according to FactSet Research Systems. Additionally, consumers appeared to be increasing their spending after having tightened their purse strings during the earlier months of the pandemic, with retail and food services expenditures increasing 17.7% month over month in May. A moderation in the growth rate of new COVID-19 cases in the U.S. from mid-

April to mid-June, which occurred despite certain states experiencing an acceleration of COVID-19 patients, was also positive for investor sentiment.

Despite the strong market rally later in the reporting period, the S&P 500 recorded a 3.08% loss for the six-month period. Broadly speaking, companies with strong balance sheets and innovative products that are experiencing growing demand as a result of the pandemic outperformed while “old economy” industries such as energy, manufacturing, brick and mortar retailers and certain travel companies including airlines, cruise ship operators and hotels performed worst.

### **Keeping Change in Perspective**

At Alger, we believe history illustrates that companies with innovative products and services can dominate by disrupting their respective industries and capturing market share. We believe these types of companies can potentially reward investors by growing their earnings despite economic headwinds.

Consider the following examples:

- The “Spanish Flu” pandemic and recession, which lasted from 1918 to 1919 and claimed 50 million lives. During this period, automobile ownership grew at a double-digit rate.
- The Great Depression, which lasted from 1929 through 1939. In 1937 DuPont introduced neoprene, which is a synthetic rubber. By 1939, every automobile and airplane manufactured in the U.S. included products made with the material. Hewlett-Packard and Polaroid were also born during the Great Depression.
- The “Asian Flu” pandemic and recession, which occurred in the late 1950s. During this event television ownership increased 12% in 1958 after the introduction of color TV.
- The recession of the early 1990s. During this event, personal computer penetration grew.
- The Global Financial Crisis and Great Recession of 2008. During this event, smartphone subscribers, digital advertising and online retail sales all increased.

### **Pandemic Hastens Change**

Today, internet-connected devices, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, genetic sciences, medtech and healthcare advances, and other technologies are fostering innovation that is occurring at unprecedented levels. In many instances, the COVID-19 pandemic is accelerating the already rapid pace at which new products and services disrupt their industries and capture market share. During the early months of the pandemic, credit card data showed that overall consumer spending declined substantially as shopping malls closed, but consumers’ online shopping has seen near exponential acceleration while people have been under stay-at-home orders.<sup>1</sup> The increased adoption of e-commerce by consumers is comparable to the total growth that would have occurred over the coming two years without the pandemic. This acceleration is occurring after decades of growth in online retailing, which increased 14.9% last year while overall retail sales increased only 3.8% over the same period. This strong growth trend of course benefits large online retailers such as Amazon.com, Inc. but it is also helping smaller retailers who have had the

foresight to adopt and even primarily build their businesses online, rather than in physical stores, often using ecommerce software platforms from companies such as Shopify, Square and Hubspot.

The structure and rhythm of the American workplace (and indeed the globally) may be forever changed as a result of the response to COVID-19. With offices shut down, many businesses have had to immediately expand remote working to the majority, if not all, of their employees. Many lessons will be learned from this mass shift to telecommuting. However, we believe that even after this healthcare crisis passes and offices re-open, there will be a shift in the perception and therefore the use of telecommuting. In particular, for many businesses and for many job roles, we believe both workers and employers are seeing efficiency gains while “working from home” and will adopt more flexible policies in the future to not only allow working from home but perhaps encourage it more broadly and frequently within their future workforce. The use of many of the new technologies that support online collaboration, videoconferencing, and business process management, even as workers are remote, is being tested now on an emergency and broad basis, and the technologies are proving themselves to be largely exceptional in their potential for changing how we work in the future. To support this massive shift, technology needs to not only provide collaborative workstations for employees, but also increased network capacity and security. Nearly every provider of internet bandwidth or data center computing power is reporting significant increases in demand. Additionally, security firms such as CrowdStrike that provide end-point protection against viruses, malware and other digital threats are experiencing increased demand for cloud-based security systems. In both government and commercial firms, the need for real-time communication with the public or their employees has driven the adoption of new communications platforms to manage the dialogue. Software company Everbridge, for example, announced during the first quarter of this year that it had processed more than 13 million messages related to the pandemic.

We have long been investors in the healthcare sector, which we view as one of the most dynamic and innovative sectors in the U.S. and, indeed, the world. Today, we are seeing the valor of doctors and nurses in New York in particular, Alger’s home for more than 55 years, and across the U.S. and the globe. We believe this crisis will bring benefits to healthcare systems worldwide as lessons learned from this pandemic will result in new investment in public health, strengthening our hospitals’ and service providers’ capacity to respond rapidly and flexibly to future crises. It will also potentially accelerate investment in innovations in the research lab, from testing clinical treatments and processes to the delivery of healthcare services by our doctors and nurses on the frontline of patient care. Early growth trends like telemedicine have already proven critical in this crisis, and after it ends, we believe telemedicine will have become the new way of delivering healthcare to people in the U.S.—that is a technology trend whose adoption “curve” will have gone from birth to mainstream potentially faster than any we have seen before.

### **Going Forward**

We believe market volatility will continue in the coming months due to declining earnings and heightened uncertainty, with many companies having withdrawn their guidance due to the difficulty of forecasting the duration of the pandemic and its final economic impact.

We are optimistic that an eventual recovery in earnings growth as well as low interest rates and a return to more normal conditions resulting from a potential COVID-19 vaccine or

new treatments for COVID-19 could support equity markets. Unlike most recessions, the current economic slowdown is being driven by a public health crisis rather than structural issues, such as the toxic debt built upon a housing bubble that triggered the Global Financial Crisis. Regardless of the timing of an economic recovery and the course of the pandemic, we believe investors should take a long-term approach rather than try to time markets. We also think investors will be best served by using in-depth fundamental research to find companies that are gaining market share and producing durable earnings growth with innovative products and services and, more specifically, are able to benefit from the global economic dislocation occurring from the pandemic. Additionally, we believe innovative companies with strong balance sheets that can finance their own growth initiatives rather than rely on leverage may be best positioned to outperform. At Alger, we will continue to seek companies that are benefiting from change as we seek to help our valued clients meet their financial needs.

### **Portfolio Matters**

#### **Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio**

The Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio generated a 13.54% return for the fiscal six-month period ended June 30, 2020, compared to the 9.81% return of its benchmark, the Russell 1000 Growth Index.

#### **Contributors to Performance**

During the reporting period, the largest sector weightings were Information Technology and Consumer Discretionary. The largest sector overweight was Consumer Discretionary and the largest underweight was Industrials. The Information Technology and Consumer Discretionary sectors provided the largest contributions to relative performance.

Regarding individual positions, Amazon.com, Inc.; Microsoft Corp.; Apple, Inc.; NVIDIA Corp.; and PayPal Holdings, Inc. were among the top contributors to performance. Microsoft created the world's leading desktop operating system. The company is transitioning its products to the cloud under the guidance of CEO Satya Nadella. Microsoft also owns LinkedIn, the Xbox brand and the video chat and voice call platform, Skype. Additionally, Microsoft is building artificial intelligence services and an enterprise cloud offering called Azure. The company has been generating very strong free cash flow that it is returning to shareholders as dividends and share repurchases. At the same time, investors are cheering the positive life cycle change as the company reports strong success in moving its products to the cloud and in growing its enterprise cloud service. Additionally, even though Microsoft's subscription-based software offerings and cloud computing services are not entirely immune to economic slowdowns, they are proving resilient because they enhance customers' growth initiatives and help them to diminish costs.

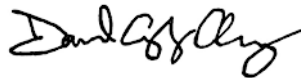
#### **Detractors from Performance**

The Materials and Utilities sectors were among the sectors that detracted from relative performance. Regarding individual positions, Raytheon Company; Aptiv PLC; Boston Scientific Corp.; Boeing Co.; and Western Digital Corp. were among the top detractors from performance. Raytheon is experiencing positive life cycle change resulting from its merger with United Technologies. Raytheon provides diversified products for some of the fastest-growing segments of the U.S. defense budget while United Technologies is a leader in commercial aerospace. The merger offers scale advantages that create revenue and cost

synergies. Unfortunately, diminished air travel activity driven by COVID-19 has caused a deterioration in Raytheon's growth outlook, which caused its stock to underperform.

As always, we strive to deliver consistently superior investment results to you, our shareholders, and we thank you for your continued confidence in Alger.

Sincerely,



Daniel C. Chung, CFA  
Chief Investment Officer  
Fred Alger Management, LLC

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<sup>1</sup>Bank of America

Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Index performance does not reflect the deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes.

This report and the financial statements contained herein are submitted for the general information of shareholders of the Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio. This report is not authorized for distribution to prospective investors in the Portfolio unless preceded or accompanied by an effective prospectus for the Portfolio. The Portfolio's returns represent the fiscal six-month period return of Class I-2 shares. Returns include reinvestment of dividends and distributions.

**The performance data quoted in these materials represent past performance, which is not an indication or guarantee of future results.**

Standardized performance results can be found on the following pages. The investment return and principal value of an investment in the Portfolio will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. For performance data current to the most recent month-end, visit us at [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com), or call us at (800) 992-3863.

The views and opinions of the Portfolio's management in this report are as of the date of the Shareholders' Letter and are subject to change at any time subsequent to this date. There is no guarantee that any of the assumptions that formed the basis for the opinions stated herein are accurate or that they will materialize. Moreover, the information forming the basis for such assumptions is from sources believed to be reliable; however, there is no guarantee that such information is accurate. Any securities mentioned, whether owned in the Portfolio or otherwise, are considered in the context of the construction of an overall portfolio of securities and therefore reference to them should not be construed as a recommendation or offer to purchase or sell any such security. Inclusion of such securities in the Portfolio and transactions in such securities, if any, may be for a variety of reasons, including, without limitation, in response to cash flows, inclusion in a benchmark, and risk control. The reference to a specific security should also be understood in such context and not viewed as a statement that the security is a significant holding in the Portfolio. Please refer to the Schedule of Investments for the Portfolio which is included in this report for a complete list of Portfolio holdings as of June 30, 2020. Securities mentioned in the Shareholders' Letter,

if not found in the Schedule of Investments, may have been held by the Portfolio during the six-month fiscal period.

### **Risk Disclosure**

Investing in the stock market involves certain risks, including the potential loss of principal. Your investment in Portfolio shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Portfolio. The value of these securities, like other investments, may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. Your Portfolio shares at any point in time may be worth less than what you invested, even after taking into account the reinvestment of Portfolio dividends and distributions. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Portfolio and its investments. Growth stocks may be more volatile than other stocks as their prices tend to be higher in relation to their companies' earnings and may be more sensitive to market, political, and economic developments. A significant portion of assets will be invested in technology companies, which may be significantly affected by competition, innovation, regulation, and product obsolescence, and may be more volatile than the securities of other companies. Investments in the Consumer Discretionary Sector may be affected by domestic and international economies, consumer's disposable income, consumer preferences and social trends. Foreign securities involve special risks including currency fluctuations, inefficient trading, political and economic instability, and increased volatility.

For a more detailed discussion of the risks associated with the Portfolio, please see the Portfolio's Prospectus.

**Before investing, carefully consider the Portfolio's investment objective, risks, charges, and expenses. For a prospectus containing this and other information about The Alger Portfolios, call us at (800) 992-3863 or visit us at [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com). Read it carefully before investing.**

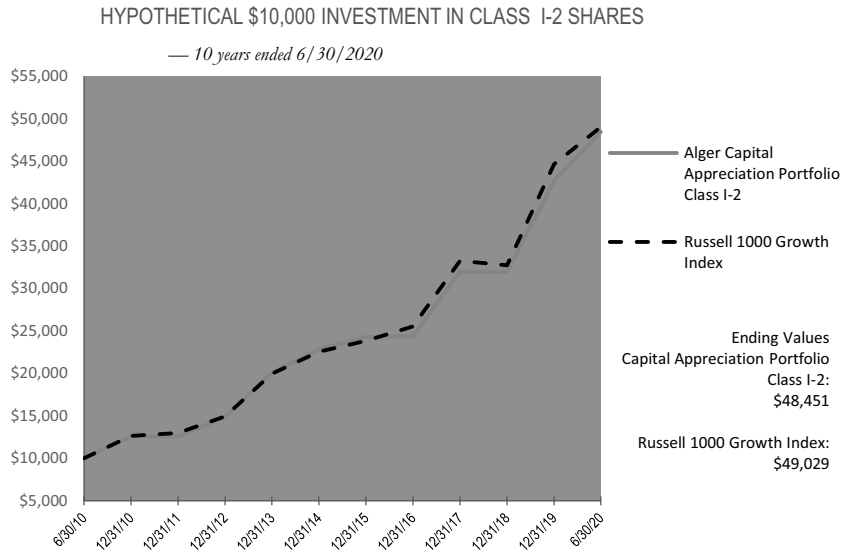
**Fred Alger & Company, LLC, Distributor. Member NYSE Euronext, SIPC.**

**NOT FDIC INSURED. NOT BANK GUARANTEED. MAY LOSE VALUE.**

Definitions:

- The S&P 500 Index: An index of large company stocks considered to be representative of the U.S. stock market.
- The Russell 1000 Growth Index measures the performance of the large-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 1000 companies with higher growth earning potential as defined by Russell's leading style methodology. The Russell 1000 Growth Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer for the large-cap growth segment.

**ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Fund Highlights Through June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)**



The chart above illustrates the change in value of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment made in Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio Class I-2 shares and the Russell 1000 Growth Index (an unmanaged index of common stocks) for the ten years ended June 30, 2020. Figures for each of the Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio Class I-2 shares and the Russell 1000 Growth Index include reinvestment of dividends. Figures for the Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio Class I-2 shares also include reinvestment of capital gains. Performance for Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio Class S shares will be lower than the results shown above due to the higher expenses that class bears.



**ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Fund Highlights Through June 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>PERFORMANCE COMPARISON AS OF 6/30/20</b>				
<b>AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS</b>				
	1 YEAR	5 YEARS	10 YEARS	Since 1/25/1995
<b>Class I-2 (Inception 1/25/95)</b>	24.43%	14.69%	17.09%	13.75%
<b>Class S (Inception 5/1/02)<sup>(i)</sup></b>	24.11%	14.39%	16.76%	13.47%
Russell 1000 Growth Index	23.28%	15.89%	17.23%	10.32%

*The performance data quoted represents past performance, which is not an indication or a guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal will fluctuate and the Portfolio's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be higher or lower than the performance quoted. For performance current to the most recent month end, visit us at [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com) or call us at (800) 992-3863.*

*Returns indicated assume reinvestment of all distributions, no transaction costs or taxes, and are net of management fees and fund operating expenses only. Total return does not include deductions at the Portfolio or contract level for the cost of insurance charges, premium load, administrative charges, mortality and expense risk charges or other charges that may be incurred under the variable annuity contract, variable life insurance plan or retirement plan for which the Portfolio serves as an underlying investment vehicle. If these charges were deducted, the total return figures would be lower. Please refer to the variable insurance product or retirement plan disclosure documents for any additional applicable expenses. Investing in the stock market involves gains and losses and may not be suitable for all investors.*

*(i) Since inception returns are calculated from the Class I-2 shares inception date. Class S shares returns prior to their commencement of operations are those of Class I-2 shares adjusted to reflect the higher expenses of Class S shares.*

**PORTFOLIO SUMMARY†**  
**June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)**

SECTORS/SECURITY TYPES	Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio
Communication Services	12.2%
Consumer Discretionary	18.6
Consumer Staples	0.7
Financials	4.1
Healthcare	12.9
Industrials	4.1
Information Technology	40.7
Materials	2.3
Real Estate	1.3
Total Equity Securities	96.9
Short-Term Investments and Net Other Assets	3.1
	<b>100.0%</b>

† Based on net assets for the Portfolio.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—95.4%</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>AEROSPACE &amp; DEFENSE—0.7%</b>		
Raytheon Technologies Corp.	31,493	\$ 1,940,599
TransDigm Group, Inc.	4,045	1,788,092
		<b>3,728,691</b>
<b>APPAREL ACCESSORIES &amp; LUXURY GOODS—0.5%</b>		
Lululemon Athletica, Inc.*	5,266	1,643,044
LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE	2,680	1,183,155
		<b>2,826,199</b>
<b>APPLICATION SOFTWARE—8.0%</b>		
Adobe, Inc.*	38,443	16,734,622
Autodesk, Inc.*	7,675	1,835,783
Cadence Design Systems, Inc.*	14,208	1,363,400
Intuit, Inc.	11,928	3,532,955
Palantir Technologies, Inc., Cl. A* <sup>(a)</sup>	41,286	237,394
RingCentral, Inc., Cl. A*	8,995	2,563,665
salesforce.com, Inc.*	87,387	16,370,207
		<b>42,638,026</b>
<b>AUTO PARTS &amp; EQUIPMENT—0.1%</b>		
Aptiv PLC	6,674	<b>520,038</b>
<b>AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS—0.3%</b>		
Tesla, Inc.*	1,432	<b>1,546,288</b>
<b>AUTOMOTIVE RETAIL—0.1%</b>		
Carvana Co., Cl. A*	2,354	<b>282,951</b>
<b>BIOTECHNOLOGY—2.5%</b>		
BioMarin Pharmaceutical, Inc.*	26,685	3,291,328
Sarepta Therapeutics, Inc.*	11,865	1,902,434
Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	27,866	8,089,778
		<b>13,283,540</b>
<b>CASINOS &amp; GAMING—0.6%</b>		
DraftKings, Inc., Cl. A*	45,803	1,523,408
Las Vegas Sands Corp.	39,295	1,789,494
		<b>3,312,902</b>
<b>DATA PROCESSING &amp; OUTSOURCED SERVICES—10.9%</b>		
Fidelity National Information Services, Inc.	116,695	15,647,633
Fiserv, Inc.*	48,145	4,699,915
PayPal Holdings, Inc.*	65,494	11,411,020
Visa, Inc., Cl. A	136,313	26,331,582
		<b>58,090,150</b>
<b>DIVERSIFIED BANKS—0.4%</b>		
Bank of America Corp.	81,698	<b>1,940,328</b>
<b>DIVERSIFIED SUPPORT SERVICES—0.7%</b>		
Cintas Corp.	14,184	<b>3,778,050</b>
<b>ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS &amp; EQUIPMENT—0.2%</b>		
AMETEK, Inc.	14,663	<b>1,310,432</b>
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL &amp; FACILITIES SERVICES—0.3%</b>		
Waste Management, Inc.	13,042	<b>1,381,278</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—95.4% (CONT.)</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>FINANCIAL EXCHANGES &amp; DATA—2.4%</b>		
Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	63,742	\$ 5,838,767
S&P Global, Inc.	21,759	7,169,156
		<b>13,007,923</b>
<b>FOOD DISTRIBUTORS—0.4%</b>		
Sysco Corp.	38,045	<b>2,079,540</b>
<b>FOOTWEAR—0.4%</b>		
NIKE, Inc., Cl. B	20,764	<b>2,035,910</b>
<b>HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT—6.4%</b>		
Boston Scientific Corp.*	268,344	9,421,558
Danaher Corp.	122,171	21,603,497
DexCom, Inc.*	6,774	2,746,180
		<b>33,771,235</b>
<b>HEALTHCARE SERVICES—1.0%</b>		
Cigna Corp.	17,742	3,329,286
Guardant Health, Inc.*	23,237	1,885,218
		<b>5,214,504</b>
<b>HOME IMPROVEMENT RETAIL—2.2%</b>		
Lowe's Cos., Inc.	85,216	<b>11,514,386</b>
<b>HYPERMARKETS &amp; SUPER CENTERS—0.0%</b>		
Walmart, Inc.	1,523	<b>182,425</b>
<b>INDUSTRIAL GASES—0.6%</b>		
Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.	13,933	<b>3,364,262</b>
<b>INTERACTIVE MEDIA &amp; SERVICES—8.0%</b>		
Alphabet, Inc., Cl. C*	11,281	15,946,934
Baidu, Inc.#,*	3,017	361,708
Facebook, Inc., Cl. A*	101,335	23,010,138
Pinterest, Inc., Cl. A*	75,698	1,678,225
Tencent Holdings Ltd.	24,385	1,562,530
		<b>42,559,535</b>
<b>INTERNET &amp; DIRECT MARKETING RETAIL—14.2%</b>		
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd.#,*	95,800	20,664,060
Amazon.com, Inc.*	18,886	52,103,075
MercadoLibre, Inc.*	2,109	2,078,989
		<b>74,846,124</b>
<b>INTERNET SERVICES &amp; INFRASTRUCTURE—0.9%</b>		
Twilio, Inc., Cl. A*	11,420	2,505,776
VeriSign, Inc.*	9,848	2,036,862
		<b>4,542,638</b>
<b>INVESTMENT BANKING &amp; BROKERAGE—0.5%</b>		
Morgan Stanley	54,714	<b>2,642,686</b>
<b>MANAGED HEALTHCARE—2.2%</b>		
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	39,762	<b>11,727,802</b>
<b>METAL &amp; GLASS CONTAINERS—0.6%</b>		
Ball Corp.	49,639	<b>3,449,414</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—95.4% (CONT.)</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>MOVIES &amp; ENTERTAINMENT—1.2%</b>		
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc.*	16,264	\$ 720,983
Netflix, Inc.*	12,767	5,809,496
		<b>6,530,479</b>
<b>PHARMACEUTICALS—0.9%</b>		
GW Pharmaceuticals PLC#,*	15,307	1,878,475
Novartis AG#	32,343	2,824,838
		<b>4,703,313</b>
<b>PROPERTY &amp; CASUALTY INSURANCE—0.8%</b>		
The Progressive Corp.	54,618	<b>4,375,448</b>
<b>RAILROADS—1.1%</b>		
Union Pacific Corp.	35,520	<b>6,005,366</b>
<b>RESEARCH &amp; CONSULTING SERVICES—0.6%</b>		
CoStar Group, Inc.*	4,224	<b>3,001,870</b>
<b>RESTAURANTS—0.4%</b>		
Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc., Cl. A*	1,938	<b>2,039,474</b>
<b>SEMICONDUCTOR EQUIPMENT—1.5%</b>		
Applied Materials, Inc.	101,537	6,137,912
ASML Holding NV	5,239	1,928,109
		<b>8,066,021</b>
<b>SEMICONDUCTORS—3.3%</b>		
NVIDIA Corp.	27,301	10,371,922
NXP Semiconductors NV	62,739	7,154,756
		<b>17,526,678</b>
<b>SOFT DRINKS—0.3%</b>		
The Coca-Cola Co.	33,655	<b>1,503,705</b>
<b>SPECIALTY CHEMICALS—1.0%</b>		
The Sherwin-Williams Co.	9,143	<b>5,283,283</b>
<b>SYSTEMS SOFTWARE—9.3%</b>		
CrowdStrike Holdings, Inc., Cl. A*	7,162	718,277
Microsoft Corp.	222,632	45,307,838
Palo Alto Networks, Inc.*	9,150	2,101,481
ServiceNow, Inc.*	3,648	1,477,659
		<b>49,605,255</b>
<b>TECHNOLOGY HARDWARE STORAGE &amp; PERIPHERALS—6.5%</b>		
Apple, Inc.	92,497	33,742,905
Western Digital Corp.	13,958	616,246
		<b>34,359,151</b>
<b>TRUCKING—0.5%</b>		
Uber Technologies, Inc.*	86,112	<b>2,676,361</b>
<b>WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES—2.9%</b>		
T-Mobile US, Inc.*	149,736	<b>15,595,004</b>
<b>TOTAL COMMON STOCKS</b>		
(Cost \$321,619,874)		<b>506,848,665</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

PREFERRED STOCKS—0.2%	SHARES	VALUE
<b>APPLICATION SOFTWARE—0.2%</b>		
Palantir Technologies, Inc., Cl. B* <sup>(a)</sup>	168,373	\$ 968,145
Palantir Technologies, Inc., Cl. D* <sup>(a)</sup>	21,936	126,132
		<b>1,094,277</b>
<b>TOTAL PREFERRED STOCKS</b>		<b>1,094,277</b>
(Cost \$1,256,679)		
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST—1.3%	SHARES	VALUE
<b>SPECIALIZED—1.3%</b>		
Crown Castle International Corp.	18,806	3,147,184
SBA Communications Corp., Cl. A	12,477	3,717,148
		<b>6,864,332</b>
<b>TOTAL REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST</b>		<b>6,864,332</b>
(Cost \$5,450,929)		
<b>Total Investments</b>		
(Cost \$328,327,482)	96.9%	\$ 514,807,274
Unaffiliated Securities (Cost \$328,327,482)		514,807,274
Other Assets in Excess of Liabilities	3.1%	16,663,389
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 531,470,663</b>

# American Depositary Receipts.

\* Non-income producing security.

<sup>(a)</sup> Security is valued in good faith at fair value determined using significant unobservable inputs pursuant to procedures established by the Board.

<sup>@</sup> Restricted security - Investment in security not registered under the Securities Act of 1933. Sales or transfers of the investment may be restricted only to qualified buyers.

<u>Security</u>	<u>Acquisition</u> <u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Acquisition</u> <u>Cost</u>	<u>% of net assets</u>	<u>% of net assets</u>
			<u>(Acquisition</u> <u>Date)</u>	<u>Market</u> <u>as of</u> <u>6/30/2020</u> <u>Value</u>
Palantir Technologies, Inc., Cl. A	10/7/14	\$268,648	0.05%	\$237,394 0.05%
Palantir Technologies, Inc., Cl. B	10/7/14	1,111,840	0.22%	968,145 0.18%
Palantir Technologies, Inc., Cl. D	10/14/14	144,839	0.03%	126,132 0.02%
<i>Total</i>				<u>\$1,331,671 0.25%</u>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)**

	<b>Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio</b>
<b>ASSETS:</b>	
Investments in unaffiliated securities, at value (Identified cost below)* see accompanying schedule of investments	\$ 514,807,274
Cash and cash equivalents	1,630,348
Receivable for investment securities sold	20,884,327
Receivable for shares of beneficial interest sold	57,082
Dividends and interest receivable	119,450
Prepaid expenses	19,805
Total Assets	537,518,286
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>	
Payable for investment securities purchased	4,203,461
Payable for shares of beneficial interest redeemed	1,342,124
Accrued investment advisory fees	369,841
Accrued transfer agent fees	7,775
Accrued distribution fees	11,146
Accrued administrative fees	12,556
Accrued shareholder administrative fees	4,566
Accrued other expenses	96,154
Total Liabilities	6,047,623
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 531,470,663</b>
<b>NET ASSETS CONSIST OF:</b>	
Paid in capital (par value of \$.001 per share)	299,481,368
Distributable earnings	231,989,295
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 531,470,663</b>
* Identified cost	\$ 328,327,482 <sup>(a)</sup>

*See Notes to Financial Statements.*

<sup>(a)</sup> At June 30, 2020, the net unrealized appreciation on investments, based on cost for federal income tax purposes of \$334,194,317, amounted to \$180,612,957, which consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation of \$188,470,219 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation of \$7,857,262.

**ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities June 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

	Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	
<b>NET ASSETS BY CLASS:</b>		
Class I-2	\$	479,559,145
Class S	\$	51,911,518
<b>SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST OUTSTANDING — NOTE 6:</b>		
Class I-2		5,220,048
Class S		603,682
<b>NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE:</b>		
Class I-2	\$	91.87
Class S	\$	85.99

*See Notes to Financial Statements.*



**ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Statement of Operations for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)**

	Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	
<b>INCOME:</b>		
Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes*)	\$	1,894,406
Interest		5,574
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>1,899,980</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
Investment advisory fees — Note 3(a)		1,964,345
Distribution fees — Note 3(c)		
Class S		59,737
Shareholder administrative fees — Note 3(f)		24,251
Administration fees — Note 3(b)		66,691
Custodian fees		45,217
Interest expenses		1,947
Transfer agent fees — Note 3(f)		13,381
Printing fees		35,794
Professional fees		42,621
Registration fees		15,631
Trustee fees — Note 3(g)		8,666
Fund accounting fees		36,772
Other expenses		13,482
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>2,328,535</b>
<b>NET INVESTMENT LOSS</b>		<b>(428,555)</b>
<b>REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON INVESTMENTS AND FOREIGN CURRENCY:</b>		
Net realized gain on unaffiliated investments		40,588,223
Net realized (loss) on foreign currency transactions		(8,564)
Net change in unrealized appreciation on unaffiliated investments		22,466,052
Net change in unrealized (depreciation) on foreign currency		(34)
<b>Net realized and unrealized gain on investments and foreign currency</b>		<b>63,045,677</b>
<b>NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>62,617,122</b>
* Foreign withholding taxes	\$	26,090

*See Notes to Financial Statements.*

**ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Statements of Changes in Net Assets (Unaudited)**

Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio			
	For the		For the
	Six Months Ended		Year Ended
	June 30, 2020		December 31, 2019
Net investment loss	\$	(428,555)	\$ (181,137)
Net realized gain on investments and foreign currency		40,579,659	52,278,788
Net change in unrealized appreciation on investments and foreign currency		22,466,018	90,099,975
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations		62,617,122	142,197,626
Dividends and distributions to shareholders:			
Class I-2		—	(50,466,137)
Class S		—	(5,738,559)
Total dividends and distributions to shareholders		—	(56,204,696)
Increase (decrease) from shares of beneficial interest transactions:			
Class I-2		(38,829,715)	(29,466,461)
Class S		(3,668,725)	239,334
Net decrease from shares of beneficial interest transactions —			
Note 6		(42,498,440)	(29,227,127)
Total increase		20,118,682	56,765,803
Net Assets:			
Beginning of period		511,351,981	454,586,178
<b>END OF PERIOD</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>531,470,663</b>	<b>\$ 511,351,981</b>

*See Notes to Financial Statements.*

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS**  
**Financial Highlights for a share outstanding throughout the period (Unaudited)**

**Alger Capital Appreciation  
Portfolio**

	Class I-2					
	Six months ended 6/30/2020 <sup>(i)</sup>	Year ended 12/31/2019	Year ended 12/31/2018	Year ended 12/31/2017	Year ended 12/31/2016	Year ended 12/31/2015
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 80.93	\$ 68.07	\$ 82.64	\$ 67.11	\$ 67.42	\$ 71.35
<b>INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>(ii)</sup>	(0.06)	(0.01)	0.03	0.11	0.22	0.13
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	11.00	22.74	0.10	20.76	0.13	4.37
Total from investment operations	10.94	22.73	0.13	20.87	0.35	4.50
Dividends from net investment income	–	–	(0.08)	(0.13)	(0.13)	(0.06)
Distributions from net realized gains	–	(9.87)	(14.62)	(5.21)	(0.53)	(8.37)
Net asset value, end of period	\$ 91.87	\$ 80.93	\$ 68.07	\$ 82.64	\$ 67.11	\$ 67.42
Total return	13.54%	33.58%	(0.10)%	31.08%	0.50%	6.19%
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>						
Net assets, end of period (000's omitted)	\$ 479,559	\$ 461,686	\$ 412,728	\$ 468,883	\$ 477,771	\$ 559,298
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	0.93%	0.94%	0.95%	0.94%	0.94%	0.93%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	(0.15)%	(0.01)%	0.03%	0.13%	0.33%	0.18%
Portfolio turnover rate	51.15%	74.35%	67.68%	61.90%	89.78%	142.01%

**See Notes to Financial Statements.**

<sup>(i)</sup> Ratios have been annualized; total return and portfolio turnover rate have not been annualized.

<sup>(ii)</sup> Amount was computed based on average shares outstanding during the period.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS**  
**Financial Highlights for a share outstanding throughout the period (Unaudited)**

**Alger Capital Appreciation  
Portfolio**

	Class S					
	Six months ended 6/30/2020 <sup>(1)</sup>	Year ended 12/31/2019	Year ended 12/31/2018	Year ended 12/31/2017	Year ended 12/31/2016	Year ended 12/31/2015
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 75.85	\$ 64.44	\$ 79.13	\$ 64.50	\$ 64.87	\$ 69.08
<b>INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>(2)</sup>	(0.15)	(0.21)	(0.19)	(0.09)	0.04	(0.06)
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	10.29	21.49	0.12	19.93	0.12	4.22
Total from investment operations	10.14	21.28	(0.07)	19.84	0.16	4.16
Distributions from net realized gains	–	(9.87)	(14.62)	(5.21)	(0.53)	(8.37)
Net asset value, end of period	\$ 85.99	\$ 75.85	\$ 64.44	\$ 79.13	\$ 64.50	\$ 64.87
Total return	13.39%	33.24%	(0.37)%	30.74%	0.22%	5.91%
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>						
Net assets, end of period (000's omitted)	\$ 51,912	\$ 49,666	\$ 41,858	\$ 50,097	\$ 39,570	\$ 39,681
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	1.18%	1.21%	1.21%	1.21%	1.21%	1.20%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	(0.40)%	(0.28)%	(0.23)%	(0.13)%	0.06%	(0.09)%
Portfolio turnover rate	51.15%	74.35%	67.68%	61.90%	89.78%	142.01%

*See Notes to Financial Statements.*

<sup>(1)</sup> Ratios have been annualized; total return and portfolio turnover rate have not been annualized.

<sup>(2)</sup> Amount was computed based on average shares outstanding during the period.

**NOTE 1 — General:**

The Alger Portfolios (the “Fund”) is an open-end registered investment company organized as a business trust under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Fund qualifies as an investment company as defined in Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification 946-Financial Services – Investment Companies. The Fund operates as a series company currently offering seven series of shares of beneficial interest: Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio, Alger Large Cap Growth Portfolio, Alger Growth & Income Portfolio, Alger Mid Cap Growth Portfolio, Alger Weatherbie Specialized Growth Portfolio, Alger Small Cap Growth Portfolio and Alger Balanced Portfolio (collectively the “Portfolios”). These financial statements include only the Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio (the “Portfolio”). The Portfolio invests primarily in equity securities and has an investment objective of long-term capital appreciation. Shares of the Portfolio are available to investment vehicles for variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies offered by separate accounts of life insurance companies, as well as qualified pension and retirement plans.

The Portfolio offers Class I-2 shares and Class S shares. Each class has identical rights to assets and earnings except that only Class S shares have a plan of distribution and bear the related expenses.

**NOTE 2 — Significant Accounting Policies:**

*(a) Investment Valuation:* The Portfolio values its financial instruments at fair value using independent dealers or pricing services under policies approved by the Fund’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”). Investments held by the Portfolio are valued on each day the New York Stock Exchange (the “NYSE”) is open, as of the close of the NYSE (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time).

Investments in money market funds and short-term securities held by the Portfolio having a remaining maturity of sixty days or less are valued at amortized cost which approximates market value.

Equity securities, including traded rights, warrants and option contracts for which valuation information is readily available, are valued at the last quoted sales price or official closing price on the primary market or exchange on which they are traded as reported by an independent pricing service. In the absence of quoted sales, such securities are valued at the bid price or, in the absence of a recent bid price, the equivalent as obtained from one or more of the major market makers for the securities to be valued.

Debt securities generally trade in the over-the-counter market. Debt securities with remaining maturities of more than sixty days at the time of acquisition are valued on the basis of the last available bid prices or current market quotations provided by dealers or pricing services. In determining the value of a particular investment, pricing services may use certain information with respect to transactions in such investments, quotations from dealers, pricing matrixes, market transactions in comparable investments, various relationships observed in the market between investments and calculated yield measures based on valuation technology commonly employed in the market for such investments.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

Asset-backed and mortgage-backed securities are valued by independent pricing services using models that consider estimated cash flows of each tranche of the security, establish a benchmark yield and develop an estimated tranche-specific spread to the benchmark yield based on the unique attributes of the tranche. Debt securities with a remaining maturity of sixty days or less are valued at amortized cost which approximates market value.

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available are valued at fair value, as determined in good faith pursuant to procedures established by the Board and described further herein.

Securities in which the Portfolio invests may be traded in foreign markets that close before the close of the NYSE. Developments that occur between the close of the foreign markets and the close of the NYSE may result in adjustments to the closing foreign prices to reflect what the Portfolio's investment adviser, pursuant to policies established by the Board, believes to be the fair value of these securities as of the close of the NYSE. The Portfolio may also fair value securities in other situations, for example, when a particular foreign market is closed but the Portfolio is open.

FASB Accounting Standards Codification 820 – Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (“ASC 820”) defines fair value as the price that the Portfolio would receive upon selling an investment in a timely transaction to an independent buyer in the principal or most advantageous market of the investment. ASC 820 established a three-tier hierarchy to maximize the use of observable market data and minimize the use of unobservable inputs and to establish classification of fair value measurements for disclosure purposes. Inputs refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability and may be observable or unobservable. Observable inputs are based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Portfolio. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the Portfolio's own assumptions based on the best information available in the circumstances. The three-tier hierarchy of inputs is summarized in the three broad Levels listed below.

- Level 1 – quoted prices in active markets for identical investments
- Level 2 – significant other observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar investments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)
- Level 3 – significant unobservable inputs (including the Portfolio's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments)

The Portfolio's valuation techniques are generally consistent with either the market or the income approach to fair value. The market approach considers prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets to measure fair value. The income approach converts future amounts to a current, or discounted, single amount. These fair value measurements are determined on the basis of the value indicated by current market expectations about such future events. Inputs for Level 1 include exchange-listed prices and broker quotes in an active market. Inputs for Level 2 include the last trade price in the case of a halted security, an exchange-listed price which has been adjusted for fair value factors, and prices of closely related securities. Additional

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**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

Level 2 inputs include an evaluated price which is based upon a compilation of observable market information such as spreads for fixed income and preferred securities. Inputs for Level 3 include, but are not limited to, revenue multiples, earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (“EBITDA”) multiples, discount rates, time to exit and the probabilities of success of certain outcomes. Such unobservable market information may be obtained from a company’s financial statements and from industry studies, market data, and market indicators such as benchmarks and indexes. Because of the inherent uncertainty and often limited markets for restricted securities, the valuations assigned to such securities by the Portfolio may significantly differ from the valuations that would have been assigned by the Portfolio had there been an active market for such securities.

Valuation processes are determined by a Valuation Committee (“Committee”) authorized by the Board and comprised of representatives of the Portfolio’s investment adviser and officers of the Portfolio. The Committee reports its fair valuation determinations and related valuation information to the Board. The Board is responsible for approving the valuation policy and procedures.

While the Committee meets on an as-needed basis, the Committee generally meets quarterly to review and evaluate the effectiveness of the procedures for making fair value determinations. The Committee considers, among other things, the results of quarterly back testing of the fair value model for foreign securities, pricing comparisons between primary and secondary price sources, the outcome of price challenges put to the Portfolio’s pricing vendor, and variances between transactional prices and the previous day’s price.

*(b) Cash and Cash Equivalents:* Cash and cash equivalents include U.S. dollars, foreign cash and overnight time deposits.

*(c) Securities Transactions and Investment Income:* Securities transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Realized gains and losses from securities transactions are recorded on the identified cost basis. Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date and interest income is recognized on the accrual basis.

Premiums and discounts on debt securities purchased are amortized or accreted over the lives of the respective securities.

*(d) Foreign Currency Transactions:* The books and records of the Portfolio are maintained in U.S. dollars. Foreign currencies, investments and other assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing rates of exchange on the valuation date. Purchases and sales of investment securities and income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of such transactions.

Net realized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses from the disposition of foreign currencies, currency gains and losses realized between the trade dates and settlement dates of security transactions, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The effects of changes in foreign currency exchange rates on investments in securities are included in realized and unrealized gain or loss on investments in the accompanying Statement of Operations.

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**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

(e) *Option Contracts:* When the Portfolio writes an option, an amount equal to the premium received by the Portfolio is recorded as a liability and is subsequently adjusted to reflect the current fair value of the option written. Premiums received from writing options that expire unexercised are treated by the Portfolio on the expiration date as realized gains from investments. The difference between the premium and the amount paid on effecting a closing purchase transaction, including brokerage commissions, is also treated as a realized gain, or, if the premium is less than the amount paid for the closing purchase transaction, as a realized loss. If a call option is exercised, the premium is added to the proceeds from the sale of the underlying security in determining whether the Portfolio has realized a gain or loss. If a put option is exercised, the premium reduces the cost basis of the securities purchased by the Portfolio. The Portfolio as writer of an option bears the market risk of an unfavorable change in the price of the security underlying the written option.

The Portfolio may also purchase put and call options. The Portfolio pays a premium which is included in the Portfolio's accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities as an investment and subsequently marked to market to reflect the current value of the option. Premiums paid for purchasing options which expire unexercised are treated as realized losses. The risk associated with purchasing put and call options is limited to the premium paid. Premiums paid for purchasing options which are exercised or closed are added to the amounts paid or offset against the proceeds on the underlying security to determine the realized gain or loss.

(f) *Lending of Fund Securities:* The Portfolio may lend its securities to financial institutions, provided that the market value of the securities loaned will not at any time exceed one third of the Portfolio's total assets including borrowings, as defined in its prospectus. The Portfolio earns fees on the securities loaned, which are included in interest income in the accompanying Statement of Operations. In order to protect against the risk of failure by the borrower to return the securities loaned or any delay in the delivery of such securities, the loan is collateralized by cash or securities that are maintained with Brown Brothers Harriman & Company, the Portfolio's Custodian ("BBH" or the "Custodian"), in an amount equal to at least 102 percent of the current market value of U.S. loaned securities or 105 percent for non-U.S. loaned securities. The market value of the loaned securities is determined at the close of business of the Portfolio. Any required additional collateral is delivered to the Custodian and any excess collateral is returned to the borrower on the next business day. In the event the borrower fails to return the loaned securities when due, the Portfolio may take the collateral to replace the securities. If the value of the collateral is less than the purchase cost of replacement securities, the Custodian shall be responsible for any shortfall, but only to the extent that the shortfall is not due to any diminution in collateral value, as defined in the securities lending agreement. The Portfolio is required to maintain the collateral in a segregated account and determine its value each day until the loaned securities are returned. Cash collateral may be invested as determined by the Portfolio. Collateral is returned to the borrower upon settlement of the loan. There were no securities loaned as of June 30, 2020.

(g) *Dividends to Shareholders:* Dividends and distributions payable to shareholders are recorded



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by the Portfolio on the ex-dividend date.

Dividends from net investment income, if available, are declared and paid annually. Dividends from net realized gains, offset by any loss carryforward, are declared and paid annually after the end of the fiscal year in which earned.

Each share class is treated separately in determining the amounts of dividends from net investment income payable to holders of its shares.

The characterization of distributions to shareholders for financial reporting purposes is determined in accordance with federal income tax rules. Therefore, the source of the Portfolio's distributions may be shown in the accompanying financial statements as either from, or in excess of, net investment income, net realized gain on investment transactions, or return of capital, depending on the type of book/tax differences that may exist. Capital accounts within the financial statements are adjusted for permanent book/tax differences. Reclassifications result primarily from the differences in tax treatment of net operating losses, passive foreign investment companies, and foreign currency transactions. The reclassifications are done annually at year-end and have no impact on the net asset value of the Portfolio and are designed to present the Portfolio's capital accounts on a tax basis.

*(b) Federal Income Taxes:* It is the Portfolio's policy to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code Subchapter M applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders. Provided that the Portfolio maintains such compliance, no federal income tax provision is required.

FASB Accounting Standards Codification 740 – Income Taxes (“ASC 740”) requires the Portfolio to measure and recognize in its financial statements the benefit of a tax position taken (or expected to be taken) on an income tax return if such position will more likely than not be sustained upon examination based on the technical merits of the position. No tax years are currently under investigation. The Portfolio files income tax returns in the U.S. Federal jurisdiction, as well as the New York State and New York City jurisdictions. The statute of limitations on the Portfolio's tax returns remains open for the tax years 2016-2019. Management does not believe there are any uncertain tax positions that require recognition of a tax liability.

*(i) Allocation Methods:* The Fund accounts separately for the assets, liabilities and operations of the Portfolio. Expenses directly attributable to the Portfolio are charged to the Portfolio's operations; expenses which are applicable to all Portfolios are allocated among them based on net assets. Income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and expenses of the Portfolio are allocated among the Portfolio's classes based on relative net assets, with the exception of distribution fees and transfer agency fees.

*(j) Estimates:* These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which require using estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts therein. These unaudited interim financial statements reflect all adjustments that are, in the opinion of management, necessary to present a fair statement of results for the interim period. Actual results may differ from

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**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

those estimates. All such estimates are of a normal recurring nature.

(k) *Recent Accounting Pronouncements:* In August 2018, FASB issued Accounting Standards Update 2018-13 “Disclosure Framework - Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurement” (“ASU 2018-13”) which modifies disclosure requirements for fair value measurements, principally for Level 3 securities and transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy. ASU 2018-13 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019 and for interim periods within those fiscal years. The Portfolio has complied with ASU 2018-13 for the period ended June 30, 2020, resulting in (1) new disclosures for the total unrealized gain or loss attributable to fair value changes in Level 3 securities, and (2) the elimination of the disclosure of (a) the reasons for and amounts of transfers between Level 1 and Level 2, and (b) the Portfolio’s valuation processes for Level 3 securities.

**NOTE 3 — Investment Advisory Fees and Other Transactions with Affiliates:**

(a) *Investment Advisory Fees:* Fees incurred by the Portfolio, pursuant to the provisions of the Fund’s Investment Advisory Agreement with Fred Alger Management, LLC (“Alger Management” or the “Investment Manager”), are payable monthly and computed based on the following rates. The actual rate paid as a percentage of average daily net assets, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, is set forth below under the heading “Actual Rate”:

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Actual Rate
Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio <sup>(a)</sup>	0.81%	0.65%	0.60%	0.55%	0.45%	0.81%

<sup>(a)</sup> Tier 1 rate is paid on assets up to \$2 billion, Tier 2 rate is paid on assets between \$2 billion to \$3 billion, Tier 3 rate is paid on assets in between \$3 billion to \$4 billion, Tier 4 rate is paid on assets between \$4 billion to \$5 billion, and Tier 5 rate is paid on assets in excess of \$5 billion.

(b) *Administration Fees:* Fees incurred by the Portfolio, pursuant to the provisions of the Fund’s Fund Administration Agreement with Alger Management, are payable monthly and computed based on the average daily net assets of the Portfolio at the annual rate of 0.0275%.

(c) *Distribution Fees:* The Fund has adopted a Distribution Plan pursuant to which Class S shares of the Portfolio pay Fred Alger & Company, LLC, the Fund’s distributor (the “Distributor” or “Alger LLC”) and an affiliate of Alger Management, a fee at the annual rate of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Class S shares of the Portfolio to compensate the Distributor for its activities and expenses incurred in distributing the Class S shares and/or shareholder servicing. Fees paid may be more or less than the expenses incurred by Alger LLC.

(d) *Brokerage Commissions:* During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Portfolio paid Alger LLC \$31,216 in connection with securities transactions.

(e) *Interfund Loans:* The Portfolio, along with other funds in the Alger Fund Complex (as defined below), may borrow money from and lend money to each other for temporary or emergency purposes. To the extent permitted under its investment restrictions, the Portfolio may lend uninvested cash in an amount up to 15% of its net assets to other funds. If

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**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

the Portfolio has borrowed from other funds and has aggregate borrowings from all sources that exceed 10% of the Portfolio's total assets, the Portfolio will secure all of its loans from other funds. The interest rate charged on interfund loans is equal to the average of the overnight time deposit rate and bank loan rate available to the Portfolio. There were no interfund loans outstanding as of June 30, 2020.

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Portfolio incurred interfund loan interest expenses of \$1,808, which is included in interest expenses in the accompanying Statement of Operations.

(f) *Shareholder Administrative Fees:* The Fund has entered into a Shareholder Administrative Services Agreement with Alger Management to compensate Alger Management for liaising with, and providing administrative oversight of, the Portfolio's transfer agent, and for other related services. The Portfolio compensates Alger Management at the annual rate of 0.01% of the average daily net assets for these services.

(g) *Trustee Fees:* Each trustee who is not an "interested person" of the Fund, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended ("Independent Trustee") receives a fee of \$134,000 per annum, paid pro rata based on net assets by each fund in the Alger Fund Complex, plus travel expenses incurred for attending board meetings. The term "Alger Fund Complex" refers to the Fund, The Alger Institutional Funds, The Alger Funds II, The Alger Funds and Alger Global Focus Fund, each of which is a registered investment company managed by Alger management. The Independent Trustee appointed as Chairman of the Board of Trustees receives additional compensation of \$20,000 per annum paid pro rata based on net assets by each fund in the Alger Fund Complex. Additionally, each member of the Audit Committee receives a fee of \$13,000 per annum, paid pro rata by each fund in the Alger Fund Complex.

(h) *Interfund Trades:* The Portfolio may engage in purchase and sale transactions with other funds advised by Alger Management or Weatherbie. There were no interfund trades during the six months ended June 30, 2020.

(i) *Other Transactions with Affiliates:* Certain officers of the Fund are directors and/or officers of Alger Management, the Distributor, or their affiliates.

**NOTE 4 — Securities Transactions:**

Purchases and sales of securities, other than U.S. Government securities and short-term securities, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, were as follows:

	PURCHASES	SALES
Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	\$247,729,689	\$307,040,872

Transactions in foreign securities may involve certain considerations and risks not typically associated with those of U.S. companies because of, among other factors, the level of governmental supervision and regulation of foreign security markets, and the possibility of political or economic instability. Additional risks associated with investing in emerging markets include increased volatility, limited liquidity, and less stringent regulatory and legal systems.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

**NOTE 5 — Borrowings:**

The Portfolio may borrow from the Custodian on an uncommitted basis. The Portfolio pays the Custodian a market rate of interest, generally based upon a rate of return with respect to each respective currency borrowed taking into consideration relevant overnight and short-term reference rates, the range of distribution between and among the interest rates paid on deposits to other institutions, less applicable commissions, if any. The Portfolio may also borrow from other funds in the Alger Fund Complex, as discussed in Note 3(e). For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Portfolio had the following borrowings from the Custodian and other funds in the Alger Fund Complex:

	AVERAGE DAILY BORROWING	WEIGHTED AVERAGE INTEREST RATE
Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	\$ 183,509	2.14%

The highest amount borrowed from the Custodian and other funds during the six months ended June 30, 2020 by the Portfolio was as follows:

	HIGHEST BORROWING
Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	\$ 10,669,000

**NOTE 6 — Share Capital:**

The Portfolio has an unlimited number of authorized shares of beneficial interest of \$.001 par value for each share class. During the six months ended June 30, 2020 and the year ended December 31, 2019, transactions of shares of beneficial interest were as follows:

	FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2020		FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019	
	SHARES	AMOUNT	SHARES	AMOUNT
<b>Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio</b>				
<b>Class I-2:</b>				
Shares sold	481,771	\$ 39,541,415	697,600	\$ 56,481,504
Dividends reinvested	—	—	624,447	49,862,116
Shares redeemed	(966,192)	(78,371,130)	(1,680,589)	(135,810,081)
<b>Net decrease</b>	<b>(484,421)</b>	<b>\$ (38,829,715)</b>	<b>(358,542)</b>	<b>\$ (29,466,461)</b>
<b>Class S:</b>				
Shares sold	40,258	\$ 3,123,390	26,738	\$ 2,070,796
Dividends reinvested	—	—	76,678	5,738,559
Shares redeemed	(91,369)	(6,792,115)	(98,224)	(7,570,021)
<b>Net increase (decrease)</b>	<b>(51,111)</b>	<b>\$ (3,668,725)</b>	<b>5,192</b>	<b>\$ 239,334</b>

**NOTE 7 — Income Tax Information:**

At December 31, 2019, the Portfolio, for federal income tax purposes, had no capital loss carryforwards and no capital loss carryforwards were utilized in 2019.

Net capital losses incurred after October 31 and within the taxable year are deemed to arise on the first business day of the Portfolio's next taxable year.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

The difference between book-basis and tax-basis unrealized appreciation (depreciation) is determined annually and is attributable primarily to the tax deferral of losses on wash sales, U.S. Internal Revenue Code Section 988 currency transactions, the tax treatment of partnership investments, the realization of unrealized appreciation of passive foreign investment companies, and return of capital from real estate investment trust investments.

**NOTE 8 — Fair Value Measurements:**

The major categories of securities and their respective fair value inputs are detailed in the Portfolio's Schedule of Investments. Based upon the nature, characteristics, and risks associated with its investments as of June 30, 2020, the Portfolio has determined that presenting them by security type and sector is appropriate.

Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	TOTAL	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
<b>COMMON STOCKS</b>				
Communication Services	\$ 64,685,018	\$ 63,122,488	\$ 1,562,530	\$ —
Consumer Discretionary	98,924,272	97,741,117	1,183,155	—
Consumer Staples	3,765,670	3,765,670	—	—
Financials	21,966,385	21,966,385	—	—
Healthcare	68,700,394	68,700,394	—	—
Industrials	21,882,048	21,882,048	—	—
Information Technology	214,827,919	214,590,525	—	237,394
Materials	12,096,959	12,096,959	—	—
<b>TOTAL COMMON STOCKS</b>	<b>\$ 506,848,665</b>	<b>\$ 503,865,586</b>	<b>\$ 2,745,685</b>	<b>\$ 237,394</b>
<b>PREFERRED STOCKS</b>				
Information Technology	1,094,277	—	—	1,094,277
<b>REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST</b>				
Real Estate	6,864,332	6,864,332	—	—
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES</b>	<b>\$ 514,807,274</b>	<b>\$ 510,729,918</b>	<b>\$ 2,745,685</b>	<b>\$ 1,331,671</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

	FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS USING SIGNIFICANT UNOBSERVABLE INPUTS (LEVEL 3)
<b>Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio</b>	<b>Common Stocks</b>
Opening balance at January 1, 2020	\$ 237,394
Transfers into Level 3	—
Transfers out of Level 3	—
Total gains or losses	
Included in net realized gain (loss) on investments	—
Included in net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	—
Purchases and sales	
Purchases	—
Sales	—
Closing balance at June 30, 2020	237,394
<b>Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) attributable to investments still held at June 30, 2020*</b>	<b>\$ —</b>
<b>Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio</b>	<b>Preferred Stocks</b>
Opening balance at January 1, 2020	\$ 1,094,277
Transfers into Level 3	—
Transfers out of Level 3	—
Total gains or losses	
Included in net realized gain (loss) on investments	—
Included in net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	—
Purchases and sales	
Purchases	—
Sales	—
Closing balance at June 30, 2020	1,094,277
<b>Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) attributable to investments still held at June 30, 2020*</b>	<b>\$ —</b>

\* Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) is included in net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments in the accompanying statement of operations.

The following table provides quantitative information about the Portfolio's Level 3 fair value measurements of the Portfolio's investments as of June 30, 2020. The table below is not intended to be all-inclusive, but rather provides information on the Level 3 inputs as they relate to the Portfolio's fair value measurements.

	Fair Value June 30, 2020	Valuation Methodology	Unobservable Input	Input/ Range	Weighted Average
<b>Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio</b>					
Common Stocks	\$ 237,394	Market Approach	Transaction Price	N/A	N/A
Preferred Stocks	1,094,277	Market Approach	Transaction Price	N/A	N/A

The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of the Portfolio's securities are revenue and EBITDA multiples, discount rates, and the probabilities of

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)**

success of certain outcomes. Significant increases and decreases in these inputs in isolation and interrelationships between these inputs could result in significantly higher or lower fair value measurements than those noted in the table above. Generally, all other things being equal, increases in revenue and EBITDA multiples, decreases in discount rates, and increases in the probabilities of success result in higher fair value measurements, whereas decreases in revenues and EBITDA multiples, increases in discount rates, and decreases in the probabilities of success result in lower fair value measurements.

Certain of the Portfolio’s assets and liabilities are held at carrying amount or face value, which approximates fair value for financial statements purposes. As of June 30, 2020, such assets were categorized within the ASC 820 disclosure hierarchy as follows:

	TOTAL FUND	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,630,348	\$ —	\$ 1,630,348	\$ —

**NOTE 9 — Derivatives:**

FASB Accounting Standards Codification 815 – Derivatives and Hedging (“ASC 815”) requires qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair value amounts of and gains and losses on derivative instruments, and disclosures about credit-risk-related contingent features in derivative agreements.

Options—The Portfolio seeks to capture the majority of the returns associated with equity market investments. To meet this investment goal, the Portfolio invests in a broadly diversified portfolio of common stocks and may also buy and sell call and put options on equities and equity indexes. The Portfolio may purchase call options to increase its exposure to the stock market and also provide diversification of risk. The Portfolio may purchase put options in order to protect from significant market declines that may occur over a short period of time. The Portfolio may write covered call and cash-secured put options to generate cash flows while reducing the volatility of the portfolio. The cash flows may be an important source of the Portfolio’s return, although written call options may reduce the Portfolio’s ability to profit from increases in the value of the underlying security or equity portfolio. The value of a call option generally increases as the price of the underlying stock increases and decreases as the stock decreases in price. Conversely, the value of a put option generally increases as the price of the underlying stock decreases and decreases as the stock increases in price. The combination of the diversified stock portfolio and the purchase and sale of options is intended to provide the Portfolio with the majority of the returns associated with equity market investments but with reduced volatility and returns that are augmented with the cash flows from the sale of options.

There were no derivative instruments held by the Portfolio throughout the period or as of June 30, 2020.

**NOTE 10 — Risk Disclosures:**

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Investing in the stock market involves certain risks, including the potential loss of principal. Your investment in Portfolio shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Portfolio. The value of these securities, like other investments, may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. Your Portfolio shares at any point in time may be worth less than what you invested, even after taking into account the reinvestment of Portfolio dividends and distributions. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Portfolio and its investments. Growth stocks may be more volatile than other stocks as their prices tend to be higher in relation to their companies' earnings and may be more sensitive to market, political, and economic developments. A significant portion of assets will be invested in technology companies, which may be significantly affected by competition, innovation, regulation, and product obsolescence, and may be more volatile than the securities of other companies. Investments in the Consumer Discretionary Sector may be affected by domestic and international economies, consumer's disposable income, consumer preferences and social trends. Foreign securities involve special risks including currency fluctuations, inefficient trading, political and economic instability, and increased volatility.

**NOTE 11 — Subsequent Events:**

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Management of the Portfolio has evaluated events that have occurred subsequent to June 30, 2020, through the issuance date of the Financial Statements. No such events have been identified which require recognition and/or disclosure.



### **Shareholder Expense Example**

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As a shareholder of the Portfolio, you incur two types of costs: transaction costs, if applicable; and ongoing costs, including management fees, distribution (12b-1) fees, if applicable, and other fund expenses. This example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Portfolio and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds.

The example below is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period starting January 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2020 and held for the entire period.

### **Actual Expenses**

---

The first line for each class of shares in the table below provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in this line, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the first line under the heading entitled “Expenses Paid During the Six Months Ended June 30, 2020” to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during this period.

### **Hypothetical Example for Comparison Purposes**

---

The second line for each class of shares in the table below provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the actual expense ratio for each class of the Portfolio’s shares and an assumed rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Portfolio’s actual return. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Portfolio and other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of other funds.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transactional costs or deduction of insurance charges against assets or annuities. Therefore, the second line under each class of shares in the table is useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds. In addition, if these transactional costs were included, your costs would have been higher.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio**  
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Unaudited) (Continued)**

		Beginning Account Value January 1, 2020	Ending Account Value June 30, 2020	Expenses Paid During the Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 <sup>(a)</sup>	Annualized Expense Ratio For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 <sup>(b)</sup>
<b>Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio</b>					
<b>Class I-2</b>	Actual	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,135.40	\$ 4.99	0.93%
	Hypothetical <sup>(c)</sup>	1,000.00	1,020.19	4.72	0.93
<b>Class S</b>	Actual	1,000.00	1,133.90	6.26	1.18
	Hypothetical <sup>(c)</sup>	1,000.00	1,019.00	5.92	1.18

<sup>(a)</sup> Expenses are equal to the annualized expense ratio of the share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182/366 (to reflect the one-half year period).

<sup>(b)</sup> Annualized.

<sup>(c)</sup> 5% annual return before expenses.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio  
 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Unaudited) (Continued)**

**Privacy Policy**

**U.S. Consumer Privacy Notice**

**Rev. 12/20/16**

<b>FACTS</b>	<b>WHAT DOES ALGER DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?</b>
Why?	Financial companies choose how they share your personal information. Federal law gives consumers the right to limit some but not all sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you how we collect, share, and protect your personal information. Please read this notice carefully to understand what we do.
What?	The types of personal information we collect and share depend on the product or service you have with us. This information can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Security number and</li> <li>• Account balances and</li> <li>• Transaction history and</li> <li>• Purchase history and</li> <li>• Assets</li> </ul> When you are no longer our customer, we continue to share your information as described in this notice.
How?	All financial companies need to share personal information to run their everyday business. In the section below, we list the reasons financial companies can share their personal information; the reasons Alger chooses to share; and whether you can limit this sharing.

<b>Reasons we can share your personal information</b>	<b>Does Alger share?</b>	<b>Can you limit this sharing?</b>
<b>For our everyday business purposes</b> — such as to process your transactions, maintain your account(s), respond to court orders and legal investigations, or report to credit bureaus	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>For our marketing purposes</b> — to offer our products and services to you	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>For joint marketing with other financial companies</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>We don't share</b>
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes</b> — information about your transactions and experiences	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes</b> — information about your creditworthiness	<b>No</b>	<b>We don't share</b>
<b>For nonaffiliates to market to you</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>We don't share</b>
<b>Questions? Call 1-800-342-2186</b>		

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio  
 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>Who we are</b>	
Who is providing this notice?	Alger includes Fred Alger Management, LLC and Fred Alger & Company, LLC as well as the following funds: The Alger Funds, The Alger Funds II, The Alger Institutional Funds, The Alger Portfolios, and Alger Global Focus Fund.
<b>What we do</b>	
How does Alger protect my personal information?	To protect your personal information from unauthorized access and use, we use security measures that comply with federal law. These measures include computer safeguards and secured files and buildings.
How does Alger collect my personal information?	We collect your personal information, for example, when you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open an account or</li> <li>• Make deposits or withdrawals from your account or</li> <li>• Give us your contact information or</li> <li>• Provide account information or</li> <li>• Pay us by check.</li> </ul>
Why can't I limit all sharing?	Federal law gives you the right to limit some but not all sharing related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sharing for affiliates' everyday business purposes — information about your credit worthiness</li> <li>• affiliates from using your information to market to you</li> <li>• sharing for nonaffiliates to market to you</li> </ul> State laws and individual companies may give you additional rights to limit sharing.
<b>Definitions</b>	
Affiliates	Companies related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our affiliates include Fred Alger Management, LLC, Weatherbie Capital, LLC and Fred Alger &amp; Company, LLC as well as the following funds: The Alger Funds, The Alger Funds II, The Alger Institutional Funds, The Alger Portfolios, and Alger Global Focus Fund.</li> </ul>
Nonaffiliates	Companies not related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies.
Joint marketing	A formal agreement between nonaffiliated financial companies that together market financial products or services to you.

### **Proxy Voting Policies**

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A description of the policies and procedures the Portfolio uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities and the proxy voting record is available, without charge, by calling (800) 992-3863 or online on the Fund's website at <http://www.alger.com> or on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

### **Fund Holdings**

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The Board has adopted policies and procedures relating to disclosure of the Portfolio's securities. These policies and procedures recognize that there may be legitimate business reasons for holdings to be disclosed and seek to balance those interests to protect the proprietary nature of the trading strategies and implementation thereof by the Portfolio.

Generally, the policies prohibit the release of information concerning portfolio holdings, which have not previously been made public, to individual investors, institutional investors, intermediaries that distribute the Portfolio's shares and other parties which are not employed by the Investment Manager or its affiliates except when the legitimate business purposes for selective disclosure and other conditions (designed to protect the Portfolio) are acceptable.

The Portfolio files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC semi-annually in shareholder reports on Form N-CSR and after the first and third fiscal quarters as an exhibit to its reports on Form N-PORT. The Portfolio's Forms N-CSR and N-PORT are available online on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

In addition, the Portfolio makes publicly available its month-end top 10 holdings with a 10 day lag and its month-end full portfolio with a 60 day lag on its website [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com) and through other marketing communications (including printed advertising/sales literature and/or shareholder telephone customer service centers). No compensation or other consideration is received for the non-public disclosure of portfolio holdings information.

In accordance with the foregoing, the Portfolio provides portfolio holdings information to third parties including financial intermediaries and service providers who need access to this information in the performance of their services and are subject to duties of confidentiality (1) imposed by law, including a duty not to trade on non-public information, and/or (2) pursuant to an agreement that confidential information is not to be disclosed or used (including trading on such information) other than as required by law. From time to time, the Fund will communicate with these third parties to confirm that they understand the Portfolio's policies and procedures regarding such disclosure. This agreement must be approved by the Portfolio's Chief Compliance Officer.

The Board periodically reviews a report disclosing the third parties to whom the Portfolio's holdings information has been disclosed and the purpose for such disclosure, and it considers whether or not the release of information to such third parties is in the best interest of the Portfolio and its shareholders.

In addition to material the Portfolio routinely provides to shareholders, the Investment Manager may make additional statistical information available regarding the Alger Family

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio**  
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Unaudited) (Continued)**

of Funds. Such information may include, but not be limited to, relative weightings and characteristics of the Portfolio versus an index (such as P/E ratio, alpha, beta, capture ratio, maximum drawdown, standard deviation, EPS forecasts, Sharpe ratio, information ratio, R-squared, and market cap analysis), security specific impact on overall portfolio performance, month-end top ten contributors to and detractors from performance, portfolio turnover, and other similar information. Shareholders should visit [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com) or may also contact the Funds at (800) 992-3863 to obtain such information.

## **THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS**

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360 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10010  
(800) 992-3863  
www.alger.com

### **Investment Manager**

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Fred Alger Management, LLC  
360 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10010

### **Distributor**

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Fred Alger & Company, LLC  
360 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10010

### **Transfer Agent and Dividend Disbursing Agent**

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UMB Fund Services, Inc.  
235 W. Galena Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53212

### **Custodian**

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Brown Brothers Harriman & Company  
50 Post Office Square  
Boston, MA 02110

### **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

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Deloitte & Touche LLP  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, NY 10112

This report is submitted for the general information of the shareholders of Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio. It is not authorized for distribution to prospective investors unless accompanied by an effective Prospectus for the Portfolio, which contains information concerning the Portfolio's investment policies, fees and expenses as well as other pertinent information.

**ALGER**

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CapAppSAR



# BNY Mellon Investment Portfolios, MidCap Stock Portfolio

**SEMIANNUAL REPORT**  
June 30, 2020



**BNY MELLON**  
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

The views expressed in this report reflect those of the portfolio manager(s) only through the end of the period covered and do not necessarily represent the views of BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. or any other person in the BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. organization. Any such views are subject to change at any time based upon market or other conditions and BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. disclaims any responsibility to update such views. These views may not be relied on as investment advice and, because investment decisions for a fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds are based on numerous factors, may not be relied on as an indication of trading intent on behalf of any fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds.

Not FDIC-Insured • Not Bank-Guaranteed • May Lose Value

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## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF BNY MELLON INVESTMENT ADVISER, INC.

Dear Shareholder:

We are pleased to present this semiannual report for BNY Mellon Investment Portfolios, MidCap Stock Portfolio, covering the six-month period from January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020. For information about how the fund performed during the reporting period, as well as general market perspectives, we provide a Discussion of Fund Performance on the pages that follow.

After a positive end to 2019, investors were optimistic. Expectations for robust economic growth, accommodative policies from the U.S. Federal Reserve (the “Fed”) and healthy U.S. consumer spending helped support equity valuations in the U.S. well into January and February of 2020. However, the euphoria was short-lived, as concerns over the spread of COVID-19 began to roil markets. Early signs of market turmoil began in China and adjacent areas of the Pacific Rim, which were heavily affected by the virus early in 2020. As the virus spread across the globe, concerns about the economic effects of a widespread quarantine worked to depress equity valuations. U.S. stocks began to show signs of volatility in March 2020 and posted historic losses during that month. Global central banks and governments worked to enact emergency stimulus measures to support their respective economies, and equity valuations began to rebound, trending upward in April, May and June 2020.

In fixed-income markets, interest rates were heavily influenced by changes in Fed policy and investor concern over COVID-19. When the threat posed by COVID-19 began to emerge, a flight-to-quality ensued and rates fell significantly. March 2020 brought extreme volatility and risk-asset spread widening. The Fed cut rates twice in March, resulting in an overnight lending target rate of nearly zero, and the government launched a large stimulus package. Both actions worked to support bond valuations throughout April, May and June 2020.

We believe the near-term outlook for the U.S. will be challenging, as the country contends with the spread of COVID-19 and determines a path forward for recovery. However, we are confident that once the economic effects of the virus have been mitigated, the economy will rebound. As always, we will monitor relevant data for signs of change. We encourage you to discuss the risks and opportunities in today’s investment environment with your financial advisor.

Thank you for your continued confidence and support.

Sincerely,



Renee LaRoche-Morris  
President  
BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc.  
July 15, 2020

## DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE (Unaudited)

*For the period from January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, as provided by Peter D. Goslin, CFA, Adam Logan, CFA, Chris Yao, CFA and Syed A. Zamil, CFA, Portfolio Managers*

### **Market and Fund Performance Overview**

For the six-month period ended June 30, 2020, BNY Mellon Investment Portfolios, MidCap Stock Portfolio Initial shares produced a total return of -16.36%, and its Service shares produced a total return of -16.45%.<sup>1</sup> In comparison, the fund's benchmark, the S&P MidCap 400® Index (the "Index"), produced a total return of -12.78% for the same period.<sup>2</sup>

Mid-cap stocks posted losses over the reporting period, amid a volatile environment brought on by the spread of COVID-19. The fund lagged the Index, primarily due to security selection shortfalls in the industrials, consumer discretionary and information technology sectors.

### **The Fund's Investment Approach**

The fund seeks investment results that are greater than the total return performance of publicly traded, common stocks of medium-sized, domestic companies in the aggregate, as represented by the Index. To pursue this goal, the fund normally invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus any borrowings for investment purposes, in stocks of mid-cap companies.

The fund invests in growth and value stocks, which are chosen through a disciplined investment process that combines quantitative-modeling techniques, fundamental analysis and risk management. Consistency of returns compared to the Index is a primary goal of the investment process.

The portfolio managers select stocks through a "bottom-up" structured approach that seeks to identify undervalued securities using a quantitative ranking process. The process is driven by a proprietary stock selection model that measures a diverse set of corporate characteristics to identify and rank stocks based on valuation, momentum, sentiment and earnings quality measures.

Next, the fund's portfolio managers construct the portfolio through a risk-controlled process, focusing on stock selection, as opposed to making proactive decisions as to industry and sector exposure. The portfolio managers seek to maintain a portfolio that has exposure to industries and market capitalizations that are generally similar to the fund's benchmark. Finally, within each sector and style subset, the fund will seek to overweight the most attractive stocks and underweight or not hold the stocks that have been ranked least attractive.

### **A Tale of Two Markets**

Markets gave way to extreme risk aversion over the start of the review period, as the global scope of the COVID-19 pandemic, and its alarming humanitarian and economic implications, became apparent. Equity valuations in the U.S. remained robust throughout January and February 2020, while markets in areas that experienced the virus earlier, such as China, began to experience volatility closer to the start of the year. Financial markets also had to contend with a second major, exogenous shock in the form of an oil-price war between Saudi Arabia and Russia, which resulted in the oil price falling precipitously in

## DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE (Unaudited) *(continued)*

March 2020. The West Texas Intermediate May 2020 contract would later tumble into negative territory, as plunging demand for the commodity gave rise to shortages of storage capacity in the U.S. Central bank responses to the crisis ramped up dramatically, as financial markets became progressively more distressed. Governments were also proactive and launched an unprecedented array of fiscal initiatives that sought to offset the economic impact of widespread lockdown measures. Such action latterly provided some comfort, and indices began to rally towards the end of March 2020.

U.S. equities went on to stage a recovery during the second half of the reporting period. The unprecedented array of stimulus that was briskly deployed by central banks and governments globally helped to buoy investor confidence and support security valuations. Investors began to anticipate a move towards economic normalization as lockdown measures eased. Pullbacks did punctuate the rally and were typically driven by fears of rising infection rates, as was witnessed in the U.S. toward the end of June 2020. Geopolitics also weighed periodically, as the U.S. and China maintained their confrontational rhetoric across a range of issues including trade, technology and political change in Hong Kong.

According to the S&P family of indices, large-cap stocks generally outperformed their mid- and small-cap counterparts during the period.

### **Security Selections Drove Fund Performance**

The fund's performance compared to the Index was constrained by stock selection shortfalls across the industrials, consumer discretionary and information technology sectors. The industrials sector, particularly within the aerospace and defense and construction and engineering industries, was the primary driver of underperformance. The spread of COVID-19 drastically reduced demand for products and services from many of the companies in these market segments, negatively affecting stock prices. Within the consumer discretionary sector, the hotels, restaurants and leisure industry was the hardest hit. Valuations in this market segment were also harmed by the pandemic, as a widespread lockdown cancelled the majority of consumer demand for these businesses' products. One restaurant, Domino's Pizza, was among one of the top detractors for the period. A lack of exposure for most of the six months to the well-performing, pizza delivery company caused underperformance. The position was purchased later in the period. Negative security selection within the semiconductor and semiconductor equipment industry in the information technology sector also weighed on relative results. Also in technology, a position in office equipment company Xerox was among the leading detractors. Due to office closures and the trend toward working from home, investors became concerned that corporate clients would use Xerox's products less. Elsewhere in the markets, a position in real estate company Weingarten Realty Investors also provided a headwind. The stock came under pressure, as concerns mounted over tenants' ability to pay rent amid widespread lockdowns and growing unemployment. In addition, mortgage insurer MGIC Investment also saw its stock price slip, as investors worried about mortgage delinquencies.

The fund achieved better results in several other areas. Stock selection in the health care, real estate and consumer staples sectors was positive for results. A relative overweight to health care was also accretive. Health care companies were also among the top individual contributors to performance. Life science research company Bio-Rad Laboratories beat earnings expectations in May 2020, leading to substantial gains during the period. In

addition, biopharmaceutical company *Incyte* was among the leading contributors. The stock price moved higher during the period on news of trials of its prospective COVID-19 treatment. It also had a dermatology drug with positive data in phase three trials. We have since closed the position. Veeva Systems, which provides computing solutions for life sciences companies, was also a leading driver of positive results. The company reported better-than-expected earnings in May 2020. Elsewhere in the markets, networking equipment company Ciena displayed good earnings momentum and beat expectations for both quarters during the reporting period, pushing the stock price higher and providing another tailwind to returns.

### **A Disciplined Approach to Stock Picking**

As of the reporting period's end, our quantitative models have continued to identify what we believe are attractive investment opportunities across a broad spectrum of mid-cap companies and industry groups. Stock market volatility experienced during the period may have provided opportunities to purchase the stocks of companies ranked highly by our process. When the fund's holdings reach what we perceive to be fuller valuations, we expect to replace them with high-quality companies that display then-currently-attractive valuations in our model. In addition, we continue to maintain a broadly diversified portfolio.

July 15, 2020

<sup>1</sup> Total return includes reinvestment of dividends and any capital gains paid. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Share price and investment return fluctuate such that upon redemption, fund shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. The fund's performance does not reflect the deduction of additional charges and expenses imposed in connection with investing in variable insurance contracts, which will reduce returns. The fund's return reflects the absorption of certain fund expenses by BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. pursuant to an agreement in effect through May 1, 2021, at which time it may be extended, modified or terminated. Had these expenses not been absorbed, returns would have been lower.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Lipper Inc. — The S&P MidCap 400® Index provides investors with a benchmark for mid-sized companies. The Index measures the performance of mid-sized companies, reflecting the distinctive risk and return characteristics of this market segment. Investors cannot invest directly in any index.

Please note: the position in any security highlighted with italicized typeface was sold during the reporting period.

Equities are subject generally to market, market sector, market liquidity, issuer and investment style risks, among other factors, to varying degrees, all of which are more fully described in the fund's prospectus.

Recent market risks include pandemic risks related to COVID-19. The effects of COVID-19 have contributed to increased volatility in global markets and will likely affect certain countries, companies, industries and market sectors more dramatically than others. To the extent the fund may overweight its investments in certain countries, companies, industries or market sectors, such positions will increase the fund's exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those countries, companies, industries or sectors.

Stocks of mid-cap companies often experience sharper price fluctuations than stocks of large-cap companies.

The fund is only available as a funding vehicle under variable life insurance policies or variable annuity contracts issued by insurance companies. Individuals may not purchase shares of the fund directly. A variable annuity is an insurance contract issued by an insurance company that enables investors to accumulate assets on a tax-deferred basis for retirement or other long-term goals. The investment objective and policies of BNY Mellon Investment Portfolios, MidCap Stock Portfolio made available through insurance products may be similar to those of other funds managed by BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. However, the investment results of the fund may be higher or lower than, and may not be comparable to, those of any other BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. fund.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR FUND'S EXPENSES (Unaudited)

*As a mutual fund investor, you pay ongoing expenses, such as management fees and other expenses. Using the information below, you can estimate how these expenses affect your investment and compare them with the expenses of other funds. You also may pay one-time transaction expenses, including sales charges (loads), redemption fees and expenses associated with variable annuity or insurance contracts, which are not shown in this section and would have resulted in higher total expenses. For more information, see your fund's prospectus or talk to your financial adviser.*

### Review your fund's expenses

The table below shows the expenses you would have paid on a \$1,000 investment in BNY Mellon Investment Portfolios, MidCap Stock Portfolio from January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020. It also shows how much a \$1,000 investment would be worth at the close of the period, assuming actual returns and expenses.

<b>Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment</b>		
Assume actual returns for the six months ended June 30, 2020		
	<b>Initial Shares</b>	<b>Service Shares</b>
Expense paid per \$1,000 <sup>†</sup>	\$4.02	\$5.16
Ending value (after expenses)	\$836.40	\$835.50

## COMPARING YOUR FUND'S EXPENSES WITH THOSE OF OTHER FUNDS (Unaudited)

### Using the SEC's method to compare expenses

The Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") has established guidelines to help investors assess fund expenses. Per these guidelines, the table below shows your fund's expenses based on a \$1,000 investment, assuming a hypothetical 5% annualized return. You can use this information to compare the ongoing expenses (but not transaction expenses or total cost) of investing in the fund with those of other funds. All mutual fund shareholder reports will provide this information to help you make this comparison. Please note that you cannot use this information to estimate your actual ending account balance and expenses paid during the period.

<b>Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment</b>		
Assuming a hypothetical 5% annualized return for the six months ended June 30, 2020		
	<b>Initial Shares</b>	<b>Service Shares</b>
Expense paid per \$1,000 <sup>†</sup>	\$4.42	\$5.67
Ending value (after expenses)	\$1,020.49	\$1,019.24

<sup>†</sup> Expenses are equal to the fund's annualized expense ratio of .88% for Initial Shares and 1.13% for Service Shares, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182/366 (to reflect the one-half year period).



STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS  
June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 97.8%</b>		
<b>Automobiles &amp; Components - 2.4%</b>		
Adient	12,640 <sup>a</sup>	207,549
Dana	29,770	362,896
Gentex	74,870	1,929,400
Harley-Davidson	3,010	71,548
Thor Industries	3,490 <sup>b</sup>	371,790
		<b>2,943,183</b>
<b>Banks - 5.9%</b>		
Associated Banc-Corp	17,690	241,999
Bank of Hawaii	1,910	117,293
Cathay General Bancorp	51,435	1,352,740
Comerica	3,170	120,777
Essent Group	16,040	581,771
First Citizens Bancshares, Cl. A	930	376,669
First Financial Bankshares	8,580	247,876
Fulton Financial	68,650	722,884
Home BancShares	5,120	78,746
International Bancshares	12,090	387,122
MGIC Investment	79,790	653,480
New York Community Bancorp	22,720	231,744
PacWest Bancorp	3,090	60,904
Popular	7,640	283,979
Regions Financial	39,990	444,689
Sterling Bancorp	11,000	128,920
Trustmark	25,600	627,712
United Bankshares	9,750	269,685
Western Alliance Bancorp	12,380	468,831
		<b>7,397,821</b>
<b>Capital Goods - 10.1%</b>		
Acuity Brands	10,890 <sup>b</sup>	1,042,609
AECOM	4,220 <sup>a</sup>	158,588
Allison Transmission Holdings	10,150	373,317
Axon Enterprise	1,590 <sup>a</sup>	156,027
Carlisle	14,850	1,777,099
Colfax	2,240 <sup>a,b</sup>	62,496
Curtiss-Wright	12,550	1,120,464
Donaldson	2,030	94,436
EMCOR Group	17,030	1,126,364
Fortune Brands Home & Security	2,120	135,532
GATX	11,000 <sup>b</sup>	670,780
Generac Holdings	5,150 <sup>a</sup>	627,939
Hubbell	1,110	139,150

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 97.8% (continued)</b>		
<b>Capital Goods - 10.1% (continued)</b>		
ITT	13,150	772,431
Lincoln Electric Holdings	910	76,658
MasTec	15,580 <sup>a,b</sup>	699,075
Mercury Systems	1,440 <sup>a</sup>	113,270
Owens Corning	2,350	131,036
Teledyne Technologies	2,560 <sup>a</sup>	796,032
The Timken Company	30,110	1,369,704
Trex	4,270 <sup>a,b</sup>	555,399
Valmont Industries	5,640	640,817
		<b>12,639,223</b>
<b>Commercial &amp; Professional Services - 1.9%</b>		
Clean Harbors	4,160 <sup>a</sup>	249,517
FTI Consulting	2,100 <sup>a</sup>	240,555
Herman Miller	9,500	224,295
HNI	21,620	660,923
Insperty	3,410	220,729
Manpowergroup	4,790	329,313
MSA Safety	1,320	151,061
Tetra Tech	3,210	253,975
		<b>2,330,368</b>
<b>Consumer Durables &amp; Apparel - 4.4%</b>		
Brunswick	6,520	417,345
Carter's	3,480	280,836
Deckers Outdoor	6,450 <sup>a</sup>	1,266,715
Helen of Troy	770 <sup>a</sup>	145,191
Polaris	8,270	765,388
PulteGroup	4,590	156,198
Ralph Lauren	2,530	183,476
Tempur Sealy International	16,180 <sup>a</sup>	1,164,151
TRI Pointe Group	50,220 <sup>a,b</sup>	737,732
Whirlpool	2,470 <sup>b</sup>	319,939
		<b>5,436,971</b>
<b>Consumer Services - 4.6%</b>		
Adtalem Global Education	6,880 <sup>a</sup>	214,312
Boyd Gaming	24,360 <sup>b</sup>	509,124
Churchill Downs	6,230 <sup>a,b</sup>	829,524
Darden Restaurants	1,490	112,897
Domino's Pizza	1,760	650,214
Dunkin' Brands Group	3,840	250,483
Eldorado Resorts	5,810 <sup>a,b</sup>	232,749
Graham Holdings, Cl. B	1,000	342,670
Grand Canyon Education	1,720 <sup>a</sup>	155,712
Jack in the Box	8,940 <sup>b</sup>	662,365

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 97.8% (continued)</b>		
<b>Consumer Services - 4.6% (continued)</b>		
Marriott Vacations Worldwide	1,720	141,401
Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings	14,770 <sup>a,b</sup>	242,671
Papa John's International	1,900	150,879
Penn National Gaming	7,590 <sup>a,b</sup>	231,799
Scientific Games	8,310 <sup>a</sup>	128,473
Service Corp. International	5,410	210,395
Six Flags Entertainment	2,620	50,330
Strategic Education	1,230	188,990
Wyndham Destinations	15,110	425,800
		<b>5,730,788</b>
<b>Diversified Financials - 3.2%</b>		
Eaton Vance	3,920	151,312
Evercore, Cl. A	5,180	305,206
Federated Hermes	28,630	678,531
Janus Henderson Group	10,690 <sup>b</sup>	226,200
Jefferies Financial Group	21,110	328,261
Navient	27,150	190,865
OneMain Holdings	12,840	315,094
SEI Investments	25,250	1,388,245
Stifel Financial	4,610	218,652
Synchrony Financial	8,750	193,900
		<b>3,996,266</b>
<b>Energy - 2.3%</b>		
ChampionX	16,490 <sup>a</sup>	160,942
CNX Resources	21,860 <sup>a</sup>	189,089
Devon Energy	24,920	282,593
EQT	23,020	273,938
Equitrans Midstream	15,940	132,461
Helmerich & Payne	3,330	64,968
Marathon Oil	63,110	386,233
Murphy Oil	19,790 <sup>b</sup>	273,102
PBF Energy, Cl. A	12,460	127,590
The Williams Companies	15,930	302,989
World Fuel Services	13,530	348,533
WPX Energy	46,800 <sup>a</sup>	298,584
		<b>2,841,022</b>
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing - 1.1%</b>		
BJ's Wholesale Club Holdings	15,120 <sup>a</sup>	563,522
Casey's General Stores	3,220 <sup>b</sup>	481,454
Sprouts Farmers Market	12,810 <sup>a</sup>	327,808
		<b>1,372,784</b>
<b>Food, Beverage &amp; Tobacco - 1.1%</b>		
Campbell Soup	4,390	217,876

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 97.8% (continued)</b>		
<b>Food, Beverage &amp; Tobacco - 1.1% (continued)</b>		
Flowers Foods	31,820	711,495
Lancaster Colony	660	102,293
Tootsie Roll Industries	11,061 <sup>b</sup>	379,060
		<b>1,410,724</b>
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Services - 7.8%</b>		
Amedisys	2,790 <sup>a</sup>	553,927
AmerisourceBergen	4,840	487,727
Chemed	2,130	960,779
DaVita	4,530 <sup>a</sup>	358,504
Globus Medical, Cl. A	2,430 <sup>a</sup>	115,935
Haemonetics	10,560 <sup>a</sup>	945,754
HealthEquity	2,850 <sup>a</sup>	167,210
Hill-Rom Holdings	14,750	1,619,255
LHC Group	1,410 <sup>a</sup>	245,791
Masimo	2,660 <sup>a,b</sup>	606,453
McKesson	2,340	359,003
Molina Healthcare	2,980 <sup>a</sup>	530,380
NuVasive	3,360 <sup>a</sup>	187,018
Quidel	3,090 <sup>a,b</sup>	691,357
STERIS	8,700	1,334,928
Tenet Healthcare	10,490 <sup>a</sup>	189,974
Veeva Systems, Cl. A	340 <sup>a</sup>	79,703
West Pharmaceutical Services	1,140	258,974
		<b>9,692,672</b>
<b>Household &amp; Personal Products - .8%</b>		
Edgewell Personal Care	12,250 <sup>a</sup>	381,710
Energizer Holdings	2,120 <sup>b</sup>	100,679
Nu Skin Enterprises, Cl. A	13,250	506,547
		<b>988,936</b>
<b>Insurance - 4.5%</b>		
American Financial Group	6,570	416,932
Fidelity National Financial	2,920	89,527
First American Financial	9,820	471,556
Globe Life	8,150	604,974
Kemper	10,080	731,002
Primerica	16,315	1,902,329
Reinsurance Group of America	1,480	116,091
RLI	3,640	298,844
Selective Insurance Group	7,470	393,968
The Hanover Insurance Group	2,010	203,673
Unum Group	22,370	371,118
		<b>5,600,014</b>

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 97.8% (continued)</b>		
<b>Materials - 5.9%</b>		
Crown Holdings	910 <sup>a</sup>	59,268
Eagle Materials	7,630	535,779
FMC	1,020	101,612
Graphic Packaging Holding	22,860	319,811
Louisiana-Pacific	5,420	139,023
NewMarket	260	104,125
Packaging Corp. of America	1,550	154,690
PolyOne	22,800	598,044
Reliance Steel & Aluminum	20,100	1,908,093
Royal Gold	2,980	370,474
Sensient Technologies	18,640	972,262
The Chemours Company	6,270	96,245
The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company	2,690	361,724
Valvoline	45,050	870,816
Worthington Industries	20,610	768,753
		<b>7,360,719</b>
<b>Media &amp; Entertainment - 2.1%</b>		
AMC Networks, Cl. A	10,850 <sup>a,b</sup>	253,782
Cable One	300	532,455
Cinemark Holdings	19,030 <sup>b</sup>	219,797
Liberty Media Corp-Liberty SiriusXM, Cl. C	4,540 <sup>a</sup>	156,403
TEGNA	23,940	266,692
The Interpublic Group of Companies	6,650	114,114
The New York Times Company, Cl. A	17,020 <sup>b</sup>	715,351
TripAdvisor	14,450 <sup>a</sup>	274,695
Yelp	4,930 <sup>a</sup>	114,031
		<b>2,647,320</b>
<b>Pharmaceuticals Biotechnology &amp; Life Sciences - 4.5%</b>		
Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals	5,740 <sup>a,b</sup>	247,911
Bio-Rad Laboratories, Cl. A	2,060 <sup>a</sup>	930,069
Bio-Techne	890	235,022
Charles River Laboratories International	6,980 <sup>a</sup>	1,216,963
Exelixis	23,530 <sup>a</sup>	558,602
Jazz Pharmaceuticals	4,280 <sup>a</sup>	472,255
Mettler-Toledo International	340 <sup>a</sup>	273,887
Moderna	970 <sup>a,b</sup>	62,284
PRA Health Sciences	5,420 <sup>a</sup>	527,312
Prestige Consumer Healthcare	6,570 <sup>a</sup>	246,769
Repligen	3,350 <sup>a</sup>	414,093
Syneos Health	5,720 <sup>a</sup>	333,190
United Therapeutics	590 <sup>a</sup>	71,390
		<b>5,589,747</b>

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 97.8% (continued)</b>		
<b>Real Estate - 10.5%</b>		
Apple Hospitality REIT	14,230 <sup>c</sup>	137,462
Brandywine Realty Trust	102,010 <sup>c</sup>	1,110,889
Brixmor Property Group	6,380 <sup>c</sup>	81,792
Camden Property Trust	11,360 <sup>c</sup>	1,036,259
CoreCivic	18,300 <sup>c</sup>	171,288
Corporate Office Properties Trust	48,440 <sup>c</sup>	1,227,470
CubeSmart	3,530 <sup>c</sup>	95,275
CyrusOne	2,010 <sup>c</sup>	146,228
EastGroup Properties	5,110 <sup>c</sup>	606,097
First Industrial Realty Trust	50,130 <sup>c</sup>	1,926,997
Highwoods Properties	17,790 <sup>c</sup>	664,101
Lamar Advertising, Cl. A	19,495 <sup>c</sup>	1,301,486
Life Storage	5,250 <sup>c</sup>	498,487
National Retail Properties	12,410 <sup>c</sup>	440,307
Omega Healthcare Investors	18,410 <sup>c</sup>	547,329
PS Business Parks	10,230 <sup>c</sup>	1,354,452
Sabra Health Care REIT	12,020 <sup>c</sup>	173,449
Service Properties Trust	28,885 <sup>c</sup>	204,795
The GEO Group	22,190 <sup>c</sup>	262,508
Weingarten Realty Investors	62,750 <sup>c</sup>	1,187,857
		<b>13,174,528</b>
<b>Retailing - 3.7%</b>		
Aaron's	7,540	342,316
AutoNation	14,560 <sup>a</sup>	547,165
Etsy	10,740 <sup>a</sup>	1,140,910
Foot Locker	6,290	183,416
LKQ	3,590 <sup>a</sup>	94,058
Murphy USA	7,400 <sup>a</sup>	833,166
Pool	1,200	326,244
RH	1,960 <sup>a,b</sup>	487,844
Sally Beauty Holdings	10,400 <sup>a</sup>	130,312
Williams-Sonoma	7,140	585,551
		<b>4,670,982</b>
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment - 5.3%</b>		
Cirrus Logic	12,930 <sup>a</sup>	798,815
Enphase Energy	8,640 <sup>a,b</sup>	411,005
MKS Instruments	2,690	304,616
Monolithic Power Systems	3,290	779,730
Qorvo	1,350 <sup>a</sup>	149,216
Semtech	6,110 <sup>a</sup>	319,064
Silicon Laboratories	4,870 <sup>a</sup>	488,315
SolarEdge Technologies	3,780 <sup>a,b</sup>	524,588
Synaptics	7,810 <sup>a</sup>	469,537

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 97.8% (continued)</b>		
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment - 5.3% (continued)</b>		
Teradyne	22,580	1,908,236
Universal Display	3,010	450,356
		<b>6,603,478</b>
<b>Software &amp; Services - 7.1%</b>		
Blackbaud	6,390	364,741
CACI International, Cl. A	4,030 <sup>a</sup>	874,026
CDK Global	2,920	120,946
Fair Isaac	3,750 <sup>a</sup>	1,567,650
FleetCor Technologies	240 <sup>a</sup>	60,367
Fortinet	1,410 <sup>a</sup>	193,551
j2 Global	13,310 <sup>a,b</sup>	841,325
KBR	19,900	448,745
Leidos Holdings	3,730	349,389
Manhattan Associates	9,020 <sup>a</sup>	849,684
MAXIMUS	22,420	1,579,489
Paylocity Holding	2,610 <sup>a</sup>	380,773
Perspecta	3,210	74,568
Qualys	3,280 <sup>a</sup>	341,186
Sabre	10,630	85,678
WEX	4,150 <sup>a</sup>	684,791
		<b>8,816,909</b>
<b>Technology Hardware &amp; Equipment - 3.3%</b>		
Ciena	21,750 <sup>a</sup>	1,177,980
Cognex	8,260	493,287
Jabil	4,590	147,247
Lumentum Holdings	6,090 <sup>a</sup>	495,909
NETSCOUT Systems	8,030 <sup>a</sup>	205,247
SYNNEX	3,380	404,823
Trimble	7,630 <sup>a</sup>	329,540
Xerox Holdings	18,510	283,018
Zebra Technologies, Cl. A	2,290 <sup>a</sup>	586,125
		<b>4,123,176</b>
<b>Transportation - 1.2%</b>		
Alaska Air Group	4,040	146,490
Avis Budget Group	10,030 <sup>a,b</sup>	229,587
Kansas City Southern	670	100,024
Landstar System	560	62,894
Old Dominion Freight Line	1,815	307,806
XPO Logistics	8,570 <sup>a</sup>	662,032
		<b>1,508,833</b>
<b>Utilities - 4.1%</b>		
Hawaiian Electric Industries	7,090	255,665

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 97.8% (continued)</b>		
<b>Utilities - 4.1% (continued)</b>		
IDACORP	16,220	1,417,141
MDU Resources Group	51,320	1,138,278
NorthWestern	4,240	231,165
OGE Energy	56,490	1,715,036
ONE Gas	5,190	399,889
		<b>5,157,174</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (cost \$123,644,273)		<b>122,033,638</b>
	1-Day Yield (%)	
<b>Investment Companies - 2.3%</b>		
<b>Registered Investment Companies - 2.3%</b>		
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund (cost \$2,892,422)	0.22	2,892,422 <sup>d</sup>
		<b>2,892,422</b>
<b>Investment of Cash Collateral for Securities Loaned - .8%</b>		
<b>Registered Investment Companies - .8%</b>		
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund (cost \$994,712)	0.22	994,712 <sup>d</sup>
		<b>994,712</b>
<b>Total Investments</b> (cost \$127,531,407)	<b>100.9%</b>	<b>125,920,772</b>
<b>Liabilities, Less Cash and Receivables</b>	<b>(.9%)</b>	<b>(1,085,758)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>124,835,014</b>

REIT—Real Estate Investment Trust

<sup>a</sup> Non-income producing security.

<sup>b</sup> Security, or portion thereof, on loan. At June 30, 2020, the value of the fund's securities on loan was \$11,732,427 and the value of the collateral was \$11,770,048, consisting of cash collateral of \$994,712 and U.S. Government & Agency securities valued at \$10,775,336.

<sup>c</sup> Investment in real estate investment trust within the United States.

<sup>d</sup> Investment in affiliated issuer. The investment objective of this investment company is publicly available and can be found within the investment company's prospectus.



Portfolio Summary (Unaudited) †	Value (%)
Information Technology	15.7
Consumer Discretionary	15.1
Financials	13.6
Industrials	13.2
Health Care	12.2
Real Estate	10.6
Materials	5.9
Utilities	4.1
Investment Companies	3.1
Consumer Staples	3.0
Energy	2.3
Communication Services	2.1
	<b>100.9</b>

† Based on net assets.  
See notes to financial statements.

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS IN AFFILIATED ISSUERS  
(Unaudited)

Investment Companies	Value 12/31/19(\$)	Purchases(\$) <sup>†</sup>	Sales(\$)	Value 6/30/20(\$)	Net Assets(%)	Dividends/ Distributions(\$)
<b>Registered Investment Companies;</b>						
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund	1,003,692	13,320,177	(11,431,447)	2,892,422	2.3	4,366
<b>Investment of Cash Collateral for Securities Loaned;</b>						
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund	386,235	4,506,718	(3,898,241)	994,712	.8	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,389,927</b>	<b>17,826,895</b>	<b>(15,329,688)</b>	<b>3,887,134</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>4,366</b>

<sup>†</sup> Includes reinvested dividends/distributions.  
See notes to financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Cost	Value
<b>Assets (\$):</b>		
Investments in securities—See Statement of Investments		
(including securities on loan, valued at \$11,732,427)—Note 1(c):		
Unaffiliated issuers	123,644,273	122,033,638
Affiliated issuers	3,887,134	3,887,134
Dividends and securities lending income receivable		111,723
Receivable for shares of Beneficial Interest subscribed		13,978
Prepaid expenses		4,229
		<b>126,050,702</b>
<b>Liabilities (\$):</b>		
Due to BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. and affiliates—Note 3(b)		97,288
Liability for securities on loan—Note 1(c)		994,712
Payable for shares of Beneficial Interest redeemed		72,639
Trustees' fees and expenses payable		3,220
Other accrued expenses		47,829
		<b>1,215,688</b>
<b>Net Assets (\$)</b>		<b>124,835,014</b>
<b>Composition of Net Assets (\$):</b>		
Paid-in capital		126,363,547
Total distributable earnings (loss)		(1,528,533)
<b>Net Assets (\$)</b>		<b>124,835,014</b>
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>		
	Initial Shares	Service Shares
Net Assets (\$)	63,019,006	61,816,008
Shares Outstanding	4,087,051	4,021,481
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share (\$)</b>	<b>15.42</b>	<b>15.37</b>

*See notes to financial statements.*

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income (\$):</b>	
<b>Income:</b>	
Cash dividends (net of \$1,420 foreign taxes withheld at source):	
Unaffiliated issuers	1,162,706
Affiliated issuers	4,243
Income from securities lending—Note 1(c)	15,646
Interest	312
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,182,907</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Management fee—Note 3(a)	473,252
Distribution fees—Note 3(b)	77,629
Professional fees	39,868
Prospectus and shareholders' reports	9,931
Chief Compliance Officer fees—Note 3(b)	8,595
Trustees' fees and expenses—Note 3(c)	5,792
Custodian fees—Note 3(b)	3,670
Loan commitment fees—Note 2	1,425
Shareholder servicing costs—Note 3(b)	726
Miscellaneous	11,025
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>631,913</b>
<b>Investment Income—Net</b>	<b>550,994</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments—Note 4 (\$):</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) on investments	2,100,357
Capital gain distributions from affiliated issuers	123
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>2,100,480</b>
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	(26,806,864)
<b>Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments</b>	<b>(24,706,384)</b>
<b>Net (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>(24,155,390)</b>

*See notes to financial statements.*

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Operations (\$):</b>		
Investment income—net	550,994	921,708
Net realized gain (loss) on investments	2,100,480	(2,572,437)
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	(26,806,864)	28,415,232
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>(24,155,390)</b>	<b>26,764,503</b>
<b>Distributions (\$):</b>		
Distributions to shareholders:		
Initial Shares	(552,702)	(6,099,962)
Service Shares	(343,563)	(5,546,134)
<b>Total Distributions</b>	<b>(896,265)</b>	<b>(11,646,096)</b>
<b>Beneficial Interest Transactions (\$):</b>		
Net proceeds from shares sold:		
Initial Shares	5,295,930	3,870,606
Service Shares	8,306,473	10,588,703
Distributions reinvested:		
Initial Shares	552,702	6,099,962
Service Shares	343,563	5,546,134
Cost of shares redeemed:		
Initial Shares	(6,673,076)	(13,408,861)
Service Shares	(9,227,105)	(12,102,125)
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets from Beneficial Interest Transactions</b>	<b>(1,401,513)</b>	<b>594,419</b>
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>(26,453,168)</b>	<b>15,712,826</b>
<b>Net Assets (\$):</b>		
Beginning of Period	151,288,182	135,575,356
<b>End of Period</b>	<b>124,835,014</b>	<b>151,288,182</b>
<b>Capital Share Transactions (Shares):</b>		
<b>Initial Shares</b>		
Shares sold	333,749	216,730
Shares issued for distributions reinvested	45,155	351,583
Shares redeemed	(414,454)	(752,804)
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Shares Outstanding</b>	<b>(35,550)</b>	<b>(184,491)</b>
<b>Service Shares</b>		
Shares sold	574,483	600,304
Shares issued for distributions reinvested	28,138	320,957
Shares redeemed	(599,032)	(685,012)
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Shares Outstanding</b>	<b>3,589</b>	<b>236,249</b>

*See notes to financial statements.*

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following tables describe the performance for each share class for the fiscal periods indicated. All information (except portfolio turnover rate) reflects financial results for a single fund share. Total return shows how much your investment in the fund would have increased (or decreased) during each period, assuming you had reinvested all dividends and distributions. The fund's total returns do not reflect expenses associated with variable annuity or insurance contracts. These figures have been derived from the fund's financial statements.

	Six Months Ended	Year Ended December 31,				
	June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Initial Shares</b>						
<b>Per Share Data (\$):</b>						
Net asset value, beginning of period	18.64	16.80	22.56	20.09	18.95	23.03
Investment Operations:						
Investment income—net <sup>a</sup>	.08	.13	.12	.10	.21	.18
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(3.16)	3.15	(3.19)	2.92	2.50	(.50)
Total from Investment Operations	(3.08)	3.28	(3.07)	3.02	2.71	(.32)
Distributions:						
Dividends from investment income—net	(.14)	(.12)	(.13)	(.22)	(.21)	(.14)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	-	(1.32)	(2.56)	(.33)	(1.36)	(3.62)
Total Distributions	(.14)	(1.44)	(2.69)	(.55)	(1.57)	(3.76)
Net asset value, end of period	15.42	18.64	16.80	22.56	20.09	18.95
<b>Total Return (%)</b>	(16.36) <sup>b</sup>	20.18	(15.49)	15.38	15.47	(2.29)
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>						
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.88 <sup>c</sup>	.86	.86	.87	.85	.85
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	1.00 <sup>c</sup>	.73	.59	.50	1.16	.89
Portfolio Turnover Rate	53.08 <sup>b</sup>	82.88	68.02	64.86	65.52	80.27
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	63,019	76,835	72,374	92,776	123,226	123,354

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>b</sup> Not annualized.

<sup>c</sup> Annualized.

See notes to financial statements.

Service Shares	Six Months Ended	Year Ended December 31,				
	June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Per Share Data (\$):</b>						
Net asset value, beginning of period	18.53	16.71	22.45	20.00	18.88	22.97
Investment Operations:						
Investment income—net <sup>a</sup>	.06	.09	.07	.06	.17	.15
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(3.13)	3.12	(3.18)	2.90	2.47	(.52)
Total from Investment Operations	(3.07)	3.21	(3.11)	2.96	2.64	(.37)
Distributions:						
Dividends from investment income—net	(.09)	(.07)	(.07)	(.18)	(.16)	(.10)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	-	(1.32)	(2.56)	(.33)	(1.36)	(3.62)
Total Distributions	(.09)	(1.39)	(2.63)	(.51)	(1.52)	(3.72)
Net asset value, end of period	15.37	18.53	16.71	22.45	20.00	18.88
<b>Total Return (%)</b>	<b>(16.45)<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>19.85</b>	<b>(15.69)</b>	<b>15.04</b>	<b>15.20</b>	<b>(2.52)</b>
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>						
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.13 <sup>c</sup>	1.11	1.11	1.12	1.10	1.10
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	.75 <sup>c</sup>	.48	.34	.28	.94	.72
Portfolio Turnover Rate	53.08 <sup>b</sup>	82.88	68.02	64.86	65.52	80.27
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	61,816	74,454	63,202	76,948	63,972	49,363

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>b</sup> Not annualized.

<sup>c</sup> Annualized.

See notes to financial statements.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

### **NOTE 1—Significant Accounting Policies:**

MidCap Stock Portfolio (the “fund”) is a separate diversified series of BNY Mellon Investment Portfolios (the “Company”), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Act”), as an open-end management investment company and operates as a series company currently offering three series, including the fund. The fund is only offered to separate accounts established by insurance companies to fund variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. The fund’s investment objective is to seek investment results that are greater than the total return performance of publicly traded common stocks of medium-size domestic companies in the aggregate, as represented by the Standard & Poor’s MidCap 400® Index. BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. (the “Adviser”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation (“BNY Mellon”), serves as the fund’s investment adviser.

BNY Mellon Securities Corporation (the “Distributor”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser, is the distributor of the fund’s shares, which are sold without a sales charge. The fund is authorized to issue an unlimited number of \$.001 par value shares of Beneficial Interest in each of the following classes of shares: Initial and Service. Each class of shares has identical rights and privileges, except with respect to the Distribution Plan, and the expenses borne by each class, the allocation of certain transfer agency costs, and certain voting rights. Income, expenses (other than expenses attributable to a specific class), and realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments are allocated to each class of shares based on its relative net assets.

The Company accounts separately for the assets, liabilities and operations of each series. Expenses directly attributable to each series are charged to that series’ operations; expenses which are applicable to all series are allocated among them on a pro rata basis.

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) is the exclusive reference of authoritative U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) recognized by the FASB to be applied by nongovernmental entities. Rules and interpretive releases of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) under authority of federal laws are also sources of authoritative GAAP for SEC registrants. The fund is an investment company and applies the accounting and reporting guidance of the FASB ASC Topic 946 Financial Services-Investment Companies. The fund’s financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP, which may require the use of management



estimates and assumptions. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The Company enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnifications. The fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown. The fund does not anticipate recognizing any loss related to these arrangements.

**(a) Portfolio valuation:** The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date (i.e., the exit price). GAAP establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs of valuation techniques used to measure fair value. This hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements).

Additionally, GAAP provides guidance on determining whether the volume and activity in a market has decreased significantly and whether such a decrease in activity results in transactions that are not orderly. GAAP requires enhanced disclosures around valuation inputs and techniques used during annual and interim periods.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the fund's investments relating to fair value measurements. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

**Level 1**—unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical investments.

**Level 2**—other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar investments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.).

**Level 3**—significant unobservable inputs (including the fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

Changes in valuation techniques may result in transfers in or out of an assigned level within the disclosure hierarchy. Valuation techniques used to value the fund's investments are as follows:

Investments in equity securities are valued at the last sales price on the securities exchange or national securities market on which such securities are primarily traded. Securities listed on the National Market System for which market quotations are available are valued at the official closing

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) *(continued)*

price or, if there is no official closing price that day, at the last sales price. For open short positions, asked prices are used for valuation purposes. Bid price is used when no asked price is available. Registered investment companies that are not traded on an exchange are valued at their net asset value. All of the preceding securities are generally categorized within Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

Securities not listed on an exchange or the national securities market, or securities for which there were no transactions, are valued at the average of the most recent bid and asked prices. These securities are generally categorized within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Fair valuing of securities may be determined with the assistance of a pricing service using calculations based on indices of domestic securities and other appropriate indicators, such as prices of relevant American Depository Receipts and futures. Utilizing these techniques may result in transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

When market quotations or official closing prices are not readily available, or are determined not to accurately reflect fair value, such as when the value of a security has been significantly affected by events after the close of the exchange or market on which the security is principally traded (for example, a foreign exchange or market), but before the fund calculates its net asset value, the fund may value these investments at fair value as determined in accordance with the procedures approved by the Company's Board of Trustees (the "Board"). Certain factors may be considered when fair valuing investments such as: fundamental analytical data, the nature and duration of restrictions on disposition, an evaluation of the forces that influence the market in which the securities are purchased and sold, and public trading in similar securities of the issuer or comparable issuers. These securities are either categorized within Level 2 or 3 of the fair value hierarchy depending on the relevant inputs used.

For securities where observable inputs are limited, assumptions about market activity and risk are used and such securities are generally categorized within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the fund's investments:

	Level 1 - Unadjusted Quoted Prices	Level 2 – Other Significant Observable Inputs	Level 3 - Significant Unobservable Inputs	<b>Total</b>
<b>Assets (\$)</b>				
Investments in Securities: <sup>†</sup>				
Equity Securities-				
Common Stocks	122,033,638	-	-	<b>122,033,638</b>
Investment Companies	3,887,134	-	-	<b>3,887,134</b>

<sup>†</sup> See Statement of Investments for additional detailed categorizations, if any.

**(b) Foreign Taxes:** The fund may be subject to foreign taxes (a portion of which may be reclaimable) on income, stock dividends, realized and unrealized capital gains on investments or certain foreign currency transactions. Foreign taxes are recorded in accordance with the fund's understanding of the applicable foreign tax regulations and rates that exist in the foreign jurisdictions in which the fund invests. These foreign taxes, if any, are paid by the fund and are reflected in the Statements of Operations. Foreign taxes payable or deferred as of June 30, 2020, if any, are disclosed in the fund's Statements of Assets and Liabilities.

**(c) Securities transactions and investment income:** Securities transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Realized gains and losses from securities transactions are recorded on the identified cost basis. Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date and interest income, including, where applicable, accretion of discount and amortization of premium on investments, is recognized on the accrual basis.

Pursuant to a securities lending agreement with The Bank of New York Mellon, a subsidiary of BNY Mellon and an affiliate of the Adviser, the fund may lend securities to qualified institutions. It is the fund's policy that, at origination, all loans are secured by collateral of at least 102% of the value of U.S. securities loaned and 105% of the value of foreign securities loaned. Collateral equivalent to at least 100% of the market value of securities on loan is maintained at all times. Collateral is either in the form of cash, which can be invested in certain money market mutual funds managed by the Adviser, or U.S. Government and Agency securities. The fund is entitled to receive all dividends, interest and distributions on securities loaned, in addition to income earned as a result of the lending transaction. Should a borrower fail to return the securities in a timely manner, The Bank of New York Mellon is required to replace the securities for the benefit of the fund or credit the fund with the market value of the unreturned securities and is subrogated to the fund's rights against the borrower and the collateral. Additionally, the contractual

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) *(continued)*

maturity of security lending transactions are on an overnight and continuous basis. During the period ended June 30, 2020, The Bank of New York Mellon earned \$3,522 from the lending of the fund's portfolio securities, pursuant to the securities lending agreement.

**(d) Affiliated issuers:** Investments in other investment companies advised by the Adviser are considered "affiliated" under the Act.

**(e) Risk:** Certain events particular to the industries in which the fund's investments conduct their operations, as well as general economic, political and public health conditions, may have a significant negative impact on the investee's operations and profitability. In addition, turbulence in financial markets and reduced liquidity in equity, credit and/or fixed income markets may negatively affect many issuers, which could adversely affect the fund. Global economies and financial markets are becoming increasingly interconnected, and conditions and events in one country, region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. These risks may be magnified if certain events or developments adversely interrupt the global supply chain; in these and other circumstances, such risks might affect companies world-wide. Recent examples include pandemic risks related to COVID-19 and aggressive measures taken world-wide in response by governments, including closing borders, restricting international and domestic travel, and the imposition of prolonged quarantines of large populations, and by businesses, including changes to operations and reducing staff. To the extent the fund may overweight its investments in certain countries, companies, industries or market sectors, such positions will increase the fund's exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those countries, companies, industries or sectors.

**(f) Dividends and distributions to shareholders:** Dividends and distributions are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Dividends from investment income-net and dividends from net realized capital gains, if any, are normally declared and paid annually, but the fund may make distributions on a more frequent basis to comply with the distribution requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). To the extent that net realized capital gains can be offset by capital loss carryovers, it is the policy of the fund not to distribute such gains. Income and capital gain distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations, which may differ from GAAP.

**(g) Federal income taxes:** It is the policy of the fund to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company, if such qualification is in the best interests of its shareholders, by complying with the applicable provisions of the Code, and to make distributions of taxable income and

net realized capital gain sufficient to relieve it from substantially all federal income and excise taxes.

As of and during the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund did not have any liabilities for any uncertain tax positions. The fund recognizes interest and penalties, if any, related to uncertain tax positions as income tax expense in the Statement of Operations. During the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund did not incur any interest or penalties.

Each tax year in the three-year period ended December 31, 2019 remains subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service and state taxing authorities.

The fund is permitted to carry forward capital losses for an unlimited period. Furthermore, capital loss carryovers retain their character as either short-term or long-term capital losses.

The fund has an unused capital loss carryover of \$2,590,089 available for federal income tax purposes to be applied against future net realized capital gains, if any, realized subsequent to December 31, 2019. These short-term losses can be carried forward for an unlimited period.

The tax character of distributions paid to shareholders during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 was as follows: ordinary income \$799,710 and long-term capital gains \$10,846,386. The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**NOTE 2—Bank Lines of Credit:**

The fund participates with other long-term open-end funds managed by the Adviser in a \$927 million unsecured credit facility led by Citibank, N.A. (the “Citibank Credit Facility”) and a \$300 million unsecured credit facility provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (the “BNYM Credit Facility”), each to be utilized primarily for temporary or emergency purposes, including the financing of redemptions (each, a “Facility”). The Citibank Credit Facility is available in two tranches: (i) Tranche A is in an amount equal to \$747 million and is available to all long-term open-ended funds, including the fund, and (ii) Tranche B is an amount equal to \$180 million and is available only to BNY Mellon Floating Rate Income Fund, a series of BNY Mellon Investment Funds IV, Inc. Prior to March 11, 2020, the Citibank Credit Facility was \$1.030 billion with Tranche A available in an amount equal to \$830 million and Tranche B available in an amount equal to \$200 million. In connection therewith, the fund has agreed to pay its pro rata portion of commitment fees for Tranche A of the Citibank Credit Facility and the BNYM Credit Facility. Interest is charged to the fund based on rates determined pursuant to the terms of the respective Facility

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) *(continued)*

at the time of borrowing. During the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund did not borrow under the Facilities.

**NOTE 3—Management Fee and Other Transactions with Affiliates:**

(a) Pursuant to a management agreement with the Adviser, the management fee is computed at the annual rate of .75% of the value of the fund's average daily net assets and is payable monthly. The Adviser has contractually agreed, from May 1, 2020 through May 1, 2021, to waive receipt of its fees and/or assume the expenses of the fund, so that the direct expenses of the fund (excluding Rule 12b-1 Distribution Plan fees, taxes, interest expense, brokerage commissions, commitment fees on borrowings and extraordinary expenses) do not exceed 1.00%. On or after May 1, 2021, the Adviser may terminate this expense limitation at any time. During the period ended June 30, 2020, there were no reduction in expense pursuant to undertaking.

(b) Under the Distribution Plan adopted pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Act, Service shares pay the Distributor for distributing its shares, for servicing and/or maintaining Service shares' shareholder accounts and for advertising and marketing for Service shares. The Distribution Plan provides for payments to be made at an annual rate of .25% of the value of the Service shares' average daily net assets. The Distributor may make payments to Participating Insurance Companies and to brokers and dealers acting as principal underwriter for their variable insurance products. The fees payable under the Distribution Plan are payable without regard to actual expenses incurred. During the period ended June 30, 2020, Service shares were charged \$77,629 pursuant to the Distribution Plan.

The fund has an arrangement with the transfer agent whereby the fund may receive earnings credits when positive cash balances are maintained, which are used to offset transfer agency fees. For financial reporting purposes, the fund includes net earnings credits, if any, as an expense offset in the Statement of Operations.

The fund has an arrangement with the custodian whereby the fund will receive interest income or be charged an overdraft fees when cash balances are maintained. For financial reporting purposes, the fund includes this interest income and overdraft fees, if any, as interest income in the Statements of Operations.

The fund compensates BNY Mellon Transfer, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser, under a transfer agency agreement for providing transfer agency and cash management services for the fund. The majority of transfer agency fees are comprised of amounts paid on a per account

basis, while cash management fees are related to fund subscriptions and redemptions. During the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund was charged \$629 for transfer agency services. These fees are included in Shareholder servicing costs in the Statement of Operations.

The fund compensates The Bank of New York Mellon under a custody agreement for providing custodial services for the fund. These fees are determined based on net assets, geographic region and transaction activity. During the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund was charged \$3,670 pursuant to the custody agreement.

During the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund was charged \$8,595 for services performed by the Chief Compliance Officer and his staff. These fees are included in Chief Compliance Officer fees in the Statement of Operations.

The components of “Due to BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. and affiliates” in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities consist of: management fees of \$77,502, Distribution Plan fees of \$12,801, custodian fees of \$2,080, Chief Compliance Officer fees of \$4,695 and transfer agency fees of \$210.

(c) Each Board member also serves as a Board member of other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds complex. Annual retainer fees and attendance fees are allocated to each fund based on net assets.

**NOTE 4—Securities Transactions:**

The aggregate amount of purchases and sales of investment securities, excluding short-term securities, during the period ended June 30, 2020, amounted to \$67,528,016 and \$71,211,503, respectively.

At June 30, 2020, accumulated net unrealized depreciation on investments was \$1,610,635, consisting of \$13,513,938 gross unrealized appreciation and \$15,124,573 gross unrealized depreciation.

At June 30, 2020, the cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was substantially the same as the cost for financial reporting purposes (see the Statement of Investments).

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE RENEWAL OF THE FUND'S INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT (Unaudited)

At a meeting of the fund's Board of Trustees held on March 3, 2020, the Board considered the renewal of the fund's Management Agreement pursuant to which the Adviser provides the fund with investment advisory and administrative services (the "Agreement"). The Board members, a majority of whom are not "interested persons" (as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended) of the fund, were assisted in their review by independent legal counsel and met with counsel in executive session separate from representatives of the Adviser. In considering the renewal of the Agreement, the Board considered several factors that it believed to be relevant, including those discussed below. The Board did not identify any one factor as dispositive, and each Board member may have attributed different weights to the factors considered.

Analysis of Nature, Extent, and Quality of Services Provided to the Fund. The Board considered information provided to it at the meeting and in previous presentations from representatives of the Adviser regarding the nature, extent, and quality of the services provided to funds in the BNY Mellon fund complex, including the fund. The Adviser provided the number of open accounts in the fund, the fund's asset size and the allocation of fund assets among distribution channels. The Adviser also had previously provided information regarding the diverse intermediary relationships and distribution channels of funds in the BNY Mellon fund complex (such as retail direct or intermediary, in which intermediaries typically are paid by the fund and/or the Adviser) and the Adviser's corresponding need for broad, deep, and diverse resources to be able to provide ongoing shareholder services to each intermediary or distribution channel, as applicable to the fund.

The Board also considered research support available to, and portfolio management capabilities of, the fund's portfolio management personnel and that the Adviser also provides oversight of day-to-day fund operations, including fund accounting and administration and assistance in meeting legal and regulatory requirements. The Board also considered the Adviser's extensive administrative, accounting and compliance infrastructures. The Board also considered portfolio management's brokerage policies and practices (including policies and practices regarding soft dollars) and the standards applied in seeking best execution.

Comparative Analysis of the Fund's Performance and Management Fee and Expense Ratio. The Board reviewed reports prepared by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge"), an independent provider of investment company data, which included information comparing (1) the fund's performance with the performance of a group of small-cap core funds underlying variable insurance products (the "Performance Group") and with a broader group of small-cap core funds underlying variable insurance products (the "Performance Universe"), all for various periods ended December 31, 2019, and (2) the fund's actual and contractual management fees and total expenses with those of the same group of funds in the Performance Group (the "Expense Group") and with a broader group of small-cap core funds underlying variable insurance



products with similar 12b-1/non-12b-1 structures, excluding outliers (the “Expense Universe”), the information for which was derived in part from fund financial statements available to Broadridge as of the date of its analysis. The Adviser previously had furnished the Board with a description of the methodology Broadridge used to select the Performance Group and Performance Universe and the Expense Group and Expense Universe.

Representatives of the Adviser stated that the usefulness of performance comparisons may be affected by a number of factors, including different investment limitations and policies that may be applicable to the fund and comparison funds. They also considered that performance generally should be considered over longer periods of time, although it is possible that long-term performance can be adversely affected by even one period of significant underperformance so that a single investment decision or theme has the ability to affect disproportionately long-term performance. The Board discussed with representatives of the Adviser the results of the comparisons and considered that the fund’s total return performance was below the Performance Group and Performance Universe medians for all periods, except the ten-year period when performance was at and above the Performance Group and Performance Universe medians, respectively. The Adviser also provided a comparison of the fund’s calendar year total returns to the returns of the fund’s benchmark index and it was noted that the fund’s returns were above the returns of the index in five of the ten calendar years shown.

The Board reviewed and considered the contractual management fee rate paid by the fund to the Adviser over the fund’s last fiscal year in light of the nature, extent and quality of the management services provided by the Adviser. The Board also reviewed the range of actual and contractual management fees and total expenses as a percentage of average net assets of the Expense Group and Expense Universe funds and discussed the results of the comparisons. The Board considered that the fund’s contractual management fee was equal to the Expense Group median contractual management fee, the fund’s actual management fee was higher than the Expense Group median and equal to the Expense Universe median actual management fee and the fund’s total expenses were higher than the Expense Group median and the Expense Universe median total expenses.

The Board and the Adviser contractually agreed, effective May 1, 2020, and until May 1, 2021, for the Adviser to waive receipt of its fees and/or assume the direct expenses of the fund so that the direct expenses of neither class (excluding Rule 12b-1 fees, shareholder services fees, taxes, interest, brokerage commissions, commitment fees on borrowings and extraordinary expenses) exceed 1.00% of the fund’s average daily net assets.

Representatives of the Adviser reviewed with the Board the management or investment advisory fees paid by funds advised or administered by the Adviser that are in the same Lipper category as the fund (the “Similar Clients”), and explained the nature of the Similar Clients. They discussed differences in fees paid and the relationship of the fees paid in light of any differences in the services provided and other relevant factors. The

INFORMATION ABOUT THE RENEWAL OF THE FUND'S INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT (Unaudited) *(continued)*

Board considered the relevance of the fee information provided for the Similar Clients to evaluate the appropriateness of the fund's management fee.

Analysis of Profitability and Economies of Scale. Representatives of the Adviser reviewed the expenses allocated and profit received by the Adviser and its affiliates and the resulting profitability percentage for managing the fund and the aggregate profitability percentage to the Adviser and its affiliates for managing the funds in the BNY Mellon fund complex, and the method used to determine the expenses and profit. The Board concluded that the profitability results were not excessive, given the services rendered and service levels provided by the Adviser and its affiliates. The Board also had been provided with information prepared by an independent consulting firm regarding the Adviser's approach to allocating costs to, and determining the profitability of, individual funds and the entire BNY Mellon fund complex. The consulting firm also had analyzed where any economies of scale might emerge in connection with the management of a fund.

The Board considered, on the advice of its counsel, the profitability analysis (1) as part of its evaluation of whether the fees under the Agreement, considered in relation to the mix of services provided by the Adviser, including the nature, extent and quality of such services, supported the renewal of the Agreement and (2) in light of the relevant circumstances for the fund and the extent to which economies of scale would be realized if the fund grows and whether fee levels reflect these economies of scale for the benefit of fund shareholders. Representatives of the Adviser stated that a discussion of economies of scale is predicated on a fund having achieved a substantial size with increasing assets and that, if a fund's assets had been stable or decreasing, the possibility that the Adviser may have realized any economies of scale would be less. Representatives of the Adviser also stated that, as a result of shared and allocated costs among funds in the BNY Mellon fund complex, the extent of economies of scale could depend substantially on the level of assets in the complex as a whole, so that increases and decreases in complex-wide assets can affect potential economies of scale in a manner that is disproportionate to, or even in the opposite direction from, changes in the fund's asset level. The Board also considered potential benefits to the Adviser from acting as investment adviser and took into consideration the soft dollar arrangements in effect for trading the fund's investments.

At the conclusion of these discussions, the Board agreed that it had been furnished with sufficient information to make an informed business decision with respect to the renewal of the Agreement. Based on the discussions and considerations as described above, the Board concluded and determined as follows.

- The Board concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Adviser are adequate and appropriate.
- The Board expressed concern about the fund's performance and determined to approve renewal of the Agreement only through the third quarter 2020 regular Board meeting.

- The Board concluded that the fee paid to the Adviser continued to be appropriate under the circumstances and in light of the factors and the totality of the services provided as discussed above.
- The Board determined that the economies of scale which may accrue to the Adviser and its affiliates in connection with the management of the fund had been adequately considered by the Adviser in connection with the fee rate charged to the fund pursuant to the Agreement and that, to the extent in the future it were determined that material economies of scale had not been shared with the fund, the Board would seek to have those economies of scale shared with the fund.

In evaluating the Agreement, the Board considered these conclusions and determinations and also relied on its previous knowledge, gained through meetings and other interactions with the Adviser and its affiliates, of the Adviser and the services provided to the fund by the Adviser. The Board also relied on information received on a routine and regular basis throughout the year relating to the operations of the fund and the investment management and other services provided under the Agreement, including information on the investment performance of the fund in comparison to similar mutual funds and benchmark performance indices; general market outlook as applicable to the fund; and compliance reports. In addition, the Board's consideration of the contractual fee arrangements for the fund had the benefit of a number of years of reviews of the Agreement for the fund, or substantially similar agreements for other BNY Mellon funds that the Board oversees, during which lengthy discussions took place between the Board and representatives of the Adviser. Certain aspects of the arrangements may receive greater scrutiny in some years than in others, and the Board's conclusions may be based, in part, on their consideration of the fund's arrangements, or substantially similar arrangements for other BNY Mellon funds that the Board oversees, in prior years. The Board determined to renew the Agreement through the third quarter regular Board meeting.

## LIQUIDITY RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (Unaudited)

Effective June 1, 2019, the fund adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Liquidity Risk Management Program”) pursuant to the requirements of Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. Rule 22e-4 requires registered open-end funds, including mutual funds and exchange-traded funds but not money market funds, to establish liquidity risk management programs in order to effectively manage fund liquidity and shareholder redemptions. The rule is designed to mitigate the risk that a fund could not meet redemption requests without significantly diluting the interests of remaining investors.

The rule requires the funds to assess, manage and review their liquidity risk at least annually considering applicable factors such as investment strategy and liquidity during normal and foreseeable stressed conditions, including whether the strategy is appropriate for an open-end fund and whether the fund has a relatively concentrated portfolio or large positions in particular issuers. The fund must also assess its use of borrowings and derivatives, short-term and long-term cash flow projections in normal and stressed conditions, holdings of cash and cash equivalents, and borrowing arrangements and other funding sources.

The rule also requires the fund to classify its investments as highly liquid, moderately liquid, less liquid or illiquid based on the number of days the fund expects it would take to liquidate the investment, and to review these classifications at least monthly or more often under certain conditions. The periods range from three or fewer business days for a highly liquid investment to greater than seven calendar days for settlement of a less liquid investment. Illiquid investments are those a fund does not expect to be able to sell or dispose of within seven calendar days without significantly changing the market value. The fund is prohibited from acquiring an investment if, after the acquisition, its holdings of illiquid assets will exceed 15% of its net assets. In addition, if a fund permits redemptions in-kind, the rule requires the fund to establish redemption in-kind policies and procedures governing how and when it will engage in such redemptions.

Pursuant to the rule’s requirements, the Liquidity Risk Management Program has been reviewed and approved by the fund’s board. Furthermore, the board has received a written report prepared by the Program’s Administrator that addresses the operation of the Program, assesses its adequacy and effectiveness and describes any material changes made to the Program.

### *Assessment of Program*

In the opinion of the Program Administrator, the Program approved by the fund board continues to be adequate for the fund and the Program has been implemented effectively. The Program Administrator has monitored the fund’s liquidity risk and the liquidity classification of the securities held by the fund and has determined that the Program is operating effectively.

During the period from June 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020, there were no material changes to the Program and no material liquidity events that impacted the fund. During the period, the fund held sufficient highly liquid assets to meet fund redemptions.

Under normal expected foreseeable fund redemption forecasts and foreseeable stressed fund redemption forecasts, the Program Administrator believes that the fund maintains sufficient highly liquid assets to meet expected fund redemptions.

NOTES

NOTES

# For More Information

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**BNY Mellon Investment Portfolios,  
MidCap Stock Portfolio**

240 Greenwich Street  
New York, NY 10286

**Adviser**

BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc.  
240 Greenwich Street  
New York, NY 10286

**Custodian**

The Bank of New York Mellon  
240 Greenwich Street  
New York, NY 10286

**Transfer Agent &  
Dividend Disbursing Agent**

BNY Mellon Transfer, Inc.  
240 Greenwich Street  
New York, NY 10286

**Distributor**

BNY Mellon Securities Corporation  
240 Greenwich Street  
New York, NY 10286

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**Telephone** 1-800-258-4260 or 1-800-258-4261

**Mail** The BNY Mellon Family of Funds, 144 Glenn Curtiss Boulevard, Uniondale, NY 11556-0144 Attn: Institutional Services Department

**E-mail** Send your request to [info@bnymellon.com](mailto:info@bnymellon.com)

**Internet** Information can be viewed online or downloaded at [www.bnymellonim.com/us](http://www.bnymellonim.com/us)

The fund files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-PORT. The fund's Forms N-PORT are available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

A description of the policies and procedures that the fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities and information regarding how the fund voted these proxies for the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available at [www.bnymellonim.com/us](http://www.bnymellonim.com/us) and on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) and without charge, upon request, by calling 1-800-373-9387.





BNY Mellon Sustainable U.S.  
Equity Portfolio, Inc.

**SEMIANNUAL REPORT**  
June 30, 2020



**BNY MELLON**  
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

The views expressed in this report reflect those of the portfolio manager(s) only through the end of the period covered and do not necessarily represent the views of BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. or any other person in the BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. organization. Any such views are subject to change at any time based upon market or other conditions and BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. disclaims any responsibility to update such views. These views may not be relied on as investment advice and, because investment decisions for a fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds are based on numerous factors, may not be relied on as an indication of trading intent on behalf of any fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds.

Not FDIC-Insured • Not Bank-Guaranteed • May Lose Value

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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**BNY Mellon Sustainable U.S. Equity Portfolio, Inc.** **The Fund**

**A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF BNY MELLON  
INVESTMENT ADVISER, INC.**

Dear Shareholder:

We are pleased to present this semiannual report for BNY Mellon Sustainable U.S. Equity Portfolio, Inc., covering the six-month period from January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020. For information about how the fund performed during the reporting period, as well as general market perspectives, we provide a Discussion of Fund Performance on the pages that follow.

After a positive end to 2019, investors were optimistic. Expectations for robust economic growth, accommodative policies from the U.S. Federal Reserve (the “Fed”) and healthy U.S. consumer spending helped support equity valuations in the U.S. well into January and February of 2020. However, the euphoria was short-lived, as concerns over the spread of COVID-19 began to roil markets. Early signs of market turmoil began in China and adjacent areas of the Pacific Rim, which were heavily affected by the virus early in 2020. As the virus spread across the globe, concerns about the economic effects of a widespread quarantine worked to depress equity valuations. U.S. stocks began to show signs of volatility in March 2020 and posted historic losses during that month. Global central banks and governments worked to enact emergency stimulus measures to support their respective economies, and equity valuations began to rebound, trending upward in April, May and June 2020.

In fixed-income markets, interest rates were heavily influenced by changes in Fed policy and investor concern over COVID-19. When the threat posed by COVID-19 began to emerge, a flight-to-quality ensued and rates fell significantly. March 2020 brought extreme volatility and risk-asset spread widening. The Fed cut rates twice in March, resulting in an overnight lending target rate of nearly zero, and the government launched a large stimulus package. Both actions worked to support bond valuations throughout April, May and June 2020.

We believe the near-term outlook for the U.S. will be challenging, as the country contends with the spread of COVID-19 and determines a path forward for recovery. However, we are confident that once the economic effects of the virus have been mitigated, the economy will rebound. As always, we will monitor relevant data for signs of change. We encourage you to discuss the risks and opportunities in today’s investment environment with your financial advisor.

Thank you for your continued confidence and support.

Sincerely,



Renee LaRoche-Morris  
President  
BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc.  
July 15, 2020

## DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE (Unaudited)

*For the period from January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, as provided by portfolio managers Jeff Munroe, Yuko Takano and Rob Stewart of Newton Investment Management Limited, Sub-Investment Adviser*

### **Market and Fund Performance Overview**

For the six-month period ended June 30, 2020, BNY Mellon Sustainable U.S. Equity Portfolio, Inc.'s Initial shares produced a total return of 1.99%, and the fund's Service shares returned 1.88%.<sup>1</sup> In comparison, the fund's benchmark, the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index (the "Index"), produced a total return of -3.07% for the same period.<sup>2</sup>

U.S. equities posted losses over the reporting period, amid a volatile environment brought on by the spread of COVID-19. The fund outperformed the Index, mainly due to security selection within the consumer discretionary sector, as well as allocation decisions within the energy and information technology sectors.

### **The Fund's Investment Approach**

The fund seeks long-term capital appreciation. To pursue its goal, the fund normally invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of U.S. companies that demonstrate attractive investment attributes and sustainable business practices and have no material, unresolvable, environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues. The fund invests principally in common stocks, focusing on companies with market capitalizations of \$5 billion or more at the time of purchase. The fund may invest up to 20% of its assets in the stocks of foreign companies, including up to 10% in the stocks of companies in emerging-market countries.

We use quantitative and qualitative fundamental analyses to identify attractively priced companies with good products, strong management and strategic direction that have adopted, or are making progress toward, a sustainable business approach. We employ an investment process that combines investment themes with fundamental research and analysis to select stocks for the fund's portfolio.

### **A Tale of Two Markets**

Markets gave way to extreme risk aversion at the start of the reporting period, as the global scope of the COVID-19 pandemic, and its alarming humanitarian and economic implications, became apparent. Equity valuations in the U.S. remained robust throughout January and February 2020, while markets in areas which experienced the virus earlier, such as China, began to experience volatility closer to the start of the year. Financial markets also had to contend with a second major, exogenous shock in the form of an oil-price war between Saudi Arabia and Russia, which resulted in the oil price falling precipitously in March 2020. The West Texas Intermediate May contract would later tumble into negative territory, as plunging demand for the commodity gave rise to shortages of storage capacity in the U.S. Central bank. Responses to the crisis ramped up dramatically, as financial markets became progressively more distressed. Governments were also proactive and launched an unprecedented array of fiscal initiatives that sought to offset the economic impact of widespread lockdown measures. Such action latterly provided some comfort, and indices began to rally toward the end of March 2020.

## DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE (Unaudited) *(continued)*

U.S. equities went on to stage a recovery during the second half of the reporting period. The unprecedented array of stimulus that was briskly deployed by central banks and governments globally helped to buoy investor confidence and support security valuations. Investors began to anticipate a move towards economic normalization as lockdown measures eased. Pullbacks did punctuate the rally and were typically driven by fears of rising infection rates, as was witnessed in the U.S. toward the end of June 2020. Geopolitics also weighed periodically, as the U.S. and China maintained their confrontational rhetoric across a range of issues including trade, technology and political change in Hong Kong.

### **Security Selections Drive Fund Performance**

Stock selection provided a significant boost to relative returns in the consumer discretionary sector, as did an overweight to that sector. A void in the energy sector and an overweight to the information technology sector were also particularly beneficial. Online retailer eBay was a top contributor, reflective of an acceleration in the shift towards online retail brought about by COVID-19. Gross merchandise volume (GMV) exceeded expectations for the first quarter, as demand surged in the wake of the pandemic. Aided by the strength of the e-commerce trend, eBay subsequently revised its GMV growth guidance higher for the second quarter, on the back of a positive business update. Similarly, with sales surging over the first quarter, online retailer Amazon.com continued to appeal as a beneficiary of the growth in in-home buying. Investors quickly digested some disappointing operating profit guidance for the current period, related to \$4 billion in COVID-19-related costs, as shares went on to hit new highs.

Conversely, stock selection in the health care, industrials and information technology sectors weighed on portfolio results. Within industrials, shares of conglomerate General Electric fell, as investors took fright at the global downturn in airline activity. With airlines moving into survival mode, following substantial declines in air traffic brought about by the imposition of COVID-19-related travel restrictions, the aircraft engine manufacturer was not immune to such disruption. Indeed, first-quarter earnings came in below expectations, with GE Aviation witnessing a sharp decline in orders. Elsewhere in the markets, worries around COVID-19 and its impact on economic growth permeated the financial sector, weighing on Citigroup, as U.S. Treasury yields fell. In an increasingly strained operating environment, shares declined, as the market began to price in the prospect of zero rates and a reasonable increase in credit losses. U.S. banking stocks came under further pressure toward the end of the review period as, following annual stress tests, the U.S. Federal Reserve capped dividends and suspended share buybacks until the end of the third quarter.

### **Keeping a Long-Term Focus in a Challenging Environment**

With investors anticipating a snapback in economies, employment and corporate earnings, the recovery in U.S. equities, since the rapid declines witnessed in March 2020, has certainly been eye-catching in its magnitude. We believe financial markets may see a resurgence of volatility and, against a liquidity-driven backdrop, we feel it is important to retain a focus on individual holdings, their long-term prospects and valuations.

In the longer term, we remain concentrated on ensuring that the portfolio is well placed for the environment that our themes suggest we will see in the future. Although we prize long-term growth opportunities, competitive advantage, high returns on capital and conservative balance sheets, we aim for a diversified portfolio containing a range of investment profiles.

As ever, embedding a focus on the sustainability of our investments into our analysis acts as a valuable guide to positioning the portfolio effectively for the long term.

July 15, 2020

<sup>1</sup> *Total return includes reinvestment of dividends and any capital gains paid. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Share price and investment return fluctuate such that upon redemption, fund shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. The fund's return reflects the absorption of certain fund expenses by BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. pursuant to an agreement in effect through May 1, 2021, at which time it may be extended, modified or terminated. Had these expenses not been absorbed, returns would have been lower.*

<sup>2</sup> *Source: Lipper Inc. — The S&P 500® Index is widely regarded as the best single gauge of large-cap U.S. equities. The Index includes 500 leading companies and captures approximately 80% coverage of available market capitalization. Investors cannot invest directly in any index.*

*Equities are subject generally to market, market sector, market liquidity, issuer and investment style risks, among other factors, to varying degrees, all of which are more fully described in the fund's prospectus.*

*Recent market risks include pandemic risks related to COVID-19. The effects of COVID-19 have contributed to increased volatility in global markets and will likely affect certain countries, companies, industries and market sectors more dramatically than others. To the extent the fund may overweight its investments in certain countries, companies, industries or market sectors, such positions will increase the fund's exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those countries, companies, industries or sectors.*

*The fund's consideration of ESG issues in the securities selection process may cause the fund to perform differently from funds that do not integrate consideration of ESG issues when selecting investments.*

*The fund is only available as a funding vehicle under variable life insurance policies or variable annuity contracts issued by insurance companies. Individuals may not purchase shares of the fund directly. A variable annuity is an insurance contract issued by an insurance company that enables investors to accumulate assets on a tax-deferred basis for retirement or other long-term goals. The investment objective and policies of BNY Mellon Sustainable U.S. Equity Portfolio, Inc., made available through insurance products, may be similar to those of other funds managed by BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. However, the investment results of the fund may be higher or lower than, and may not be comparable to, those of any other BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. fund.*

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR FUND'S EXPENSES (Unaudited)

*As a mutual fund investor, you pay ongoing expenses, such as management fees and other expenses. Using the information below, you can estimate how these expenses affect your investment and compare them with the expenses of other funds. You also may pay one-time transaction expenses, including sales charges (loads), redemption fees and expenses associated with variable annuity or insurance contracts, which are not shown in this section and would have resulted in higher total expenses. For more information, see your fund's prospectus or talk to your financial adviser.*

### Review your fund's expenses

The table below shows the expenses you would have paid on a \$1,000 investment in BNY Mellon Sustainable U.S. Equity Portfolio, Inc. from January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020. It also shows how much a \$1,000 investment would be worth at the close of the period, assuming actual returns and expenses.

<b>Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment</b>		
Assume actual returns for the six months ended June 30, 2020		
	<b>Initial Shares</b>	<b>Service Shares</b>
Expense paid per \$1,000 <sup>†</sup>	\$3.47	\$4.72
Ending value (after expenses)	\$1,019.90	\$1,018.80

## COMPARING YOUR FUND'S EXPENSES WITH THOSE OF OTHER FUNDS (Unaudited)

### Using the SEC's method to compare expenses

The Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") has established guidelines to help investors assess fund expenses. Per these guidelines, the table below shows your fund's expenses based on a \$1,000 investment, assuming a hypothetical 5% annualized return. You can use this information to compare the ongoing expenses (but not transaction expenses or total cost) of investing in the fund with those of other funds. All mutual fund shareholder reports will provide this information to help you make this comparison. Please note that you cannot use this information to estimate your actual ending account balance and expenses paid during the period.

<b>Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment</b>		
Assuming a hypothetical 5% annualized return for the six months ended June 30, 2020		
	<b>Initial Shares</b>	<b>Service Shares</b>
Expense paid per \$1,000 <sup>†</sup>	\$3.47	\$4.72
Ending value (after expenses)	\$1,021.43	\$1,020.19

<sup>†</sup> Expenses are equal to the fund's annualized expense ratio of .69% for Initial Shares and .94% for Service Shares, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182/366 (to reflect the one-half year period).



STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS  
June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 97.4%</b>		
<b>Banks - 5.0%</b>		
Citigroup	139,345	7,120,529
First Republic Bank	49,928	5,291,869
		<b>12,412,398</b>
<b>Capital Goods - 3.2%</b>		
Acuity Brands	14,736	1,410,825
Ferguson	40,440	3,308,191
General Electric	477,667	3,262,466
		<b>7,981,482</b>
<b>Consumer Durables &amp; Apparel - 4.5%</b>		
Lennar, Cl. A	60,555	3,731,399
NIKE, Cl. B	76,793	7,529,554
		<b>11,260,953</b>
<b>Diversified Financials - 3.2%</b>		
Redwood Trust	202,656 <sup>a</sup>	1,418,592
The Goldman Sachs Group	33,917	6,702,677
		<b>8,121,269</b>
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing - 2.2%</b>		
Costco Wholesale	17,876	<b>5,420,182</b>
<b>Food, Beverage &amp; Tobacco - 3.1%</b>		
PepsiCo	57,886	<b>7,656,002</b>
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Services - 6.0%</b>		
Abbott Laboratories	82,341	7,528,438
Medtronic	82,276	7,544,709
		<b>15,073,147</b>
<b>Insurance - 2.8%</b>		
Intact Financial	73,105	<b>6,957,791</b>
<b>Materials - 4.1%</b>		
Albemarle	51,514	3,977,396
Ecolab	13,082	2,602,664
International Flavors & Fragrances	30,830	3,775,442
		<b>10,355,502</b>
<b>Media &amp; Entertainment - 4.6%</b>		
Alphabet, Cl. A	8,059 <sup>b</sup>	<b>11,428,065</b>
<b>Pharmaceuticals Biotechnology &amp; Life Sciences - 5.6%</b>		
Gilead Sciences	89,419	6,879,898
Merck & Co.	91,521	7,077,319
		<b>13,957,217</b>
<b>Retailing - 12.9%</b>		
Amazon.com	6,330 <sup>b</sup>	17,463,331
Dollar General	31,345	5,971,536

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 97.4% (continued)</b>		
<b>Retailing - 12.9% (continued)</b>		
eBay	168,971	8,862,529
		<b>32,297,396</b>
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment - 5.8%</b>		
Applied Materials	115,943	7,008,754
Qualcomm	80,818	7,371,410
		<b>14,380,164</b>
<b>Software &amp; Services - 16.8%</b>		
Accenture, Cl. A	42,139	9,048,086
Fidelity National Information Services	27,637	3,705,845
Intuit	17,070	5,055,963
Mastercard, Cl. A	25,169	7,442,473
Microsoft	82,664	16,822,951
		<b>42,075,318</b>
<b>Technology Hardware &amp; Equipment - 10.2%</b>		
Apple	50,594	18,456,692
Cisco Systems	149,660	6,980,142
		<b>25,436,834</b>
<b>Telecommunication Services - 3.1%</b>		
Verizon Communications	141,845	<b>7,819,915</b>
<b>Utilities - 4.3%</b>		
CMS Energy	58,331	3,407,697
Eversource Energy	89,427	7,446,586
		<b>10,854,283</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (cost \$177,217,036)		<b>243,487,918</b>
	1-Day Yield (%)	
<b>Investment Companies - 2.6%</b>		
<b>Registered Investment Companies - 2.6%</b>		
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund (cost \$6,538,031)	0.22	6,538,031 <sup>c</sup>
		<b>6,538,031</b>
<b>Total Investments</b> (cost \$183,755,067)	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>250,025,949</b>
<b>Liabilities, Less Cash and Receivables</b>	<b>(.0%)</b>	<b>(64,986)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>249,960,963</b>

<sup>a</sup> Investment in real estate investment trust within the United States.

<sup>b</sup> Non-income producing security.

<sup>c</sup> Investment in affiliated issuer. The investment objective of this investment company is publicly available and can be found within the investment company's prospectus.

Portfolio Summary (Unaudited) †	Value (%)
Information Technology	32.8
Consumer Discretionary	17.4
Health Care	11.6
Financials	11.0
Communication Services	7.7
Consumer Staples	5.2
Utilities	4.3
Materials	4.2
Industrials	3.2
Investment Companies	2.6
	<b>100.0</b>

† Based on net assets.  
See notes to financial statements.

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS IN AFFILIATED ISSUERS  
(Unaudited)

Investment Companies	Value 12/31/19(\$)	Purchases(\$) <sup>†</sup>	Sales(\$)	Value 6/30/20(\$)	Net Assets(%)	Dividends/ Distributions(\$)
<b>Registered Investment Companies;</b>						
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund	4,052,203	21,183,876	(18,698,048)	6,538,031	2.6	26,142

<sup>†</sup> Includes reinvested dividends/distributions.  
See notes to financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE  
 CONTRACTS June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

Counterparty/ Purchased Currency	Purchased Currency Amounts	Currency Sold	Sold Currency Amounts	Settlement Date	Unrealized (Depreciation)(\$)
<b>UBS Securities</b>					
United States Dollar	37,660	Canadian Dollar	51,576	7/2/2020	(331)
<b>Gross Unrealized Depreciation</b>					<b>(331)</b>

*See notes to financial statements.*

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Cost	Value
<b>Assets (\$):</b>		
Investments in securities—See Statement of Investments		
Unaffiliated issuers	177,217,036	243,487,918
Affiliated issuers	6,538,031	6,538,031
Cash denominated in foreign currency	37,649	37,990
Dividends receivable		177,980
Receivable for shares of Common Stock subscribed		18,910
Prepaid expenses		5,202
		<b>250,266,031</b>
<b>Liabilities (\$):</b>		
Due to BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. and affiliates—Note 3(c)		132,166
Payable for shares of Common Stock redeemed		127,622
Directors' fees and expenses payable		8,400
Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency exchange contracts—Note 4		331
Other accrued expenses		36,549
		<b>305,068</b>
<b>Net Assets (\$)</b>		<b>249,960,963</b>
<b>Composition of Net Assets (\$):</b>		
Paid-in capital		178,140,032
Total distributable earnings (loss)		71,820,931
<b>Net Assets (\$)</b>		<b>249,960,963</b>
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>		
	Initial Shares	Service Shares
Net Assets (\$)	236,677,330	13,283,633
Shares Outstanding	6,098,893	347,030
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share (\$)</b>	<b>38.81</b>	<b>38.28</b>

*See notes to financial statements.*

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income (\$):</b>	
<b>Income:</b>	
Cash dividends (net of \$13,143 foreign taxes withheld at source):	
Unaffiliated issuers	1,962,718
Affiliated issuers	25,519
Interest	816
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,989,053</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Management fee—Note 3(a)	711,794
Professional fees	47,282
Prospectus and shareholders' reports	28,004
Distribution fees—Note 3(b)	15,617
Chief Compliance Officer fees—Note 3(c)	8,595
Directors' fees and expenses—Note 3(d)	4,541
Shareholder servicing costs—Note 3(c)	3,040
Custodian fees—Note 3(c)	2,951
Loan commitment fees—Note 2	2,745
Miscellaneous	8,404
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>832,973</b>
Less—reduction in expenses due to undertaking—Note 3(a)	(649)
<b>Net Expenses</b>	<b>832,324</b>
<b>Investment Income—Net</b>	<b>1,156,729</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments—Note 4 (\$):</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) on investments and foreign currency transactions	4,687,584
Net realized gain (loss) on forward foreign currency exchange contracts	(631)
Capital gain distributions from affiliated issuers	623
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>4,687,576</b>
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments and foreign currency transactions	(1,288,031)
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on forward foreign currency exchange contracts	(331)
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>(1,288,362)</b>
<b>Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments</b>	<b>3,399,214</b>
<b>Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>4,555,943</b>

*See notes to financial statements.*

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Operations (\$):</b>		
Investment income—net	1,156,729	2,608,860
Net realized gain (loss) on investments	4,687,576	3,521,403
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	(1,288,362)	60,872,324
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>4,555,943</b>	<b>67,002,587</b>
<b>Distributions (\$):</b>		
Distributions to shareholders:		
Initial Shares	(5,450,358)	(10,343,539)
Service Shares	(278,338)	(486,656)
<b>Total Distributions</b>	<b>(5,728,696)</b>	<b>(10,830,195)</b>
<b>Capital Stock Transactions (\$):</b>		
Net proceeds from shares sold:		
Initial Shares	6,983,271	5,230,323
Service Shares	1,324,166	1,887,862
Distributions reinvested:		
Initial Shares	5,450,358	10,343,539
Service Shares	278,338	486,656
Cost of shares redeemed:		
Initial Shares	(11,915,518)	(25,290,229)
Service Shares	(1,237,320)	(1,528,245)
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets from Capital Stock Transactions</b>	<b>883,295</b>	<b>(8,870,094)</b>
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>(289,458)</b>	<b>47,302,298</b>
<b>Net Assets (\$):</b>		
Beginning of Period	250,250,421	202,948,123
<b>End of Period</b>	<b>249,960,963</b>	<b>250,250,421</b>
<b>Capital Share Transactions (Shares):</b>		
<b>Initial Shares</b>		
Shares sold	192,242	149,660
Shares issued for distributions reinvested	195,144	311,834
Shares redeemed	(326,900)	(721,929)
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Shares Outstanding</b>	<b>60,486</b>	<b>(260,435)</b>
<b>Service Shares</b>		
Shares sold	36,598	53,810
Shares issued for distributions reinvested	10,096	14,864
Shares redeemed	(34,544)	(44,378)
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Shares Outstanding</b>	<b>12,150</b>	<b>24,296</b>

*See notes to financial statements.*



## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following tables describe the performance for each share class for the fiscal periods indicated. All information (except portfolio turnover rate) reflects financial results for a single fund share. Total return shows how much your investment in the fund would have increased (or decreased) during each period, assuming you had reinvested all dividends and distributions. The fund's total returns do not reflect expenses associated with variable annuity or insurance contracts. These figures have been derived from the fund's financial statements.

	Six Months Ended	Year Ended December 31,				
	June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Initial Shares</b>						
<b>Per Share Data (\$):</b>						
Net asset value, beginning of period	39.30	30.73	40.27	37.86	38.56	45.97
Investment Operations:						
Investment income—net <sup>a</sup>	.18	.40	.41	.38	.44	.47
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	.25	9.85	(1.69)	5.14	3.15	(1.54)
Total from Investment Operations	.43	10.25	(1.28)	5.52	3.59	(1.07)
Distributions:						
Dividends from investment income—net	(.44)	(.52)	(.71)	(.46)	(.50)	(.47)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(.48)	(1.16)	(7.55)	(2.65)	(3.79)	(5.87)
Total Distributions	(.92)	(1.68)	(8.26)	(3.11)	(4.29)	(6.34)
Net asset value, end of period	38.81	39.30	30.73	40.27	37.86	38.56
<b>Total Return (%)</b>	1.99 <sup>b</sup>	34.36	(4.41)	15.33	10.38	(3.20)
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>						
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.69 <sup>c</sup>	.68	.74	.80	.86	.86
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	.69 <sup>c</sup>	.68	.70	.77	.86	.86
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	.99 <sup>c</sup>	1.14	1.19	.99	1.21	1.14
Portfolio Turnover Rate	10.40 <sup>b</sup>	25.43	51.68	119.51	60.67	59.57
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	236,677	237,287	193,538	226,078	221,172	227,483

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>b</sup> Not annualized.

<sup>c</sup> Annualized.

See notes to financial statements.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

Service Shares	Six Months Ended	Year Ended December 31,				
	June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Per Share Data (\$):</b>						
Net asset value, beginning of period	38.71	30.30	39.80	37.46	38.19	45.58
Investment Operations:						
Investment income—net <sup>a</sup>	.13	.31	.32	.28	.34	.36
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	.28	9.71	(1.66)	5.08	3.12	(1.52)
Total from Investment Operations	.41	10.02	(1.34)	5.36	3.46	(1.16)
Distributions:						
Dividends from investment income—net	(.36)	(.45)	(.61)	(.37)	(.40)	(.36)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(.48)	(1.16)	(7.55)	(2.65)	(3.79)	(5.87)
Total Distributions	(.84)	(1.61)	(8.16)	(3.02)	(4.19)	(6.23)
Net asset value, end of period	38.28	38.71	30.30	39.80	37.46	38.19
<b>Total Return (%)</b>	1.88 <sup>b</sup>	34.01	(4.64)	15.04	10.08	(3.41)
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>						
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.94 <sup>c</sup>	.93	.99	1.05	1.11	1.11
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	.94 <sup>c</sup>	.93	.95	1.02	1.11	1.11
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	.74 <sup>c</sup>	.88	.95	.74	.96	.89
Portfolio Turnover Rate	10.40 <sup>b</sup>	25.43	51.68	119.51	60.67	59.57
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	13,284	12,964	9,410	10,274	10,884	9,869

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>b</sup> Not annualized.

<sup>c</sup> Annualized.

See notes to financial statements.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

### **NOTE 1—Significant Accounting Policies:**

BNY Mellon Sustainable U.S. Equity Portfolio, Inc. (the “fund”), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Act”), is a diversified open-end management investment company. The fund is only offered to separate accounts established by insurance companies to fund variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. The fund’s investment objective is to seek long-term capital appreciation. BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. (the “Adviser”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation (“BNY Mellon”), serves as the fund’s investment adviser. Newton Investment Management Limited (the “Sub-Adviser”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of BNY Mellon and an affiliate of the Adviser, serves as the fund’s sub-investment adviser.

BNY Mellon Securities Corporation (the “Distributor”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser, is the distributor of the fund’s shares, which are sold without a sales charge. The fund is authorized to issue 150 million shares of \$.001 par value Common Stock in each of the following classes of shares: Initial and Service. Initial shares are subject to a Shareholder Services Plan fee and Service shares are subject to a Distribution Plan fee. Each class of shares has identical rights and privileges, except with respect to the Distribution Plan, Shareholder Services Plan and the expenses borne by each class, the allocation of certain transfer agency costs, and certain voting rights. Income, expenses (other than expenses attributable to a specific class), and realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments are allocated to each class of shares based on its relative net assets.

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) is the exclusive reference of authoritative U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) recognized by the FASB to be applied by nongovernmental entities. Rules and interpretive releases of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) under authority of federal laws are also sources of authoritative GAAP for SEC registrants. The fund is an investment company and applies the accounting and reporting guidance of the FASB ASC Topic 946 Financial Services-Investment Companies. The fund’s financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP, which may require the use of management estimates and assumptions. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The fund enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnifications. The fund’s maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown. The

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) *(continued)*

fund does not anticipate recognizing any loss related to these arrangements.

**(a) Portfolio valuation:** The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date (i.e., the exit price). GAAP establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs of valuation techniques used to measure fair value. This hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements).

Additionally, GAAP provides guidance on determining whether the volume and activity in a market has decreased significantly and whether such a decrease in activity results in transactions that are not orderly. GAAP requires enhanced disclosures around valuation inputs and techniques used during annual and interim periods.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the fund's investments relating to fair value measurements. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

**Level 1**—unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical investments.

**Level 2**—other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar investments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.).

**Level 3**—significant unobservable inputs (including the fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

Changes in valuation techniques may result in transfers in or out of an assigned level within the disclosure hierarchy. Valuation techniques used to value the fund's investments are as follows:

Investments in equity securities are valued at the last sales price on the securities exchange or national securities market on which such securities are primarily traded. Securities listed on the National Market System for which market quotations are available are valued at the official closing price or, if there is no official closing price that day, at the last sales price. For open short positions, asked prices are used for valuation purposes. Bid price is used when no asked price is available. Registered investment companies that are not traded on an exchange are valued at their net asset

value. All of the preceding securities are generally categorized within Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

Securities not listed on an exchange or the national securities market, or securities for which there were no transactions, are valued at the average of the most recent bid and asked prices. These securities are generally categorized within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Fair valuing of securities may be determined with the assistance of a pricing service using calculations based on indices of domestic securities and other appropriate indicators, such as prices of relevant American Depository Receipts and futures. Utilizing these techniques may result in transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

When market quotations or official closing prices are not readily available, or are determined not to accurately reflect fair value, such as when the value of a security has been significantly affected by events after the close of the exchange or market on which the security is principally traded (for example, a foreign exchange or market), but before the fund calculates its net asset value, the fund may value these investments at fair value as determined in accordance with the procedures approved by the fund's Board of Directors (the "Board"). Certain factors may be considered when fair valuing investments such as: fundamental analytical data, the nature and duration of restrictions on disposition, an evaluation of the forces that influence the market in which the securities are purchased and sold, and public trading in similar securities of the issuer or comparable issuers. These securities are either categorized within Level 2 or 3 of the fair value hierarchy depending on the relevant inputs used.

For securities where observable inputs are limited, assumptions about market activity and risk are used and such securities are generally categorized within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

Investments denominated in foreign currencies are translated to U.S. dollars at the prevailing rates of exchange.

Forward foreign currency exchange contracts ("forward contracts") are valued at the forward rate and are generally categorized within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the fund's investments:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

<b>Assets (\$)</b>	Level 1 - Unadjusted Quoted Prices	Level 2 - Other Significant Observable Inputs	Level 3 - Significant Unobservable Inputs	Total
Investments in Securities: <sup>†</sup>				
Equity Securities -				
Common Stocks	240,179,727	3,308,191 <sup>††</sup>	-	<b>243,487,918</b>
Investment Companies	6,538,031	-	-	<b>6,538,031</b>
<b>Liabilities (\$)</b>				
Other Financial Instruments:				
Forward Foreign				
Currency Exchange Contracts <sup>†††</sup>	-	(331)	-	<b>(331)</b>

<sup>†</sup> See Statement of Investments for additional detailed categorizations, if any.

<sup>††</sup> Securities classified within level 2 at period end as the values were determined pursuant to the fund's fair valuation procedures.

<sup>†††</sup> Amount shown represents unrealized appreciation (depreciation) at period end, but only variation margin on exchanged traded and centrally cleared derivatives, if any, are reported in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

**(b) Foreign currency transactions:** The fund does not isolate that portion of the results of operations resulting from changes in foreign exchange rates on investments from the fluctuations arising from changes in the market prices of securities held. Such fluctuations are included with the net realized and unrealized gain or loss on investments.

Net realized foreign exchange gains or losses arise from sales of foreign currencies, currency gains or losses realized on securities transactions between trade and settlement date, and the difference between the amounts of dividends, interest and foreign withholding taxes recorded on the fund's books and the U.S. dollar equivalent of the amounts actually received or paid. Net unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses arise from changes in the value of assets and liabilities other than investments resulting from changes in exchange rates. Foreign currency gains and losses on foreign currency transactions are also included with net realized and unrealized gain or loss on investments.

**Foreign Taxes:** The fund may be subject to foreign taxes (a portion of which may be reclaimable) on income, stock dividends, realized and unrealized capital gains on investments or certain foreign currency transactions. Foreign taxes are recorded in accordance with the fund's understanding of the applicable foreign tax regulations and rates that exist in the foreign jurisdictions in which the fund invests. These foreign taxes, if any, are paid by the fund and are reflected in the Statements of Operations. Foreign taxes payable or deferred as of June 30, 2020, if any, are disclosed in the fund's Statements of Assets and Liabilities.

**(c) Securities transactions and investment income:** Securities transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Realized gains and losses from securities transactions are recorded on the identified cost basis. Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date and interest income, including, where applicable, accretion of discount and amortization of premium on investments, is recognized on the accrual basis.

**(d) Affiliated issuers:** Investments in other investment companies advised by the Adviser are considered “affiliated” under the Act.

**(e) Risk:** Certain events particular to the industries in which the fund’s investments conduct their operations, as well as general economic, political and public health conditions, may have a significant negative impact on the investee’s operations and profitability. In addition, turbulence in financial markets and reduced liquidity in equity, credit and/or fixed income markets may negatively affect many issuers, which could adversely affect the fund. Global economies and financial markets are becoming increasingly interconnected, and conditions and events in one country, region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. These risks may be magnified if certain events or developments adversely interrupt the global supply chain; in these and other circumstances, such risks might affect companies worldwide. Recent examples include pandemic risks related to COVID-19 and aggressive measures taken world-wide in response by governments, including closing borders, restricting international and domestic travel, and the imposition of prolonged quarantines of large populations, and by businesses, including changes to operations and reducing staff. To the extent the fund may overweight its investments in certain countries, companies, industries or market sectors, such positions will increase the fund’s exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those countries, companies, industries or sectors.

**(f) Dividends and distributions to shareholders:** Dividends and distributions are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Dividends from investment income-net and dividends from net realized capital gains, if any, are normally declared and paid annually, but the fund may make distributions on a more frequent basis to comply with the distribution requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). To the extent that net realized capital gains can be offset by capital loss carryovers, it is the policy of the fund not to distribute such gains. Income and capital gain distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations, which may differ from GAAP.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) *(continued)*

**(g) Federal income taxes:** It is the policy of the fund to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company, if such qualification is in the best interests of its shareholders, by complying with the applicable provisions of the Code, and to make distributions of taxable income and net realized capital gain sufficient to relieve it from substantially all federal income and excise taxes.

As of and during the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund did not have any liabilities for any uncertain tax positions. The fund recognizes interest and penalties, if any, related to uncertain tax positions as income tax expense in the Statement of Operations. During the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund did not incur any interest or penalties.

Each tax year in the three-year period ended December 31, 2019 remains subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service and state taxing authorities.

The tax character of distributions paid to shareholders during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 was as follows: ordinary income \$3,355,073 and long-term capital gains \$7,475,122. The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**NOTE 2—Bank Lines of Credit:**

The fund participates with other long-term open-end funds managed by the Adviser in a \$927 million unsecured credit facility led by Citibank, N.A. (the “Citibank Credit Facility”) and a \$300 million unsecured credit facility provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (the “BNYM Credit Facility”), each to be utilized primarily for temporary or emergency purposes, including the financing of redemptions (each, a “Facility”). The Citibank Credit Facility is available in two tranches: (i) Tranche A is in an amount equal to \$747 million and is available to all long-term open-ended funds, including the fund, and (ii) Tranche B is an amount equal to \$180 million and is available only to BNY Mellon Floating Rate Income Fund, a series of BNY Mellon Investment Funds IV, Inc. Prior to March 11, 2020, the Citibank Credit Facility was \$1.030 billion with Tranche A available in an amount equal to \$830 million and Tranche B available in an amount equal to \$200 million. In connection therewith, the fund has agreed to pay its pro rata portion of commitment fees for Tranche A of the Citibank Credit Facility and the BNYM Credit Facility. Interest is charged to the fund based on rates determined pursuant to the terms of the respective Facility at the time of borrowing. During the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund did not borrow under the Facilities.



**NOTE 3—Management Fee, Sub-Investment Advisory Fee and Other Transactions with Affiliates:**

(a) Pursuant to the management agreement with the Adviser, the management fee is computed at an annual rate of .60% of the value of the fund's average daily net assets and is payable monthly. The Adviser has contractually agreed, from January 1, 2020 through May 1, 2021, to waive receipt of its fees and/or assume the direct expenses of the fund, so that the direct expenses of none of the classes (excluding Rule 12b-1 Distribution Plan fees, Shareholder Services Plan fees, taxes, interest expense, brokerage commission, commitment fees on borrowings and extraordinary expenses) exceed .70% of the value of the fund's average daily net assets. On or after May 1, 2021, the Adviser may terminate this expense limitation agreement at any time. The reduction in expenses, pursuant to the undertaking, amounted to \$649 during the period ended June 30, 2020.

Pursuant to a sub-investment advisory agreement between the Adviser and the Sub-Adviser, the Sub-Adviser serves as the fund's sub-investment adviser responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund's portfolio. The Adviser pays the sub-investment adviser a monthly fee at an annual percentage of the value of the fund's average daily net assets. The Adviser has obtained an exemptive order from the SEC (the "Order"), upon which the fund may rely, to use a manager of managers approach that permits the Adviser, subject to certain conditions and approval by the Board, to enter into and materially amend sub-investment advisory agreements with one or more sub-investment advisers who are either unaffiliated with the Adviser or are wholly-owned subsidiaries (as defined under the Act) of the Adviser's ultimate parent company, BNY Mellon, without obtaining shareholder approval. The Order also allows the fund to disclose the sub-investment advisory fee paid by the Adviser to any unaffiliated sub-investment adviser in the aggregate with other unaffiliated sub-investment advisers in documents filed with the SEC and provided to shareholders. In addition, pursuant to the Order, it is not necessary to disclose the sub-investment advisory fee payable by the Adviser separately to a sub-investment adviser that is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BNY Mellon in documents filed with the SEC and provided to shareholders; such fees are to be aggregated with fees payable to the Adviser. The Adviser has ultimate responsibility (subject to oversight by the Board) to supervise any sub-investment adviser and recommend the hiring, termination, and replacement of any sub-investment adviser to the Board.

(b) Under the Distribution Plan adopted pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Act, Service shares pay the Distributor for distributing its shares, for

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

servicing and/or maintaining Service shares' shareholder accounts and for advertising and marketing for Service shares. The Distribution Plan provides for payments to be made at an annual rate of .25% of the value of the Service shares' average daily net assets. The Distributor may make payments to Participating Insurance Companies and to brokers and dealers acting as principal underwriter for their variable insurance products. The fees payable under the Distribution Plan are payable without regard to actual expenses incurred. During the period ended June 30, 2020, Service shares were charged \$15,617 pursuant to the Distribution Plan.

(c) Under the Shareholder Services Plan, Initial shares reimburse the Distributor at an amount not to exceed an annual rate of .25% of the value of its average daily net assets for certain allocated expenses with respect to servicing and/or maintaining Initial shares' shareholder accounts. During the period ended June 30, 2020, Initial shares were charged \$2,112 pursuant to the Shareholder Services Plan.

The fund has an arrangement with the transfer agent whereby the fund may receive earnings credits when positive cash balances are maintained, which are used to offset transfer agency fees. For financial reporting purposes, the fund includes net earnings credits, if any, as an expense offset in the Statement of Operations.

The fund has an arrangement with the custodian whereby the fund will receive interest income or be charged an overdraft fees when cash balances are maintained. For financial reporting purposes, the fund includes this interest income and overdraft fees, if any, as interest income in the Statements of Operations.

The fund compensates BNY Mellon Transfer, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser, under a transfer agency agreement for providing transfer agency and cash management services for the fund. The majority of transfer agency fees are comprised of amounts paid on a per account basis, while cash management fees are related to fund subscriptions and redemptions. During the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund was charged \$789 for transfer agency services. These fees are included in Shareholder servicing costs in the Statement of Operations.

The fund compensates The Bank of New York Mellon under a custody agreement for providing custodial services for the fund. These fees are determined based on net assets, geographic region and transaction activity. During the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund was charged \$2,951 pursuant to the custody agreement.

During the period ended June 30, 2020, the fund was charged \$8,595 for services performed by the Chief Compliance Officer and his staff. These

fees are included in Chief Compliance Officer fees in the Statement of Operations.

The components of “Due to BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. and affiliates” in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities consist of: management fees of \$121,874, Distribution Plan fees of \$2,687, Shareholder Service Plan fees of \$1,267, custodian fees of \$2,000, Chief Compliance Officer fees of \$4,695 and transfer agency fees of \$292, which are offset against an expense reimbursement currently in effect in the amount of \$649.

(d) Each Board member also serves as a Board member of other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds complex. Annual retainer fees and attendance fees are allocated to each fund based on net assets.

**NOTE 4—Securities Transactions:**

The aggregate amount of purchases and sales of investment securities, excluding short-term securities and forward contracts, during the period ended June 30, 2020, amounted to \$24,277,931 and \$30,309,544, respectively.

**Derivatives:** A derivative is a financial instrument whose performance is derived from the performance of another asset. The fund enters into International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. Master Agreements or similar agreements (collectively, “Master Agreements”) with its over-the-counter (“OTC”) derivative contract counterparties in order to, among other things, reduce its credit risk to counterparties. Master Agreements include provisions for general obligations, representations, collateral and events of default or termination. Under a Master Agreement, the fund may offset with the counterparty certain derivative financial instruments’ payables and/or receivables with collateral held and/or posted and create one single net payment in the event of default or termination.

Each type of derivative instrument that was held by the fund during the period ended June 30, 2020 is discussed below.

**Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts:** The fund enters into forward contracts in order to hedge its exposure to changes in foreign currency exchange rates on its foreign portfolio holdings, to settle foreign currency transactions or as a part of its investment strategy. When executing forward contracts, the fund is obligated to buy or sell a foreign currency at a specified rate on a certain date in the future. With respect to sales of forward contracts, the fund incurs a loss if the value of the contract increases between the date the forward contract is opened and the date the forward contract is closed. The fund realizes a gain if the value of the contract decreases between those dates. With respect to purchases of

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

forward contracts, the fund incurs a loss if the value of the contract decreases between the date the forward contract is opened and the date the forward contract is closed. The fund realizes a gain if the value of the contract increases between those dates. Any realized or unrealized gains or losses which occurred during the period are reflected in the Statement of Operations. The fund is exposed to foreign currency risk as a result of changes in value of underlying financial instruments. The fund is also exposed to credit risk associated with counterparty nonperformance on these forward contracts, which is generally limited to the unrealized gain on each open contract. This risk may be mitigated by Master Agreements, if any, between the fund and the counterparty and the posting of collateral, if any, by the counterparty to the fund to cover the fund's exposure to the counterparty. Forward Contracts open at June 30, 2020 are set forth in the Statement of Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts.

The provisions of ASC Topic 210 "Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities" require disclosure on the offsetting of financial assets and liabilities. These disclosures are required for certain investments, including derivative financial instruments subject to Master Agreements which are eligible for offsetting in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and require the fund to disclose both gross and net information with respect to such investments. For financial reporting purposes, the fund does not offset derivative assets and derivative liabilities that are subject to Master Agreements in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

At June 30, 2020, derivative assets and liabilities (by type) on a gross basis are as follows:

Derivative Financial Instruments:	Assets (\$)	Liabilities (\$)
Forward contracts	-	(331)
Total gross amount of derivative assets and liabilities in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	-	(331)
Derivatives not subject to Master Agreements	-	-
Total gross amount of assets and liabilities subject to Master Agreements	-	(331)

The following table presents derivative liabilities net of amounts available for offsetting under Master Agreements and net of related collateral received or pledged, if any, as of June 30, 2020:

Counterparty	Gross Amount of Liabilities (\$) <sup>1</sup>	Financial Instruments and Derivatives Available for Offset (\$)	Collateral Pledged (\$)	Net Amount of Liabilities (\$)
UBS Securities	(331)	-	-	(331)

<sup>1</sup> Absent a default event or early termination, OTC derivative assets and liabilities are presented at gross amounts and are not offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The following summarizes the average market value of derivatives outstanding during the period ended June 30, 2020:

	Average Market Value (\$)
Forward contracts	5,427

At June 30, 2020, accumulated net unrealized appreciation on investments inclusive of derivatives contracts was \$66,270,551, consisting of \$72,676,141 gross unrealized appreciation and \$6,405,590 gross unrealized depreciation.

At June 30, 2020, the cost of investments inclusive of derivatives contracts for federal income tax purposes was substantially the same as the cost for financial reporting purposes (see the Statement of Investments).

## LIQUIDITY RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (Unaudited)

Effective June 1, 2019, the fund adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Liquidity Risk Management Program”) pursuant to the requirements of Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. Rule 22e-4 requires registered open-end funds, including mutual funds and exchange-traded funds but not money market funds, to establish liquidity risk management programs in order to effectively manage fund liquidity and shareholder redemptions. The rule is designed to mitigate the risk that a fund could not meet redemption requests without significantly diluting the interests of remaining investors.

The rule requires the funds to assess, manage and review their liquidity risk at least annually considering applicable factors such as investment strategy and liquidity during normal and foreseeable stressed conditions, including whether the strategy is appropriate for an open-end fund and whether the fund has a relatively concentrated portfolio or large positions in particular issuers. The fund must also assess its use of borrowings and derivatives, short-term and long-term cash flow projections in normal and stressed conditions, holdings of cash and cash equivalents, and borrowing arrangements and other funding sources.

The rule also requires the fund to classify its investments as highly liquid, moderately liquid, less liquid or illiquid based on the number of days the fund expects it would take to liquidate the investment, and to review these classifications at least monthly or more often under certain conditions. The periods range from three or fewer business days for a highly liquid investment to greater than seven calendar days for settlement of a less liquid investment. Illiquid investments are those a fund does not expect to be able to sell or dispose of within seven calendar days without significantly changing the market value. The fund is prohibited from acquiring an investment if, after the acquisition, its holdings of illiquid assets will exceed 15% of its net assets. In addition, if a fund permits redemptions in-kind, the rule requires the fund to establish redemption in-kind policies and procedures governing how and when it will engage in such redemptions.

Pursuant to the rule’s requirements, the Liquidity Risk Management Program has been reviewed and approved by the fund’s board. Furthermore, the board has received a written report prepared by the Program’s Administrator that addresses the operation of the Program, assesses its adequacy and effectiveness and describes any material changes made to the Program.

### *Assessment of Program*

In the opinion of the Program Administrator, the Program approved by the fund board continues to be adequate for the fund and the Program has been implemented effectively. The Program Administrator has monitored the fund’s liquidity risk and the liquidity classification of the securities held by the fund and has determined that the Program is operating effectively.

During the period from June 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020, there were no material changes to the Program and no material liquidity events that impacted the fund. During the period, the fund held sufficient highly liquid assets to meet fund redemptions.

Under normal expected foreseeable fund redemption forecasts and foreseeable stressed fund redemption forecasts, the Program Administrator believes that the fund maintains sufficient highly liquid assets to meet expected fund redemptions.

# For More Information

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**BNY Mellon Sustainable U.S. Equity Portfolio, Inc.**

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**Mail** The BNY Mellon Family of Funds, 144 Glenn Curtiss Boulevard, Uniondale, NY 11556-0144 Attn: Institutional Services Department

**E-mail** Send your request to [info@bnymellon.com](mailto:info@bnymellon.com)

**Internet** Information can be viewed online or downloaded at [www.bnymellonim.com/us](http://www.bnymellonim.com/us)

The fund files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-PORT. The fund's Forms N-PORT are available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

A description of the policies and procedures that the fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities and information regarding how the fund voted these proxies for the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available at [www.bnymellonim.com/us](http://www.bnymellonim.com/us) and on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) and without charge, upon request, by calling 1-800-373-9387.



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June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I

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## DWS Bond VIP

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Bond investments are subject to interest-rate, credit, liquidity and market risks to varying degrees. When interest rates rise, bond prices generally fall. Credit risk refers to the ability of an issuer to make timely payments of principal and interest. Investments in lower-quality ("junk bonds") and non-rated securities present greater risk of loss than investments in higher-quality securities. Investing in foreign securities, particularly those of emerging markets, presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. Emerging markets tend to be more volatile and less liquid than the markets of more mature economies, and generally have less diverse and less mature economic structures and less stable political systems than those of developed countries. Investing in derivatives entails special risks relating to liquidity, leverage and credit that may reduce returns and/or increase volatility. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

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NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns.

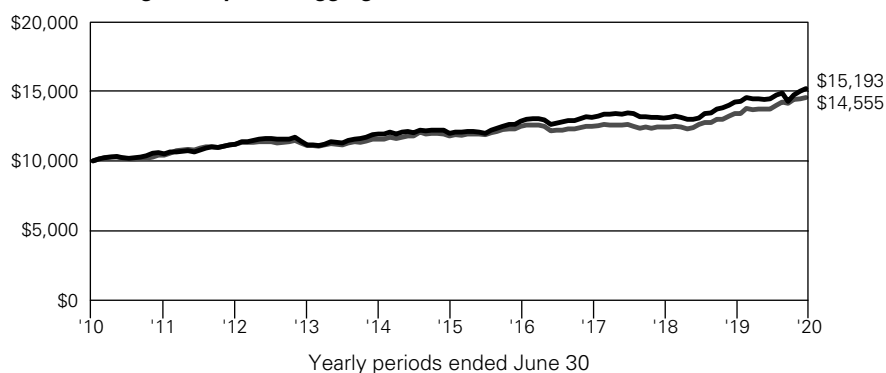
The gross expense ratio of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 is 0.81% for Class A shares and may differ from the expense ratio disclosed in the Financial Highlights table in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

■ DWS Bond VIP — Class A

■ Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index



The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index is an unmanaged index representing domestic taxable investment-grade bonds, with index components for government and corporate securities, mortgage pass-through securities, and asset-backed securities with an average maturity of one year or more.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

## Comparative Results

DWS Bond VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,509	\$10,678	\$11,581	\$12,710	\$15,193
	Average annual total return	5.09%	6.78%	5.01%	4.91%	4.27%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,614	\$10,874	\$11,683	\$12,345	\$14,555
	Average annual total return	6.14%	8.74%	5.32%	4.30%	3.82%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Total Net Assets)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Corporate Bonds	49%	44%
Government & Agency Obligations	11%	13%
Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	10%	12%
Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs	9%	18%
Asset-Backed	7%	8%
Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities	7%	7%
Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations	3%	2%
Cash Equivalents, Securities Lending Collateral and other Assets and Liabilities, net	4%	-4%
	100%	100%

<b>Quality</b> (Excludes Cash Equivalents and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
AAA	23%	33%
AA	13%	12%
A	17%	16%
BBB	31%	27%
BB	14%	9%
B	2%	1%
Not Rated	0%	2%
	100%	100%

<b>Interest Rate Sensitivity</b>	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Effective Maturity	7.8 years	8.6 years
Effective Duration	6.0 years	5.9 years

The quality ratings represent the higher of Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's"), Fitch Ratings, Inc. ("Fitch") or S&P Global Ratings ("S&P") credit ratings. The ratings of Moody's, Fitch and S&P represent their opinions as to the quality of the securities they rate. Credit quality measures a bond issuer's ability to repay interest and principal in a timely manner. Ratings are relative and subjective and are not absolute standards of quality. Credit quality does not remove market risk and is subject to change.

Effective maturity is the weighted average of the maturity date of bonds held by the Fund taking into consideration any available maturity shortening features.

Effective duration is an approximate measure of the Fund's sensitivity to interest rate changes taking into consideration any maturity shortening features.

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at sec.gov. The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on dws.com from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Thomas M. Farina, CFA, Managing Director  
Gregory M. Staples, CFA, Managing Director  
Kelly L. Beam, CFA, Director  
Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Principal Amount (\$)(a)	Value (\$)
<b>Corporate Bonds 49.2%</b>		
<b>Communication Services 7.3%</b>		
Amazon.com, Inc.:		
2.5%, 6/3/2050	20,000	20,532
4.25%, 8/22/2057	45,000	60,064
AT&T, Inc.:		
3-month USD-LIBOR + 1.180%, 1.498%*, 6/12/2024	207,000	207,410
2.75%, 6/1/2031	125,000	130,149
3.65%, 6/1/2051	100,000	104,702
CCO Holdings LLC:		
144A, 4.5%, 8/15/2030	225,000	229,500
144A, 4.75%, 3/1/2030	100,000	102,319
Charter Communications Operating LLC:		
3.7%, 4/1/2051	35,000	34,329
3.75%, 2/15/2028	75,000	81,758
5.05%, 3/30/2029	60,000	70,824
Comcast Corp.:		
1.95%, 1/15/2031	45,000	45,511
2.8%, 1/15/2051	40,000	41,019
CSC Holdings LLC, 144A, 4.125%, 12/1/2030	200,000	198,250
Discovery Communications LLC, 5.3%, 5/15/2049	25,000	29,921
Empresa Nacional de Telecomunicaciones SA, REG S, 4.75%, 8/1/2026	250,000	265,638
Expedia Group, Inc., 144A, 6.25%, 5/1/2025	80,000	85,222
Lamar Media Corp., 144A, 3.75%, 2/15/2028	100,000	94,280
Match Group, Inc., 144A, 4.125%, 8/1/2030	135,000	132,173
Netflix, Inc.:		
144A, 3.625%, 6/15/2025 (b)	45,000	45,338
5.5%, 2/15/2022	125,000	130,344
5.875%, 11/15/2028	125,000	142,344
NortonLifeLock, Inc., 3.95%, 6/15/2022	225,000	228,094
Sirius XM Radio, Inc., 144A, 4.125%, 7/1/2030	145,000	143,399
T-Mobile U.S.A., Inc.:		
144A, 3.875%, 4/15/2030	75,000	83,472
144A, 4.375%, 4/15/2040	70,000	80,970
144A, 4.5%, 4/15/2050	110,000	130,925
VeriSign, Inc.:		
4.625%, 5/1/2023	250,000	251,562
5.25%, 4/1/2025	250,000	276,875
Verizon Communications, Inc., 4.329%, 9/21/2028	70,000	84,247
ViacomCBS, Inc., 4.2%, 5/19/2032	50,000	56,220
Vodafone Group PLC, 4.25%, 9/17/2050	55,000	65,493
Walt Disney Co.:		
2.65%, 1/13/2031	45,000	47,685
3.6%, 1/13/2051	50,000	55,697
		<b>3,756,266</b>
<b>Consumer Discretionary 5.7%</b>		
1011778 BC Unlimited Liability Co., 144A, 4.375%, 1/15/2028	210,000	205,840

	Principal Amount (\$)(a)	Value (\$)
Dollar General Corp., 4.125%, 4/3/2050	20,000	23,932
Ford Motor Co.:		
8.5%, 4/21/2023	60,000	63,450
9.0%, 4/22/2025	110,000	119,042
Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC:		
4.271%, 1/9/2027	200,000	186,438
5.584%, 3/18/2024	206,000	207,998
General Motors Co., 5.4%, 10/2/2023	30,000	32,438
General Motors Financial Co., Inc.:		
3.15%, 6/30/2022	265,000	269,603
3.95%, 4/13/2024	120,000	124,140
4.35%, 4/9/2025	84,000	88,510
5.2%, 3/20/2023	40,000	42,749
Hasbro, Inc., 3.55%, 11/19/2026	70,000	73,971
Home Depot, Inc.:		
3.125%, 12/15/2049	80,000	87,820
3.35%, 4/15/2050	50,000	57,127
Lowe's Companies, Inc.:		
4.05%, 5/3/2047	40,000	47,148
5.0%, 4/15/2040	35,000	45,635
5.125%, 4/15/2050	25,000	34,119
McDonald's Corp.:		
2.125%, 3/1/2030	35,000	35,887
4.2%, 4/1/2050	50,000	60,622
NIKE, Inc., 3.375%, 3/27/2050	29,000	33,522
O'Reilly Automotive, Inc., 4.2%, 4/1/2030	35,000	40,987
Prime Security Services Borrower LLC:		
144A, 5.25%, 4/15/2024	195,000	199,387
144A, 6.25%, 1/15/2028	70,000	65,975
QVC, Inc., 4.75%, 2/15/2027	172,000	166,324
Ralph Lauren Corp., 2.95%, 6/15/2030	20,000	20,537
RELX Capital, Inc., 3.0%, 5/22/2030	15,000	16,167
Sabre Global, Inc., 144A, 5.375%, 4/15/2023	130,000	121,360
Sands China Ltd., 4.6%, 8/8/2023	200,000	210,560
Target Corp., 2.65%, 9/15/2030	30,000	32,965
Walmart, Inc., 3.4%, 6/26/2023	175,000	190,639
William Carter Co, 144A, 5.5%, 5/15/2025	40,000	41,250
		<b>2,946,142</b>
<b>Consumer Staples 1.9%</b>		
Altria Group, Inc., 4.8%, 2/14/2029	25,000	29,188
Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide, Inc.:		
4.35%, 6/1/2040	50,000	56,957
5.55%, 1/23/2049	55,000	73,325
Aramark Services, Inc., 144A, 6.375%, 5/1/2025	30,000	30,979
Archer-Daniels-Midland Co., 2.75%, 3/27/2025	30,000	32,554
BAT Capital Corp., 4.906%, 4/2/2030	65,000	76,019
Cargill, Inc., 144A, 1.375%, 7/23/2023	100,000	101,726
Constellation Brands, Inc., 2.875%, 5/1/2030	40,000	42,381

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>		<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Estee Lauder Companies, Inc.:			Equinix, Inc., (REIT),		
2.375%, 12/1/2029	26,000	27,841	2.15%, 7/15/2030	34,000	33,702
2.6%, 4/15/2030	15,000	16,319	Global Payments, Inc.,		
General Mills, Inc.,			3.2%, 8/15/2029	120,000	128,548
2.875%, 4/15/2030	65,000	70,771	Hartford Financial Services Group,		
Hormel Foods Corp.,			Inc., 2.8%, 8/19/2029	40,000	42,353
1.8%, 6/11/2030	40,000	40,721	HSBC Holdings PLC,		
Keurig Dr Pepper, Inc.:			2.633%, 11/7/2025	250,000	259,304
3.2%, 5/1/2030	25,000	27,812	Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.:		
3.8%, 5/1/2050	30,000	33,899	2.1%, 6/15/2030	52,000	52,837
4.057%, 5/25/2023	90,000	98,083	3.0%, 6/15/2050	33,000	34,136
4.597%, 5/25/2028	70,000	83,961	JPMorgan Chase & Co.,		
PepsiCo, Inc.:			2.956%, 5/13/2031	50,000	53,029
3.375%, 7/29/2049	55,000	63,085	JPMorgan Chase & Co.:		
3.5%, 3/19/2040	25,000	29,475	2.522%, 4/22/2031	150,000	158,416
Philip Morris International, Inc.,			2.739%, 10/15/2030	100,000	107,284
2.1%, 5/1/2030	60,000	61,824	Kookmin Bank, 144A,		
		<b>996,920</b>	1.75%, 5/4/2025	200,000	204,361
<b>Energy 2.3%</b>			Morgan Stanley:		
BP Capital Markets America, Inc.,			2.188%, 4/28/2026	105,000	109,327
3.543%, 4/6/2027	75,000	83,055	3.622%, 4/1/2031	150,000	171,356
Devon Energy Corp.,			PayPal Holdings, Inc.:		
5.0%, 6/15/2045	100,000	88,922	2.65%, 10/1/2026	84,000	91,285
Energy Transfer Operating LP:			2.85%, 10/1/2029	25,000	27,194
4.25%, 3/15/2023	350,000	369,736	Progressive Corp.,		
5.0%, 5/15/2050	20,000	18,995	3.2%, 3/26/2030	15,000	17,063
Exxon Mobil Corp.:			Prudential Financial, Inc.,		
2.44%, 8/16/2029	87,000	92,269	4.35%, 2/25/2050	25,000	30,018
3.482%, 3/19/2030	100,000	113,806	REC Ltd., 144A, 4.75%, 5/19/2023	200,000	205,362
Hess Corp., 5.8%, 4/1/2047	100,000	108,687	Santander Holdings U.S.A., Inc.,		
Marathon Petroleum Corp.:			3.244%, 10/5/2026	270,000	280,509
4.5%, 5/1/2023	110,000	118,548	Societe Generale SA, 144A,		
4.7%, 5/1/2025	100,000	111,946	2.625%, 1/22/2025	200,000	204,109
Plains All American Pipeline LP,			State Street Corp.,		
3.8%, 9/15/2030	50,000	48,989	2.4%, 1/24/2030	102,000	109,694
Total Capital International SA,			Swiss Re Treasury U.S. Corp.,		
3.127%, 5/29/2050	60,000	61,558	144A, 4.25%, 12/6/2042	70,000	85,581
		<b>1,216,511</b>	Synchrony Financial,		
<b>Financials 11.1%</b>			4.375%, 3/19/2024	40,000	41,868
Air Lease Corp., 3.0%, 2/1/2030	125,000	115,862	The Allstate Corp.,		
Aircastle Ltd., 4.4%, 9/25/2023	109,000	105,740	3.85%, 8/10/2049	30,000	35,952
ANZ New Zealand Int'l Ltd., 144A,			The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.:		
3.4%, 3/19/2024	200,000	216,386	3.5%, 4/1/2025	100,000	109,651
ASB Bank Ltd., 144A,			4.4%, Perpetual (d)	63,000	56,070
3.75%, 6/14/2023	200,000	215,935	Visa, Inc., 2.05%, 4/15/2030	95,000	99,546
Avolon Holdings Funding Ltd.:			Wells Fargo & Co.:		
144A, 3.25%, 2/15/2027	59,000	47,656	2.188%, 4/30/2026	295,000	305,020
144A, 5.125%, 10/1/2023	167,000	154,451	2.393%, 6/2/2028	168,000	173,580
Banco De Credito Del Peru, 144A,			3.196%, 6/17/2027	90,000	97,587
3.125%, 7/1/2030 (c)	97,000	96,175			<b>5,725,972</b>
Banco del Estado de Chile, 144A,			<b>Health Care 4.5%</b>		
2.704%, 1/9/2025	200,000	205,300	AbbVie, Inc.:		
Banco Santander SA,			144A, 3.2%, 11/21/2029	50,000	55,020
2.706%, 6/27/2024	200,000	210,213	144A, 4.25%, 11/21/2049	30,000	36,365
Bank of America Corp.:			4.45%, 5/14/2046	20,000	24,405
2.592%, 4/29/2031	160,000	169,303	144A, 4.75%, 3/15/2045	25,000	31,069
2.676%, 6/19/2041	60,000	61,620	Amgen, Inc.:		
4.3%, Perpetual (d)	204,000	183,070	3.375%, 2/21/2050	50,000	55,755
Barclays PLC, 2.852%, 5/7/2026	200,000	208,973	4.563%, 6/15/2048	40,000	52,088
Citigroup, Inc.:			Anthem, Inc.:		
2.572%, 6/3/2031	125,000	129,282	2.25%, 5/15/2030	80,000	82,071
3.2%, 10/21/2026	170,000	186,342	2.875%, 9/15/2029	40,000	43,348
4.412%, 3/31/2031	80,000	94,922			

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Biogen, Inc., 3.15%, 5/1/2050	50,000	48,143
Boston Scientific Corp., 4.0%, 3/1/2029	75,000	85,817
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., 144A, 4.25%, 10/26/2049	85,000	112,132
Centene Corp.:		
3.375%, 2/15/2030	58,000	58,563
4.25%, 12/15/2027	90,000	92,872
Cigna Corp.:		
2.4%, 3/15/2030	30,000	31,128
3.2%, 3/15/2040	15,000	15,890
CVS Health Corp.:		
4.25%, 4/1/2050	20,000	23,899
5.05%, 3/25/2048	45,000	58,945
DH Europe Finance II Sarl, 0.75%, 9/18/2031	EUR 200,000	216,166
HCA, Inc.:		
3.5%, 9/1/2030	360,000	346,742
5.25%, 6/15/2026	130,000	150,192
5.375%, 9/1/2026	115,000	125,206
Merck & Co., Inc., 2.45%, 6/24/2050	80,000	80,408
Molina Healthcare, Inc., 144A, 4.375%, 6/15/2028	90,000	89,887
Pfizer, Inc., 4.2%, 9/15/2048	60,000	78,196
Stryker Corp., 2.9%, 6/15/2050	60,000	60,161
Teleflex, Inc., 144A, 4.25%, 6/1/2028	25,000	25,625
Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc., 2.6%, 10/1/2029	110,000	118,782
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.:		
2.875%, 8/15/2029	54,000	60,286
2.9%, 5/15/2050	50,000	52,801
		<b>2,311,962</b>
<b>Industrials 4.1%</b>		
3M Co., 3.7%, 4/15/2050	26,000	30,970
Agilent Technologies, Inc., 2.1%, 6/4/2030	45,000	46,114
Boeing Co.:		
2.3%, 8/1/2021 (b)	150,000	151,445
2.7%, 5/1/2022	125,000	126,563
4.508%, 5/1/2023	140,000	147,900
4.875%, 5/1/2025	93,000	101,352
5.04%, 5/1/2027	130,000	143,365
Carrier Global Corp., 144A, 2.722%, 2/15/2030	70,000	70,304
Delta Air Lines, Inc., 4.375%, 4/19/2028	94,000	77,356
Empresa de Transporte de Pasajeros Metro SA, 144A, 3.65%, 5/7/2030	200,000	215,750
FedEx Corp.:		
3.8%, 5/15/2025	245,000	272,345
4.05%, 2/15/2048	114,000	117,160
General Electric Co.:		
3.45%, 5/1/2027	50,000	51,176
3.625%, 5/1/2030	35,000	35,039
Mileage Plus Holdings LLC, 144A, 6.5%, 6/20/2027 (c)	39,000	39,097
Otis Worldwide Corp., 144A, 2.565%, 2/15/2030	60,000	63,040
Roper Technologies, Inc., 2.0%, 6/30/2030	40,000	40,030

	<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Westinghouse Air Brake Technologies Corp., 3.2%, 6/15/2025	70,000	71,330
WRKCo., Inc., 3.0%, 6/15/2033	30,000	31,247
XPO Logistics, Inc., 144A, 6.25%, 5/1/2025	260,000	272,350
		<b>2,103,933</b>

### Information Technology 3.8%

Apple, Inc.:		
2.05%, 9/11/2026	77,000	82,271
3.75%, 9/12/2047	100,000	119,948
Broadcom, Inc.:		
144A, 4.11%, 9/15/2028	212,000	230,979
144A, 5.0%, 4/15/2030	70,000	80,456
Dell International LLC:		
144A, 4.9%, 10/1/2026	198,000	218,474
144A, 5.875%, 6/15/2021	159,000	159,048
HP, Inc., 2.2%, 6/17/2025	125,000	129,020
Intel Corp., 3.25%, 11/15/2049	60,000	67,706
International Business Machines Corp., 3.5%, 5/15/2029	100,000	115,344
KLA Corp., 3.3%, 3/1/2050	31,000	32,019
Lam Research Corp., 2.875%, 6/15/2050	24,000	24,725
Microchip Technology, Inc., 144A, 2.67%, 9/1/2023	50,000	51,464
Micron Technology, Inc., 2.497%, 4/24/2023	70,000	72,748
Microsoft Corp., 3.7%, 8/8/2046	86,000	107,095
NVIDIA Corp.:		
3.5%, 4/1/2040	14,000	16,329
3.5%, 4/1/2050	22,000	25,136
NXP BV:		
144A, 2.7%, 5/1/2025	15,000	15,724
144A, 3.875%, 9/1/2022	200,000	211,427
Open Text Corp., 144A, 3.875%, 2/15/2028	175,000	168,492
Oracle Corp.:		
3.6%, 4/1/2050	25,000	27,822
4.0%, 11/15/2047	35,000	40,833
		<b>1,997,060</b>

### Materials 0.9%

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., 2.05%, 5/15/2030	30,000	31,488
AngloGold Ashanti Holdings PLC, 5.125%, 8/1/2022	110,000	115,505
El du Pont de Nemours & Co., 2.3%, 7/15/2030	25,000	25,969
MEGlobal Canada ULC, 144A, 5.0%, 5/18/2025	237,000	254,877
Newmont Corp., 2.25%, 10/1/2030	40,000	40,539
Nucor Corp., 2.7%, 6/1/2030	10,000	10,499
		<b>478,877</b>

### Real Estate 2.6%

American Tower Corp.:		
(REIT), 2.1%, 6/15/2030	55,000	55,135
(REIT), 3.8%, 8/15/2029	55,000	62,248
Crown Castle International Corp., (REIT), 3.8%, 2/15/2028	50,000	56,200

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
Equinix, Inc.:		
(REIT), 2.625%, 11/18/2024	74,000	78,782
(REIT), 3.2%, 11/18/2029	81,000	88,092
Host Hotels & Resorts LP, (REIT), 3.875%, 4/1/2024	135,000	138,109
Iron Mountain, Inc.:		
144A, 5.0%, 7/15/2028	55,000	53,883
144A, 5.25%, 7/15/2030	105,000	103,425
Office Properties Income Trust, (REIT), 4.15%, 2/1/2022	80,000	79,519
Omega Healthcare Investors, Inc., (REIT), 5.25%, 1/15/2026	50,000	53,495
SBA Communications Corp.:		
144A (REIT), 3.875%, 2/15/2027	155,000	154,419
(REIT), 4.0%, 10/1/2022	190,000	191,900
(REIT), 4.875%, 9/1/2024	125,000	127,969
Welltower, Inc.:		
(REIT), 2.75%, 1/15/2031	40,000	39,954
(REIT), 3.1%, 1/15/2030	80,000	82,979
		<b>1,366,109</b>
<b>Utilities 5.0%</b>		
Abu Dhabi National Energy Co. PJSC, 144A, 4.375%, 4/23/2025	210,000	233,872
American Electric Power Co., Inc.:		
3.2%, 11/13/2027	50,000	54,933
4.3%, 12/1/2028	20,000	23,519
Calpine Corp., 144A, 4.5%, 2/15/2028	210,000	204,750
Dominion Energy, Inc., 3.375%, 4/1/2030	110,000	121,421
Duke Energy Corp.:		
3.4%, 6/15/2029	30,000	33,728
4.2%, 6/15/2049	30,000	36,599
Duke Energy Indiana LLC, 2.75%, 4/1/2050	50,000	50,325
Edison International, 5.75%, 6/15/2027	370,000	424,839
EDP Finance BV, 144A, 3.625%, 7/15/2024	200,000	214,753
NextEra Energy Capital Holdings, Inc.:		
3.25%, 4/1/2026	36,000	40,298
3.5%, 4/1/2029	58,000	65,610
NextEra Energy Operating Partners LP:		
144A, 3.875%, 10/15/2026	175,000	174,746
144A, 4.25%, 7/15/2024	250,000	252,812
Oncor Electric Delivery Co. LLC, 144A, 2.75%, 5/15/2030	25,000	27,285
Pacific Gas and Electric Co.:		
2.5%, 2/1/2031	20,000	19,567
3.3%, 8/1/2040	60,000	58,480
3.5%, 8/1/2050	50,000	48,324
Perusahaan Listrik Negara PT, 144A, 2.875%, 10/25/2025	EUR 222,000	259,394
Sempra Energy, 4.0%, 2/1/2048	55,000	60,710
Southern California Edison Co., 4.875%, 3/1/2049	50,000	65,394
Southern Power Co., Series F, 4.95%, 12/15/2046	87,000	96,384
		<b>2,567,743</b>
<b>Total Corporate Bonds</b> (Cost \$24,295,710)		<b>25,467,495</b>

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
<b>Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs 8.8%</b>		
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.:		
4.0%, 8/1/2039	259,922	285,595
5.5%, 10/1/2023	7,216	7,567
Federal National Mortgage Association:		
3.5%, with various maturities from 12/1/2045 until 10/1/2048	2,349,844	2,543,182
4.0%, 4/1/2047	1,516,358	1,669,878
12-month USD-LIBOR + 1.750%, 4.375% *, 9/1/2038	25,632	26,236
<b>Total Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs</b> (Cost \$4,282,274)		<b>4,532,458</b>

### **Asset-Backed 7.1% Automobile Receivables 3.1%**

AmeriCredit Automobile Receivables Trust, "C", Series 2019-2, 2.74%, 4/18/2025	660,000	679,376
Avis Budget Rental Car Funding AESOP LLC, "C", Series 2015-1A, 144A, 3.96%, 7/20/2021	83,333	82,966
GMF Floorplan Owner Revolving Trust, "C", Series 2019-1, 144A, 3.06%, 4/15/2024	230,000	228,073
Hertz Vehicle Financing II LP, "A", Series 2017-1A, 144A, 2.96%, 10/25/2021	604,370	598,842
		<b>1,589,257</b>
<b>Credit Card Receivables 3.2%</b>		
Fair Square Issuance Trust, "A", Series 2020-AA, 144A, 2.9%, 9/20/2024	300,000	299,033
Master Credit Card Trust II, "A", Series 2020-1A, 144A, 1.99%, 9/21/2024	350,000	360,840
World Financial Network Credit Card Master Trust, "M", Series 2016-A, 2.33%, 4/15/2025	1,000,000	1,000,284
		<b>1,660,157</b>

### **Miscellaneous 0.8%**

Hilton Grand Vacations Trust, "B", Series 2014-AA, 144A, 2.07%, 11/25/2026	39,309	39,070
MVW Owner Trust, "A", Series 2019-1A, 144A, 2.89%, 11/20/2036	357,293	363,439
		<b>402,509</b>
<b>Total Asset-Backed</b> (Cost \$3,620,157)		<b>3,651,923</b>

### **Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities 6.9%**

Bank, "B", Series 2018-BN13, 4.699% *, 8/15/2061	500,000	523,926
BXP Trust, "B", Series 2017- CQHP, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.100%, 1.285% *, 11/15/2034	280,000	261,457

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
CFK Trust, "A", Series 2020-MF2, 144A, 2.387%, 3/15/2039	450,000	451,997
Citigroup Commercial Mortgage Trust: "A", Series 2020-555, 144A, 2.647%, 12/10/2041	500,000	514,542
"D", Series 2019-PRM, 144A, 4.35%, 5/10/2036	600,000	606,980
FHLMC Multifamily Structured Pass-Through Certificates: "X1", Series K043, Interest Only, 0.661%*, 12/25/2024	4,835,965	101,361
"X1", Series K054, Interest Only, 1.31%*, 1/25/2026	1,806,762	101,064
GS Mortgage Securities Corp. II, "B", Series 2018-GS10, 4.519%*, 7/10/2051	500,000	522,227
Morgan Stanley Capital Barclays Bank Trust, "C", Series 2016- MART, 144A, 2.817%, 9/13/2031	500,000	487,704
<b>Total Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities (Cost \$3,583,867)</b>		<b>3,571,258</b>

### Collateralized Mortgage Obligations 9.8%

Connecticut Avenue Securities Trust, "1M2", Series 2019-R05, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.000%, 2.185%*, 7/25/2039	379,398	371,082
Fannie Mae Connecticut Avenue Securities, "1M2", Series 2018-C03, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.150%, 2.335%*, 10/25/2030	470,073	461,957
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.: "PI", Series 4485, Interest Only, 3.5%, 6/15/2045	1,111,593	99,123
"PI", Series 3940, Interest Only, 4.0%, 2/15/2041	178,424	15,587
"C31", Series 303, Interest Only, 4.5%, 12/15/2042	899,376	146,133
Federal National Mortgage Association, "JL", Series 2019-81, 2.5%, 1/25/2050	1,164,214	1,160,900
Freddie Mac Structured Agency Credit Risk Debt Notes: "M2", Series 2020-DNA2, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.850%, 2.035%*, 2/25/2050	600,000	568,863
"M2", Series 2019-DNA4, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.950%, 2.135%*, 10/25/2049	187,652	183,916
Government National Mortgage Association: "PI", Series 2015-40, Interest Only, 4.0%, 4/20/2044	162,111	8,671
"IN", Series 2009-69, Interest Only, 5.5%, 8/20/2039	43,607	4,498
"IV", Series 2009-69, Interest Only, 5.5%, 8/20/2039	83,712	8,282
"IJ", Series 2009-75, Interest Only, 6.0%, 8/16/2039	31,976	5,290
JPMorgan Mortgage Trust: "A11", Series 2020-2, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 0.800%, 0.968%*, 7/25/2050	911,913	901,707

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
"A11", Series 2019-9, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 0.900%, 1.068%*, 5/25/2050	252,540	250,647
"A3", Series 2019-INV3, 144A, 3.5%, 5/25/2050	389,073	396,976
"A3", Series 2020-INV1, 144A, 3.5%, 8/25/2050	236,011	245,057
New Residential Mortgage Loan, "A1", Series 2019-NQM2, 144A, 3.6%, 4/25/2049	148,188	151,110
STACR Trust, "M2", Series 2018- DNA3, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.100%, 2.285%*, 9/25/2048	108,108	104,043
<b>Total Collateralized Mortgage Obligations (Cost \$5,369,482)</b>		<b>5,083,842</b>

### Government & Agency Obligations 11.0%

#### Other Government Related (e) 0.6%

Novatek OAO, 144A, 6.604%, 2/3/2021	300,000	<b>308,834</b>
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#### Sovereign Bonds 1.9%

Abu Dhabi Government International Bond, 144A, 3.125%, 4/16/2030	200,000	219,863
Perusahaan Penerbit SBSN Indonesia III, 144A, 2.8%, 6/23/2030	200,000	200,250
Republic of Kazakhstan, 144A, 1.55%, 11/9/2023	EUR 290,000	328,830
Republic of Philippines, 2.457%, 5/5/2030	200,000	209,510
Uruguay Government International Bond, 4.375%, 1/23/2031	49,383	57,717
		<b>1,016,170</b>

#### U.S. Treasury Obligations 8.5%

U.S. Treasury Bonds, 2.375%, 11/15/2049	1,221,200	1,508,373
U.S. Treasury Note: 0.25%, 6/15/2023	450,000	450,949
0.625%, 5/15/2030	1,340,000	1,336,283
1.5%, 2/15/2030	1,008,000	1,089,664
		<b>4,385,269</b>

#### Total Government & Agency Obligations

(Cost \$5,733,131) **5,710,273**

### Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations 3.5%

U.S. Treasury Bills: 0.001%***, 9/10/2020	250,000	249,934
0.022%***, 9/10/2020	250,000	249,934
1.131%***, 9/10/2020	150,000	149,960
1.564%***, 9/10/2020	250,000	249,933
1.595%***, 9/10/2020	90,000	89,976
1.763%***, 7/16/2020 (f)	804,000	803,957

#### Total Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations

(Cost \$1,792,010) **1,793,694**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

<b>Securities Lending Collateral 0.4%</b>			<b>Cash Equivalents 4.4%</b>		
	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (g) (h) (Cost \$195,633)	195,633	<b>195,633</b>	DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (g) (Cost \$2,258,142)	2,258,142	<b>2,258,142</b>
				<b>% of Net Assets</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
			<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$51,130,406)	101.1	<b>52,264,718</b>
			<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(1.1)	<b>(549,551)</b>
			<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>51,715,167</b>

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$)	Purchases	Sales	Net Realized Gain/	Net Change in Unrealized	Income (\$)	Capital Gain	Number of Shares	Value (\$)
at 12/31/2019	Cost (\$)	Proceeds (\$)	(Loss) (\$)	Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)		Distributions (\$)	at 6/30/2020	at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 0.4%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (g) (h)								
3,030,000	—	2,834,367 (i)	—	—	2,647	—	195,633	195,633
<b>Cash Equivalents 4.4%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (g)								
163,542	24,373,070	22,278,470	—	—	5,940	—	2,258,142	2,258,142
<b>3,193,542</b>	<b>24,373,070</b>	<b>25,112,837</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>8,587</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,453,775</b>	<b>2,453,775</b>

- \* Variable or floating rate security. These securities are shown at their current rate as of June 30, 2020. For securities based on a published reference rate and spread, the reference rate and spread are indicated within the description above. Certain variable rate securities are not based on a published reference rate and spread but adjust periodically based on current market conditions, prepayment of underlying positions and/or other variables.
- \*\* Annualized yield at time of purchase; not a coupon rate.
- (a) Principal amount stated in U.S. dollars unless otherwise noted.
- (b) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$188,714, which is 0.4% of net assets.
- (c) When-issued security.
- (d) Perpetual, callable security with no stated maturity date.
- (e) Government-backed debt issued by financial companies or government sponsored enterprises.
- (f) At June 30, 2020, this security has been pledged, in whole or in part, to cover initial margin requirements for open futures contracts.
- (g) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (h) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (i) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

144A: Security exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers.

Interest Only: Interest Only (IO) bonds represent the "interest only" portion of payments on a pool of underlying mortgages or mortgage-backed securities. IO securities are subject to prepayment risk of the pool of underlying mortgages.

LIBOR: London Interbank Offered Rate

PJSC: Public Joint Stock Company

REG S: Securities sold under Regulation S may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons, except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933.

REIT: Real Estate Investment Trust

Included in the portfolio are investments in mortgage or asset-backed securities which are interests in separate pools of mortgages or assets. Effective maturities of these investments may be shorter than stated maturities due to prepayments. Some separate investments in the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. and Federal National Mortgage Association issues which have similar coupon rates have been aggregated for presentation purposes in this investment portfolio.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

At June 30, 2020 open futures contracts purchased were as follows:

<b>Futures</b>	<b>Currency</b>	<b>Expiration Date</b>	<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Notional Amount (\$)</b>	<b>Notional Value (\$)</b>	<b>Unrealized Appreciation (\$)</b>
2 Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/30/2020	16	3,532,289	3,533,251	962
Ultra 10 Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/21/2020	11	1,722,058	1,732,328	10,270
<b>Total net unrealized appreciation</b>						<b>11,232</b>

At June 30, 2020, open futures contracts sold were as follows:

<b>Futures</b>	<b>Currency</b>	<b>Expiration Date</b>	<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Notional Amount (\$)</b>	<b>Notional Value (\$)</b>	<b>Unrealized (Depreciation) (\$)</b>
Ultra Long U.S. Treasury Bond	USD	9/21/2020	2	435,495	436,313	(818)
<b>Total net unrealized depreciation</b>						<b>(818)</b>

At June 30, 2020, the Fund had the following open forward foreign currency contracts:

<b>Contracts to Deliver</b>		<b>In Exchange For</b>		<b>Settlement Date</b>	<b>Unrealized Depreciation (\$)</b>	<b>Counterparty</b>
EUR	750,000	USD	811,954	8/18/2020	(31,589)	State Street Bank and Trust

### Currency Abbreviations

EUR Euro  
USD United States Dollar

For information on the Fund's policy and additional disclosures regarding future contracts, credit default swap contracts and forward foreign currency contracts, please refer to the Derivatives section of Note B in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

### Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

<b>Assets</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
Fixed Income Investments (j)				
Corporate Bonds	\$ —	\$25,467,495	\$ —	\$25,467,495
Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs	—	4,532,458	—	4,532,458
Asset-Backed	—	3,651,923	—	3,651,923
Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities	—	3,571,258	—	3,571,258
Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	—	5,083,842	—	5,083,842
Government & Agency Obligations	—	5,710,273	—	5,710,273
Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations	—	1,793,694	—	1,793,694
Short-Term Investments (j)	2,453,775	—	—	2,453,775
Derivatives (k)				
Futures Contracts	11,232	—	—	11,232
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,465,007</b>	<b>\$49,810,943</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$52,275,950</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Derivatives (k)				
Futures Contracts	\$ (818)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (818)
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	—	(31,589)	—	(31,589)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (818)</b>	<b>\$ (31,589)</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ (32,407)</b>

(j) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

(k) Derivatives include unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on open futures contracts and forward foreign currency contracts.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$48,676,631) — including \$188,714 of securities loaned	\$49,810,943
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$195,633)*	195,633
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$2,258,142)	2,258,142
Cash	10,000
Receivable for investments sold	174,494
Receivable for Fund shares sold	22,097
Interest receivable	281,727
Foreign taxes recoverable	920
Other assets	654
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>52,754,610</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable for securities loaned	195,633
Payable for investments purchased	596,996
Payable for investments purchased — when-issued securities	134,789
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	942
Payable for variation margin on futures contracts	432
Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	31,589
Accrued management fee	14,079
Accrued Trustees' fees	716
Other accrued expenses and payables	64,267
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>1,039,443</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$51,715,167</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	1,666,910
Paid-in capital	50,048,257
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$51,715,167</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Net asset value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$51,715,167 ÷ 8,915,027 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 5.80</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Interest (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$69)	\$ 754,080
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	5,940
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	2,647
<b>Total income</b>	<b>762,667</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	96,799
Administration fee	24,321
Services to shareholders	1,586
Custodian fee	4,142
Professional fees	37,830
Reports to shareholders	18,800
Trustees' fees and expenses	2,124
Other	7,636
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>193,238</b>
Expense reductions	(29,424)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>163,814</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>598,853</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	1,020,384
Swap contracts	922,383
Futures	120,638
Forward foreign currency contracts	13,356
Foreign currency	7,656
	2,084,417
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(116,526)
Swap contracts	(6,388)
Futures	(43,856)
Forward foreign currency contracts	(23,732)
Foreign currency	98
	(190,404)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>1,894,013</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$2,492,866</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 598,853	\$ 1,427,830
Net realized gain (loss)	2,084,417	951,699
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(190,404)	2,416,257
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	2,492,866	4,795,786
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(1,393,009)	(1,466,158)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	4,914,629	5,436,154
Reinvestment of distributions	1,393,009	1,466,158
Payments for shares redeemed	(4,639,813)	(7,080,322)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	1,667,825	(178,010)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>2,767,682</b>	<b>3,151,618</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	48,947,485	45,795,867
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 51,715,167</b>	<b>\$ 48,947,485</b>
<b>Other Information:</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	8,618,016	8,635,826
Shares sold	860,979	984,384
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	248,752	271,511
Shares redeemed	(812,720)	(1,273,705)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	297,011	(17,810)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>8,915,027</b>	<b>8,618,016</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months	Years Ended December 31,				
	Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$5.68</b>	<b>\$5.30</b>	<b>\$5.70</b>	<b>\$5.52</b>	<b>\$5.49</b>	<b>\$5.67</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.07	.16	.17	.17	.15	.14
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	.21	.39	(.32)	.15	.17	(.15)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>.28</b>	<b>.55</b>	<b>(.15)</b>	<b>.32</b>	<b>.32</b>	<b>(.01)</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.16)	(.17)	(.25)	(.14)	(.29)	(.17)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$5.80</b>	<b>\$5.68</b>	<b>\$5.30</b>	<b>\$5.70</b>	<b>\$5.52</b>	<b>\$5.49</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	5.09**	10.62	(2.65)	5.83	5.93	(.29)
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	52	49	46	51	77	80
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.78*	.81	.87	.74	.78	.69
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.66*	.66	.69	.65	.64	.64
Ratio of net investment income (%)	2.41*	2.95	3.19	2.99	2.68	2.54
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	94**	223	260	205	236	197

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I (the "Trust") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end, registered management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust. The Trust consists of five diversified funds: DWS Bond VIP, DWS Capital Growth VIP, DWS Core Equity VIP, DWS CROCI® International VIP and DWS Global Small Cap VIP (individually or collectively hereinafter referred to as a "Fund" or the "Funds"). These financial statements report on DWS Bond VIP. The Trust is intended to be the underlying investment vehicle for variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies to be offered by the separate accounts of certain life insurance companies ("Participating Insurance Companies").

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Debt securities are valued at prices supplied by independent pricing services approved by the Trustees of the Series. Such services may use various pricing techniques which take into account appropriate factors such as yield, quality, coupon rate, maturity, type of issue, trading characteristics, prepayment speeds and other data, as well as broker quotes. If the pricing services are unable to provide valuations, debt securities are valued at the average of the most recent reliable bid quotations or evaluated prices, as applicable, obtained from broker-dealers. These securities are generally categorized as Level 2.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Futures contracts are generally valued at the settlement prices established each day on the exchange on which they are traded and are categorized as Level 1.

Swap contracts are valued daily based upon prices supplied by a Board approved pricing vendor, if available, and otherwise are valued at the price provided by the broker-dealer. Swap contracts are generally categorized as Level 2.

Forward currency contracts are valued at the prevailing forward exchange rate of the underlying currencies and are categorized as Level 2.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Trustees and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund's valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company's or issuer's financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Securities Lending.** Deutsche Bank AG, as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. As of period end, any securities on loan were collateralized by cash. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as corporate bonds in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end. As of period end, the remaining contractual maturity of the collateral agreements was overnight and continuous.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**When-Issued/Delayed Delivery Securities.** The Fund may purchase or sell securities with delivery or payment to occur at a later date beyond the normal settlement period. At the time the Fund enters into a commitment to purchase or sell a security, the transaction is recorded and the value of the transaction is reflected in the net asset value. The price of such security and the date when the security will be delivered and paid for are fixed at the time the transaction is negotiated. The value of the security may vary with market fluctuations. At the time the Fund enters into a purchase transaction it is required to segregate cash or other liquid assets at least equal to the amount of the commitment. Additionally, the Fund may be required to post securities and/or cash collateral in accordance with the terms of the commitment.

Certain risks may arise upon entering into when-issued or delayed delivery transactions from the potential inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts or if the issuer does not issue the securities due to political, economic, or other factors. Additionally, losses may arise due to changes in the value of the underlying securities.

**Taxes.** The Fund is treated as a separate taxpayer as provided for in the Internal Revenue Code, as amended. It is the Fund's policy to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable income to the separate accounts of the Participating Insurance Companies which hold its shares.

Additionally, the Fund may be subject to taxes imposed by the governments of countries in which it invests and are generally based on income and/or capital gains earned or repatriated. Estimated tax liabilities on



certain foreign securities are recorded on an accrual basis and are reflected as components of interest income or net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments. Tax liabilities realized as a result of security sales are reflected as a component of net realized gain/loss on investments.

At December 31, 2019, the Fund had a net tax basis capital loss carryforward of approximately \$2,042,000 which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely, including short-term losses (\$5,000) and long-term losses (\$2,037,000).

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$51,133,025. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$1,131,693. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$1,732,423 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$600,730.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed, and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to investments in foreign denominated currencies, investments in forward foreign currency exchange contracts, futures contracts, swap contracts and certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific Fund are allocated to that Fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a Fund are apportioned among the Funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis net of foreign withholding taxes. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments. All discounts and premiums are accreted/ amortized for both tax and financial reporting purposes.

## **B. Derivative Instruments**

**Futures Contracts.** A futures contract is an agreement between a buyer or seller and an established futures exchange or its clearinghouse in which the buyer or seller agrees to take or make a delivery of a specific amount of a financial instrument at a specified price on a specific date (settlement date). For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested in interest rate futures to gain exposure to different parts of the yield curve while managing the overall duration. The Fund also entered into interest rate futures contracts for non-hedging purposes to seek to enhance potential gains.

Upon entering into a futures contract, the Fund is required to deposit with a financial intermediary cash or securities ("initial margin") in an amount equal to a certain percentage of the face value indicated in the futures contract. Subsequent payments ("variation margin") are made or received by the Fund dependent upon the daily fluctuations in the value and are recorded for financial reporting purposes as unrealized gains

or losses by the Fund. Gains or losses are realized when the contract expires or is closed. Since all futures contracts are exchange traded, counterparty risk is minimized as the exchange's clearinghouse acts as the counterparty, and guarantees the futures against default.

Certain risks may arise upon entering into futures contracts, including the risk that an illiquid market will limit the Fund's ability to close out a futures contract prior to the settlement date and the risk that the futures contract is not well correlated with the security, index or currency to which it relates. Risk of loss may exceed amounts disclosed in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

A summary of the open futures contracts as of June 30, 2020, is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the investment in futures contracts purchased had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$5,059,000 to \$6,189,000, and the investment in futures contracts sold had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$436,000 to \$1,998,000.

**Swaps.** A swap is a contract between two parties to exchange future cash flows at periodic intervals based on the notional amount of the swap. A bilateral swap is a transaction between the fund and a counterparty where cash flows are exchanged between the two parties. A centrally cleared swap is a transaction executed between the fund and a counterparty, then cleared by a clearing member through a central clearinghouse. The central clearinghouse serves as the counterparty, with whom the fund exchanges cash flows.

The value of a swap is adjusted daily, and the change in value, if any, is recorded as unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Gains or losses are realized when the swap expires or is closed. Certain risks may arise when entering into swap transactions including counterparty default; liquidity; or unfavorable changes in interest rates or the value of the underlying reference security, commodity or index. In connection with bilateral swaps, securities and/or cash may be identified as collateral in accordance with the terms of the swap agreement to provide assets of value and recourse in the event of default. The maximum counterparty credit risk is the net present value of the cash flows to be received from or paid to the counterparty over the term of the swap, to the extent that this amount is beneficial to the Fund, in addition to any related collateral posted to the counterparty by the Fund. This risk may be partially reduced by a master netting arrangement between the Fund and the counterparty. Upon entering into a centrally cleared swap, the Fund is required to deposit with a financial intermediary cash or securities ("initial margin") in an amount equal to a certain percentage of the notional amount of the swap. Subsequent payments ("variation margin") are made or received by the Fund dependent upon the daily fluctuations in the value of the swap. In a cleared swap transaction, counterparty risk is minimized as the central clearinghouse acts as the counterparty.

An upfront payment, if any, made by the Fund is recorded as an asset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. An upfront payment, if any, received by the Fund is recorded as a liability in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Payments received or made at the end of the measurement period are recorded as realized gain or loss in the Statement of Operations.

Credit default swaps are agreements between a buyer and a seller of protection against predefined credit events for the reference entity. The Fund may enter into credit default swaps to gain exposure to an underlying issuer's credit quality characteristics without directly investing in that issuer or to hedge against the risk of a credit event on debt securities. As a seller of a credit default swap, the Fund is required to pay the par (or other agreed-upon) value of the referenced entity to the counterparty with the occurrence of a credit event by a third party, such as a U.S. or foreign corporate issuer, on the reference entity, which would likely result in a loss to the Fund. In return, the Fund receives from the counterparty a periodic stream of payments over the term of the swap provided that no credit event has occurred. If no credit event occurs, the Fund keeps the stream of payments with no payment obligations. The Fund may also buy credit default swaps, in which case the Fund functions as the counterparty referenced above. This involves the risk that the swap may expire worthless. It also involves counterparty risk that the seller may fail to satisfy its payment obligations to the Fund with the occurrence of a credit event. When the Fund sells a credit default swap, it will cover its commitment. This may be achieved by, among other methods, maintaining cash or liquid assets equal to the aggregate notional value of the reference entities for all outstanding credit default swaps sold by the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund entered into credit default swap agreements to gain exposure to the underlying issuer's credit quality characteristics, or to hedge the risk of default or other specified credit events on portfolio assets.

Under the terms of a credit default swap, the Fund receives or makes periodic payments based on a specified interest rate on a fixed notional amount. These payments are recorded as a realized gain or loss in

the Statement of Operations. Payments received or made as a result of a credit event or termination of the swap are recognized, net of a proportional amount of the upfront payment, as realized gains or losses in the Statement of Operations.

There were no open credit default swap contracts as of June 30, 2020. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the investment in credit default swap contracts purchased had a total notional amount generally indicative of a range from \$0 to approximately \$235,000.

**Forward Foreign Currency Contracts.** A forward foreign currency contract (“forward currency contract”) is a commitment to purchase or sell a foreign currency at the settlement date at a negotiated rate. The Fund is subject to foreign exchange rate risk in its securities denominated in foreign currencies. Changes in exchange rates between foreign currencies and the U.S. dollar may affect the U.S. dollar value of foreign securities or the income or gains received on these securities. To reduce the effect of currency fluctuations, the Fund may enter into forward currency contracts. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested in forward currency contracts to hedge its exposure to changes in foreign currency exchange rates on its foreign currency denominated securities. In addition, the Fund also engaged in forward currency contracts for non-hedging purposes to seek to enhance potential gains.

Forward currency contracts are valued at the prevailing forward exchange rate of the underlying currencies and unrealized gain (loss) is recorded daily. On the settlement date of the forward currency contract, the Fund records a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the value of the contract at the time it was opened and the value of the contract at the time it was closed. Certain risks may arise upon entering into forward currency contracts from the potential inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts. The maximum counterparty credit risk to the Fund is measured by the unrealized gain on appreciated contracts. Additionally, when utilizing forward currency contracts to hedge, the Fund gives up the opportunity to profit from favorable exchange rate movements during the term of the contract.

A summary of the open forward currency contracts as of June 30, 2020, is included in a table following the Fund’s Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the investment in forward currency contracts U.S. dollars purchased had a total contract value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$812,000 to \$1,975,000 and the investment in forward currency contracts U.S. dollars sold had a total contract value generally indicative of a range from \$0 to approximately \$1,791,000.

The following tables summarize the value of the Fund’s derivative instruments held as of June 30, 2020 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities, presented by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Asset Derivatives</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>
Interest Rate Contracts (a)	\$ 11,232

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Assets and Liabilities accounts:

(a) Includes cumulative appreciation of futures contracts as disclosed in the Investment Portfolio. Unsettled variation margin is disclosed separately within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

<b>Liability Derivatives</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Interest Rate Contracts (b)	\$ (818)	\$ —	\$ (818)
Foreign Exchange Contracts (c)	—	(31,589)	(31,589)
	<b>\$ (818)</b>	<b>\$ (31,589)</b>	<b>\$ (32,407)</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Assets and Liabilities accounts:

(b) Includes cumulative depreciation of futures contracts as disclosed in the Investment Portfolio. Unsettled variation margin is disclosed separately within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

(c) Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts

Additionally, the amount of unrealized and realized gains and losses on derivative instruments recognized in Fund earnings during the six months ended June 30, 2020 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Operations is summarized in the following tables by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Realized Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>	<b>Swap Contracts</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Interest Rate Contract (d)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 120,638	\$ 120,638
Credit Contracts (d)	—	922,383	—	922,383
Foreign Exchange Contracts (e)	13,356	—	—	13,356
	<b>\$ 13,356</b>	<b>\$ 922,383</b>	<b>\$ 120,638</b>	<b>\$ 1,056,377</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Operations accounts:

(d) Net realized gain (loss) from swap contracts and futures, respectively

(e) Net realized gain (loss) from forward foreign currency contracts

<b>Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>	<b>Swap Contracts</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Interest Rate Contracts (f)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (43,856)	\$ (43,856)
Credit Contracts (f)	—	(6,388)	—	(6,388)
Foreign Exchange Contracts (g)	(23,732)	—	—	(23,732)
	<b>\$ (23,732)</b>	<b>\$ (6,388)</b>	<b>\$ (43,856)</b>	<b>\$ (73,976)</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Operations accounts:

(f) Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on swap contracts and futures, respectively

(g) Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on forward foreign currency contracts

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund has transactions subject to enforceable master netting agreements which govern the terms of certain transactions, and reduce the counterparty risk associated with such transactions. Master netting agreements allow a Fund to close out and net total exposure to a counterparty in the event of a deterioration in the credit quality or contractual default with respect to all of the transactions with a counterparty. As defined by the master netting agreement, the Fund may have collateral agreements with certain counterparties to mitigate risk. For financial reporting purposes the Statement of Assets and Liabilities generally shows derivatives assets and liabilities on a gross basis, which reflects the full risks and exposures prior to netting. A reconciliation of the gross amounts on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities to the net amounts by a counterparty, including any collateral exposure, is included in the following tables:

<b>Counterparty</b>	<b>Gross Amounts of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities</b>	<b>Financial Instruments and Derivatives Available for Offset</b>	<b>Collateral Pledged</b>	<b>Net Amount of Derivative Liabilities</b>
State Street Bank and Trust	\$ 31,589	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 31,589

### C. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment securities, excluding short-term investments, were as follows:

	<b>Purchases</b>	<b>Sales</b>
Non-U.S. Treasury Obligations	\$ 31,429,411	\$ 32,296,563
U.S. Treasury Obligations	\$ 13,834,030	\$ 15,702,596

### D. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$250 million of average daily net assets	.390%
Next \$750 million of average daily net assets	.365%
Over \$1 billion of average daily net assets	.340%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.39% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) of Class A at 0.66%.

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed were \$29,424.

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid the Advisor an annual fee ("Administration Fee") of 0.10% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$24,321, of which \$4,098 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company ("DSC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. ("DST"), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC aggregated \$282, of which \$93 is unpaid.

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$5,370, of which \$2,945 is unpaid.

**Trustees' Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund's assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

**Securities Lending Agent Fees.** Deutsche Bank AG serves as securities lending agent for the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund incurred lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$200.

## E. Ownership of the Fund

At June 30, 2020, three participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 47%, 22% and 15%, respectively.

## **F. Line of Credit**

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the “Participants”) share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

## **G. Other - COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund’s accounting and financial reporting.

## **H. Other - Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG (“DB”), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order (“Consent Order”), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the “DWS Service Providers”). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB’s 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,050.90
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.37

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,021.58
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.32

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratio</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series I — DWS Bond VIP	.66%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](http://dws.com/calculators).

## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trust’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.



## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS Bond VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board

believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 4th quartile, 1st quartile and 1st quartile, respectively, of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has outperformed its benchmark in the three- and five-year periods and has underperformed its benchmark in the one-year period ended December 31, 2018. The Board noted the disappointing investment performance of the Fund in recent periods and continued to discuss with senior management of DIMA the factors contributing to such underperformance and actions being taken to improve performance. The Board noted certain changes in the Fund's portfolio management team made effective February 12, 2018. The Board observed that the Fund had experienced improved relative performance during the first eight months of 2019. The Board recognized the efforts by DIMA in recent years to enhance its investment platform and improve long-term performance across the DWS fund complex.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were lower than the median (2nd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be higher than the median (3rd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board noted that the expense limitation agreed to by DIMA was expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to a comparable DWS U.S. registered fund ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Fund. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency

services provided to the Fund. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.



VS1bond-3 (R-028373-9 8/20)

June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I

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## DWS Capital Growth VIP

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Stocks may decline in value. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT  
NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

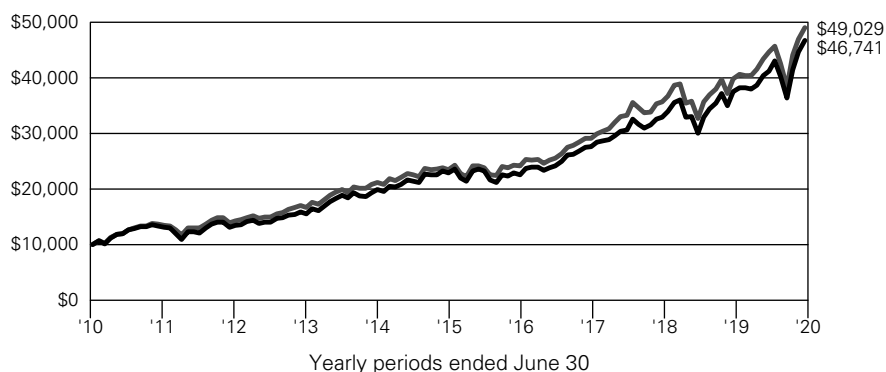
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns. While all share classes have the same underlying portfolio, their performance will differ.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 are 0.50% and 0.76% for Class A and Class B shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

■ DWS Capital Growth VIP – Class A  
■ Russell 1000® Growth Index



Russell 1000® Growth Index is an unmanaged index that consists of those stocks in the Russell 1000® Index that have higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. Russell 1000® Index is an unmanaged price-only index of the 1,000 largest capitalized companies that are domiciled in the U.S. and whose common stocks are traded.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

## Comparative Results

DWS Capital Growth VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,328	\$12,460	\$16,926	\$20,423	\$46,741
	Average annual total return	13.28%	24.60%	19.18%	15.35%	16.67%
Russell 1000 Growth Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,981	\$12,328	\$16,849	\$20,904	\$49,029
	Average annual total return	9.81%	23.28%	18.99%	15.89%	17.23%
DWS Capital Growth VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,315	\$12,430	\$16,794	\$20,162	\$45,430
	Average annual total return	13.15%	24.30%	18.86%	15.06%	16.34%
Russell 1000 Growth Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,981	\$12,328	\$16,849	\$20,904	\$49,029
	Average annual total return	9.81%	23.28%	18.99%	15.89%	17.23%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Common Stocks	99%	98%
Cash Equivalents	1%	2%
Rights	0%	—
	100%	100%

## Sector Diversification

(As of % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Information Technology	41%	38%
Consumer Discretionary	15%	14%
Communication Services	13%	13%
Health care	13%	13%
Industrials	7%	10%
Financials	5%	6%
Consumer Staples	3%	3%
Real Estate	2%	2%
Materials	1%	1%
Energy	0%	0%
	100%	100%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Manager

Sebastian P. Werner, PhD, Director



# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 99.2%</b>		
<b>Communication Services 12.7%</b>		
<b>Entertainment 5.8%</b>		
Activision Blizzard, Inc.	189,927	14,415,459
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc.*	74,499	3,302,541
Netflix, Inc.*	29,143	13,261,231
Spotify Technology SA*	68,691	17,735,329
Walt Disney Co.	61,314	6,837,124
		<b>55,551,684</b>
<b>Interactive Media &amp; Services 5.5%</b>		
Alphabet, Inc. "A"*	12,400	17,583,820
Alphabet, Inc. "C"*	14,342	20,273,995
Facebook, Inc. "A"*	43,039	9,772,866
Match Group, Inc.*	55,266	5,916,225
		<b>53,546,906</b>
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 1.4%</b>		
T-Mobile U.S., Inc.*	128,749	<b>13,409,208</b>
<b>Consumer Discretionary 14.8%</b>		
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 0.4%</b>		
Chegg, Inc.*	65,070	<b>4,376,608</b>
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 2.1%</b>		
Las Vegas Sands Corp.	64,617	2,942,658
McDonald's Corp.	70,250	12,959,018
Planet Fitness, Inc. "A"*	72,285	4,378,302
		<b>20,279,978</b>
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 5.8%</b>		
Amazon.com, Inc.*	20,166	<b>55,634,364</b>
<b>Multiline Retail 1.4%</b>		
Dollar General Corp.	69,031	<b>13,151,096</b>
<b>Specialty Retail 4.3%</b>		
Burlington Stores, Inc.*	41,038	8,081,613
CarMax, Inc.* (a)	102,245	9,156,040
Home Depot, Inc.	98,245	24,611,355
		<b>41,849,008</b>
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 0.8%</b>		
Lululemon Athletica, Inc.*	23,695	<b>7,393,077</b>
<b>Consumer Staples 2.8%</b>		
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 1.1%</b>		
Costco Wholesale Corp.	35,135	<b>10,653,283</b>
<b>Food Products 1.2%</b>		
Mondelez International, Inc. "A"	220,430	<b>11,270,586</b>
<b>Personal Products 0.5%</b>		
Estee Lauder Companies, Inc. "A"	28,291	<b>5,337,946</b>
<b>Energy 0.2%</b>		
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels</b>		
Concho Resources, Inc.	36,468	<b>1,878,102</b>
<b>Financials 4.7%</b>		
<b>Capital Markets 1.4%</b>		
Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	151,632	<b>13,889,491</b>
<b>Consumer Finance 0.7%</b>		
American Express Co.	71,393	<b>6,796,614</b>
<b>Insurance 2.6%</b>		
Progressive Corp.	309,106	<b>24,762,482</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Health Care 12.5%</b>		
<b>Biotechnology 1.5%</b>		
BioMarin Pharmaceutical, Inc.*	61,340	7,565,676
Exact Sciences Corp.* (a)	74,617	6,487,202
		<b>14,052,878</b>
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 6.1%</b>		
Becton, Dickinson & Co.	71,498	17,107,326
Danaher Corp.	88,018	15,564,223
DexCom, Inc.*	32,839	13,312,931
Hologic, Inc.*	167,462	9,545,334
The Cooper Companies, Inc.	13,257	3,760,215
		<b>59,290,029</b>
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services 2.9%</b>		
Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc.	77,722	<b>28,161,789</b>
<b>Pharmaceuticals 2.0%</b>		
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	134,010	7,879,788
Zoetis, Inc.	86,065	11,794,348
		<b>19,674,136</b>
<b>Industrials 6.9%</b>		
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 0.7%</b>		
Boeing Co.	16,160	2,962,128
TransDigm Group, Inc.	7,516	3,322,448
		<b>6,284,576</b>
<b>Building Products 0.5%</b>		
Trex Co., Inc.* (a)	37,158	<b>4,833,141</b>
<b>Electrical Equipment 1.3%</b>		
AMETEK, Inc.	143,759	<b>12,847,742</b>
<b>Industrial Conglomerates 1.3%</b>		
Roper Technologies, Inc.	33,489	<b>13,002,439</b>
<b>Professional Services 2.5%</b>		
TransUnion	139,201	12,116,055
Verisk Analytics, Inc.	68,027	11,578,195
		<b>23,694,250</b>
<b>Road &amp; Rail 0.6%</b>		
Norfolk Southern Corp.	31,816	<b>5,585,935</b>
<b>Information Technology 40.9%</b>		
<b>IT Services 7.9%</b>		
Fiserv, Inc.*	152,990	14,934,884
FleetCor Technologies, Inc.*	17,467	4,393,474
Global Payments, Inc.	77,984	13,227,646
Twilio, Inc. "A"* (a)	39,519	8,671,259
Visa, Inc. "A" (a)	183,805	35,505,612
		<b>76,732,875</b>
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 3.1%</b>		
Analog Devices, Inc.	37,775	4,632,726
Applied Materials, Inc.	75,401	4,557,990
MKS Instruments, Inc.	29,824	3,377,270
NVIDIA Corp.	44,635	16,957,283
		<b>29,525,269</b>
<b>Software 21.6%</b>		
Adobe, Inc.*	49,961	21,748,523
Avalara, Inc.*	23,640	3,146,248
DocuSign, Inc.*	47,870	8,243,693
Dynatrace, Inc.*	95,919	3,894,311

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
Intuit, Inc.	33,192	9,831,139
Microsoft Corp.	452,357	92,059,173
Nuance Communications, Inc.*	362,715	9,178,503
Proofpoint, Inc.*	73,982	8,220,880
RingCentral, Inc. "A"*	10,339	2,946,718
Salesforce.com, Inc.*	65,877	12,340,738
ServiceNow, Inc.*	36,271	14,691,931
Slack Technologies, Inc. "A"* (a)	88,394	2,748,170
Synopsys, Inc.*	59,991	11,698,245
VMware, Inc. "A"*	51,737	8,011,992

**208,760,264**

#### Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals 8.3%

Apple, Inc.	210,939	76,950,547
Pure Storage, Inc. "A"*	157,166	2,723,687

**79,674,234**

#### Materials 1.2%

##### Chemicals 0.7%

Ecolab, Inc.	33,242	<b>6,613,496</b>
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##### Construction Materials 0.5%

Vulcan Materials Co.	41,305	<b>4,785,184</b>
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#### Real Estate 2.5%

##### Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

Crown Castle International Corp.	37,776	6,321,814
Equinix, Inc.	14,953	10,501,492
Prologis, Inc.	83,077	7,753,576

**24,576,882**

**Total Common Stocks** (Cost \$404,862,646) **957,875,552**

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2019	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/(Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Capital Gain Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2020	Value (\$) at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 6.0%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (b) (c)								
—	58,160,545 (d)	—	—	—	8,588	—	58,160,545	58,160,545
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.8%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (b)								
16,868,479	62,026,944	71,454,415	—	—	49,990	—	7,441,008	7,441,008
<b>16,868,479</b>	<b>120,187,489</b>	<b>71,454,415</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>58,578</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>65,601,553</b>	<b>65,601,553</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

- (a) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$57,716,657, which is 6.0% of net assets.
- (b) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (c) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (d) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

#### Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common Stocks (e)	\$ 957,875,552	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 957,875,552
Rights	21,630	—	—	21,630
Short-Term Investments (e)	65,601,553	—	—	65,601,553
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,023,498,735</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 1,023,498,735</b>

(e) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

## Assets

Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$404,910,283) — including \$57,716,657 of securities loaned	\$ 957,897,182
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$58,160,545)*	58,160,545
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$7,441,008)	7,441,008
Cash	3,034,994
Receivable for Fund shares sold	416,770
Dividends receivable	111,388
Interest receivable	5,609
Other assets	8,491
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>1,027,075,987</b>

## Liabilities

Payable upon return of securities loaned	58,160,545
Payable for investments purchased	3,034,994
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	219,606
Accrued management fee	286,922
Accrued Trustees' fees	11,723
Other accrued expenses and payables	159,215
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>61,873,005</b>

**Net assets, at value** **\$ 965,202,982**

## Net Assets Consist of

Distributable earnings (loss)	575,700,735
Paid-in capital	389,502,247
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 965,202,982</b>

## Net Asset Value

### Class A

**Net Asset Value**, offering and redemption price per share ( $\$960,779,977 \div 27,843,000$  outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized) **\$ 34.51**

### Class B

**Net Asset Value**, offering and redemption price per share ( $\$4,423,005 \div 128,557$  outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized) **\$ 34.41**

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

## Investment Income

Income:	
Dividends	\$ 3,771,161
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	49,990
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	8,588
<b>Total income</b>	<b>3,829,739</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	1,600,310
Administration fee	421,504
Services to Shareholders	1,019
Record keeping fee (Class B)	118
Distribution service fee (Class B)	5,044
Custodian fee	3,230
Professional fees	44,814
Reports to shareholders	25,030
Trustees' fees and expenses	19,158
Other	23,678
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>2,143,905</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>1,685,834</b>

## Realized and Unrealized gain (loss)

Net realized gain (loss) from investments	21,262,138
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	86,663,047
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>107,925,185</b>

**Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations** **\$ 109,611,019**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 1,685,834	\$ 4,570,151
Net realized gain (loss)	21,262,138	63,513,110
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	86,663,047	189,217,615
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	109,611,019	257,300,876
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(67,556,274)	(97,006,648)
Class B	(308,190)	(448,501)
Total distributions	(67,864,464)	(97,455,149)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	46,001,900	33,974,927
Reinvestment of distributions	67,556,274	97,006,648
Payments for shares redeemed	(56,280,678)	(152,665,013)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	57,277,496	(21,683,438)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	279,059	340,905
Reinvestment of distributions	308,190	448,501
Payments for shares redeemed	(608,910)	(824,586)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	(21,661)	(35,180)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	99,002,390	138,127,109
Net assets at beginning of period	866,200,592	728,073,483
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 965,202,982</b>	<b>\$ 866,200,592</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	25,934,145	26,575,319
Shares sold	1,384,913	1,101,903
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	2,306,462	3,253,073
Shares redeemed	(1,782,520)	(4,996,150)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	1,908,855	(641,174)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>27,843,000</b>	<b>25,934,145</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	127,162	127,775
Shares sold	9,179	11,255
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	10,547	15,076
Shares redeemed	(18,331)	(26,944)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	1,395	(613)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>128,557</b>	<b>127,162</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months	Years Ended December 31,				
	Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$33.24</b>	<b>\$27.27</b>	<b>\$30.86</b>	<b>\$26.70</b>	<b>\$28.22</b>	<b>\$29.95</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.06	.17	.14	.20	.21	.20
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	3.87	9.53	(.53)	6.47	.83	2.34
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>3.93</b>	<b>9.70</b>	<b>(.39)</b>	<b>6.67</b>	<b>1.04</b>	<b>2.54</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.18)	(.14)	(.23)	(.22)	(.22)	(.22)
Net realized gains	(2.48)	(3.59)	(2.97)	(2.29)	(2.34)	(4.05)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(2.66)</b>	<b>(3.73)</b>	<b>(3.20)</b>	<b>(2.51)</b>	<b>(2.56)</b>	<b>(4.27)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$34.51</b>	<b>\$33.24</b>	<b>\$27.27</b>	<b>\$30.86</b>	<b>\$26.70</b>	<b>\$28.22</b>
Total Return (%)	13.28**	37.14	(1.60)	26.30	4.25	8.62
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	961	862	725	776	745	849
Ratio of expenses (%) <sup>b</sup>	.50*	.50	.50	.50	.50	.49
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	.39*	.55	.46	.70	.82	.70
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	8**	11	26	15	35	35

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

Class B	Six Months	Years Ended December 31,				
	Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$33.10</b>	<b>\$27.16</b>	<b>\$30.75</b>	<b>\$26.61</b>	<b>\$28.12</b>	<b>\$29.84</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.02	.09	.07	.13	.15	.13
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	3.87	9.49	(.54)	6.44	.83	2.32
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>3.89</b>	<b>9.58</b>	<b>(.47)</b>	<b>6.57</b>	<b>.98</b>	<b>2.45</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.10)	(.05)	(.15)	(.14)	(.15)	(.12)
Net realized gains	(2.48)	(3.59)	(2.97)	(2.29)	(2.34)	(4.05)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(2.58)</b>	<b>(3.64)</b>	<b>(3.12)</b>	<b>(2.43)</b>	<b>(2.49)</b>	<b>(4.17)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$34.41</b>	<b>\$33.10</b>	<b>\$27.16</b>	<b>\$30.75</b>	<b>\$26.61</b>	<b>\$28.12</b>
Total Return (%)	13.15**	36.79	(1.87)	25.96	4.00	8.33
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	4	4	3	6	5	4
Ratio of expenses (%) <sup>b</sup>	.76*	.76	.76	.75	.76	.76
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	.13*	.29	.21	.45	.58	.44
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	8**	11	26	15	35	35

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I (the “Trust”) is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust. The Trust consists of five diversified funds: DWS Bond VIP, DWS Capital Growth VIP, DWS Core Equity VIP, DWS CROCI® International VIP and DWS Global Small Cap VIP (individually or collectively hereinafter referred to as a “Fund” or the “Funds”). These financial statements report on DWS Capital Growth VIP. The Trust is intended to be the underlying investment vehicle for variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies to be offered by the separate accounts of certain life insurance companies (“Participating Insurance Companies”).

**Multiple Classes of Shares of Beneficial Interest.** The Fund offers two classes of shares (Class A shares and Class B shares). Sales of Class B shares are subject to recordkeeping fees up to 0.15% and Rule 12b-1 fees under the 1940 Act equal to an annual rate of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Class B shares of the Fund. Class A shares are not subject to such fees.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares, except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class (including the applicable 12b-1 distribution fees and recordkeeping fees). Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund’s financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”) which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund’s investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund’s own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Securities for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities are generally categorized as Level 1.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Trustees and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund’s valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security’s disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company’s or issuer’s financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Securities Lending.** Deutsche Bank AG, as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as common stocks in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end. As of period end, the remaining contractual maturity of the collateral agreements were overnight and continuous.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**Federal Income Taxes.** The Fund is treated as a separate taxpayer as provided for in the Internal Revenue Code, as amended. It is the Fund's policy to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable income to the separate accounts of the Participating Insurance Companies which hold its shares.

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$470,587,009. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$552,911,726. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$559,550,488 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$6,638,762.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed, and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific Fund are allocated to that Fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a Fund are apportioned among the Funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Real Estate Investment Trusts.** The Fund at its fiscal year end recharacterizes distributions received from a Real Estate Investment Trust ("REIT") investment based on information provided by the REIT into the following categories: ordinary income, long-term and short-term capital gains, and return of capital. If information is not available timely from a REIT, the recharacterization will be estimated for financial statement purposes and a recharacterization will be made within the accounting records in the following year when such information becomes available. Distributions received from REITs in excess of income are recorded as either a reduction of cost of investments or realized gains.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

## B. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$69,357,625 and \$68,618,155, respectively.

## C. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly at the following annual rates:

First \$250 million of average daily net assets	.390%
Next \$750 million of average daily net assets	.365%
Over \$1 billion of average daily net assets	.340%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.37% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.75%
Class B	1.00%



**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid the Advisor an annual fee (“Administration Fee”) of 0.10% of the Fund’s average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund’s average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$421,504, of which \$74,889 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company (“DSC”), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. (“DST”), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2020
Class A	\$ 397	\$ 129
Class B	106	35
	<b>\$ 503</b>	<b>\$ 164</b>

**Distribution Service Agreement.** DWS Distributors, Inc. (“DDI”), also an affiliate of the Advisor, is the Trust’s Distributor. In accordance with the Master Distribution Plan, DDI receives 12b-1 fees of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of Class B shares. Pursuant to the Master Distribution Plan, DDI remits these fees to the Participating Insurance Companies for various costs incurred or paid by these companies in connection with marketing and distribution of Class B shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$5,044, of which \$889 is unpaid.

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$4,520, of which \$1,939 is unpaid.

**Trustees’ Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund’s assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

**Securities Lending Agent Fees.** Deutsche Bank AG serves as lending agent for the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$647.

#### D. Ownership of the Fund

At June 30, 2020, two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 63% and 21%, respectively. Two participating insurance companies were the owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, each owning 45% and 35%, respectively.

## **E. Line of Credit**

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the “Participants”) share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

## **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund’s accounting and financial reporting.

## **G. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG (“DB”), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order (“Consent Order”), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the “DWS Service Providers”). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB’s 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees, distribution and service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/2020	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,132.80	\$ 1,131.50
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 2.65	\$ 4.03

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,022.38	\$ 1,021.08
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 2.51	\$ 3.82

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series I — DWS Capital Growth VIP	.50%	.76%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](https://dws.com/calculators).

## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trust’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS Capital Growth VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on

the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 3rd quartile, 3rd quartile and 2nd quartile, respectively, of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has underperformed its benchmark in the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were lower than the median (1st quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be lower than the median (1st quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class's total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to comparable DWS U.S. registered funds ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Funds. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.



VS1capgro-3 (R-028374-9 8/20)



June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I

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## DWS Core Equity VIP

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Stocks may decline in value. Fund management could be wrong in its analysis of industries, companies, economic trends and favor a security that underperforms the market. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Investing in derivatives entails special risks relating to liquidity, leverage and credit that may reduce returns and/or increase volatility. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT  
NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

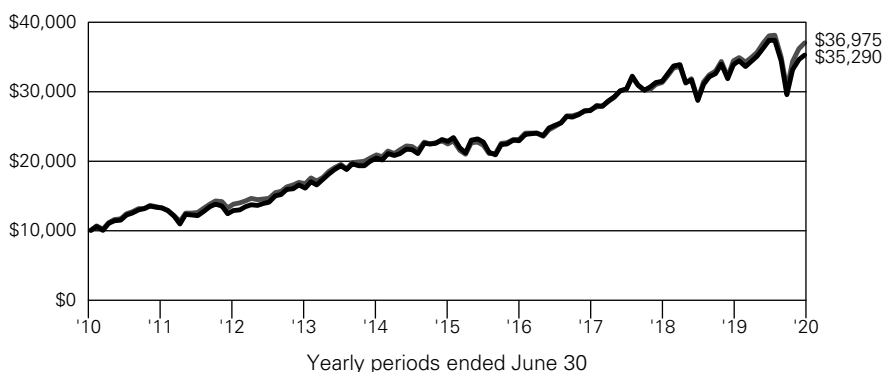
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns. While all share classes have the same underlying portfolio, their performance will differ.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 are 0.62% and 0.94% for Class A and Class B shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

■ DWS Core Equity VIP — Class A  
■ Russell 1000® Index



The Russell 1000® Index is an unmanaged index that measures the performance of the 1,000 largest companies in the Russell 3000® Index, which represents approximately 92% of the total market capitalization of the Russell 3000 Index.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

## Comparative Results

DWS Core Equity VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,439	\$10,405	\$12,934	\$15,474	\$35,290
	Average annual total return	-5.61%	4.05%	8.95%	9.12%	13.44%
Russell 1000® Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,719	\$10,748	\$13,544	\$16,455	\$36,975
	Average annual total return	-2.81%	7.48%	10.64%	10.47%	13.97%
DWS Core Equity VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,415	\$10,360	\$12,799	\$15,237	\$34,284
	Average annual total return	-5.85%	3.60%	8.57%	8.79%	13.11%
Russell 1000® Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,719	\$10,748	\$13,544	\$16,455	\$36,975
	Average annual total return	-2.81%	7.48%	10.64%	10.47%	13.97%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Common Stocks	99%	99%
Cash Equivalents	1%	1%
Rights	0%	—
	100%	100%

## **Sector Diversification**

(As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Information Technology	26%	22%
Health Care	15%	16%
Consumer Discretionary	12%	9%
Financials	10%	12%
Communication Services	10%	11%
Industrials	9%	10%
Consumer Staples	6%	7%
Real Estate	3%	3%
Utilities	3%	4%
Energy	3%	4%
Materials	3%	2%
	100%	100%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## **Portfolio Management Team**

Pankaj Bhatnagar, PhD, Managing Director

Di Kumble, CFA, Managing Director

Arno V. Puskar, Director

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 99.2%</b>		
<b>Communication Services 9.7%</b>		
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services 0.7%</b>		
Verizon Communications, Inc.	11,617	640,445
<b>Entertainment 2.0%</b>		
Activision Blizzard, Inc.	5,167	392,175
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc.*	4,711	208,839
Netflix, Inc.*	513	233,435
Roku, Inc.*	5,824	678,671
Spotify Technology SA*	1,547	399,420
		<b>1,912,540</b>
<b>Interactive Media &amp; Services 4.2%</b>		
Alphabet, Inc. "A"*	1,173	1,663,373
Alphabet, Inc. "C"*	1,415	2,000,258
TripAdvisor, Inc.*	18,959	360,411
		<b>4,024,042</b>
<b>Media 1.0%</b>		
Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.	23,627	405,439
Omnicom Group, Inc.	9,490	518,154
		<b>923,593</b>
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 1.8%</b>		
T-Mobile U.S., Inc.*	16,370	1,704,936
<b>Consumer Discretionary 11.8%</b>		
<b>Auto Components 1.0%</b>		
Gentex Corp.	35,372	911,537
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 1.6%</b>		
Marriott International, Inc. "A"	3,628	311,028
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, Inc.	17,297	737,198
Yum China Holdings, Inc.	9,696	466,087
		<b>1,514,313</b>
<b>Household Durables 1.9%</b>		
D.R. Horton, Inc.	24,827	1,376,657
PulteGroup, Inc.	13,070	444,772
		<b>1,821,429</b>
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 6.5%</b>		
Amazon.com, Inc.*	2,257	6,226,657
<b>Specialty Retail 0.4%</b>		
Best Buy Co., Inc.	4,271	372,730
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 0.4%</b>		
NIKE, Inc. "B"	3,925	384,846
<b>Consumer Staples 5.8%</b>		
<b>Beverages 3.5%</b>		
Coca-Cola Co.	5,258	234,927
Keurig Dr Pepper, Inc.	8,267	234,783
Molson Coors Beverage Co. "B"	30,633	1,052,550
PepsiCo, Inc.	13,338	1,764,084
		<b>3,286,344</b>
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 1.5%</b>		
Costco Wholesale Corp.	2,550	773,186
U.S. Foods Holding Corp.*	18,806	370,854
Walmart, Inc.	2,083	249,502
		<b>1,393,542</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Personal Products 0.8%</b>		
Herbalife Nutrition Ltd.*	17,679	795,201
<b>Energy 2.8%</b>		
<b>Energy Equipment &amp; Services 0.6%</b>		
National Oilwell Varco, Inc.	31,479	385,618
Schlumberger Ltd.	13,146	241,755
		<b>627,373</b>
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 2.2%</b>		
Cheniere Energy, Inc.*	16,267	786,022
Kinder Morgan, Inc.	24,732	375,184
Marathon Petroleum Corp.	12,443	465,119
Targa Resources Corp.	22,294	447,441
		<b>2,073,766</b>
<b>Financials 10.1%</b>		
<b>Banks 2.9%</b>		
Bank of America Corp.	27,935	663,456
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	16,590	1,560,456
Popular, Inc.	8,528	316,986
Wells Fargo & Co.	10,029	256,742
		<b>2,797,640</b>
<b>Capital Markets 3.7%</b>		
Ameriprise Financial, Inc.	6,106	916,144
Ares Capital Corp.	27,191	392,910
CME Group, Inc.	3,988	648,209
Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	6,278	575,065
MSCI, Inc.	1,945	649,280
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.	1,897	374,885
		<b>3,556,493</b>
<b>Insurance 3.5%</b>		
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.	6,610	644,409
Chubb Ltd.	4,137	523,827
Everest Re Group Ltd.	1,843	380,027
MetLife, Inc.	33,893	1,237,772
Progressive Corp.	6,246	500,367
		<b>3,286,402</b>
<b>Health Care 14.7%</b>		
<b>Biotechnology 4.2%</b>		
Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	8,230	923,735
Amgen, Inc.	7,151	1,686,635
Biogen, Inc.*	2,856	764,123
Gilead Sciences, Inc.	8,503	654,221
		<b>4,028,714</b>
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 1.9%</b>		
Baxter International, Inc.	6,144	528,998
Hill-Rom Holdings, Inc.	7,473	820,386
Medtronic PLC	4,677	428,881
		<b>1,778,265</b>
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 4.7%</b>		
Anthem, Inc.	1,296	340,822
Centene Corp.*	7,101	451,269
Cigna Corp.*	2,728	511,909
DaVita, Inc.*	12,663	1,002,150
Guardant Health, Inc.*	12,464	1,011,204
HCA Healthcare, Inc.	6,824	662,338
Molina Healthcare, Inc.*	2,543	452,603
		<b>4,432,295</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Pharmaceuticals 3.9%</b>					
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	15,670	921,396			
Johnson & Johnson	3,320	466,891			
Merck & Co., Inc.	16,661	1,288,395			
Pfizer, Inc.	31,611	1,033,680			
		<b>3,710,362</b>			
<b>Industrials 9.1%</b>					
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 3.8%</b>					
Howmet Aerospace, Inc.	19,189	304,146			
L3Harris Technologies, Inc.	7,744	1,313,924			
Lockheed Martin Corp.	2,365	863,036			
Teledyne Technologies, Inc.*	3,470	1,078,996			
		<b>3,560,102</b>			
<b>Building Products 0.5%</b>					
Owens Corning	8,775	<b>489,294</b>			
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 1.5%</b>					
Waste Management, Inc.	13,793	<b>1,460,817</b>			
<b>Industrial Conglomerates 0.6%</b>					
Honeywell International, Inc.	4,199	<b>607,133</b>			
<b>Machinery 0.9%</b>					
Ingersoll Rand, Inc.*	8,976	252,405			
Parker-Hannifin Corp.	3,343	612,672			
		<b>865,077</b>			
<b>Professional Services 0.6%</b>					
Equifax, Inc.	3,273	<b>562,563</b>			
<b>Road &amp; Rail 1.2%</b>					
Norfolk Southern Corp.	2,554	448,406			
Union Pacific Corp.	3,858	652,272			
		<b>1,100,678</b>			
<b>Information Technology 26.2%</b>					
<b>IT Services 3.9%</b>					
Gartner, Inc.*	7,227	876,852			
Visa, Inc. "A" (a)	14,421	2,785,704			
		<b>3,662,556</b>			
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 4.5%</b>					
Intel Corp.	22,495	1,345,876			
NVIDIA Corp.	636	241,623			
QUALCOMM., Inc.	14,074	1,283,689			
Teradyne, Inc.	16,586	1,401,683			
		<b>4,272,871</b>			
<b>Software 10.3%</b>					
ANSYS, Inc.*	909	265,183			
Intuit, Inc.	791	234,286			
Microsoft Corp.	33,562	6,830,203			
Oracle Corp.	36,256	2,003,869			
Splunk, Inc.*	2,185	434,159			
		<b>9,767,700</b>			
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals 7.5%</b>					
Apple, Inc.	19,641	<b>7,165,037</b>			
<b>Materials 2.8%</b>					
<b>Chemicals 0.8%</b>					
Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.	1,756	424,004			
Westlake Chemical Corp.	6,686	358,704			
		<b>782,708</b>			
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging 0.5%</b>					
International Paper Co.	5,940	209,147			
Sonoco Products Co.	4,445	232,429			
		<b>441,576</b>			
<b>Metals &amp; Mining 1.5%</b>					
Arconic Corp.*	26,211	365,119			
Steel Dynamics, Inc.	39,715	1,036,165			
		<b>1,401,284</b>			
<b>Real Estate 3.3%</b>					
<b>Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)</b>					
AvalonBay Communities, Inc.	3,488	539,384			
Digital Realty Trust, Inc.	7,104	1,009,550			
Iron Mountain, Inc. (a)	15,598	407,108			
Prologis, Inc.	10,567	986,218			
Public Storage	1,071	205,514			
		<b>3,147,774</b>			
<b>Utilities 2.9%</b>					
<b>Electric Utilities 0.9%</b>					
Evergy, Inc.	7,617	451,612			
Pinnacle West Capital Corp.	5,056	370,554			
		<b>822,166</b>			
<b>Gas Utilities 0.3%</b>					
UGI Corp.	9,910	<b>315,138</b>			
<b>Multi-Utilities 0.5%</b>					
WEC Energy Group, Inc.	5,926	<b>519,414</b>			
<b>Water Utilities 1.2%</b>					
American Water Works Co., Inc.	8,552	<b>1,100,300</b>			
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$68,292,881)					<b>94,247,653</b>
<b>Rights 0.0%</b>					
<b>Communication Services</b>					
T-Mobile U.S., Inc. Expiration Date					
7/27/2020*					
(Cost \$6,729)	18,186	<b>3,055</b>			
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 3.4%</b>					
DWS Government & Agency					
Securities Portfolio "DWS					
Government Cash Institutional					
Shares", 0.05% (b) (c)	3,224,926	<b>3,224,926</b>			
(Cost \$3,224,926)					
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.8%</b>					
DWS Central Cash Management					
Government Fund, 0.12% (b)					
(Cost \$775,080)	775,080	<b>775,080</b>			
	<b>% of Net Assets</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>			
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b>					
(Cost \$72,299,616)	103.4	<b>98,250,714</b>			
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(3.4)	<b>(3,250,802)</b>			
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>94,999,912</b>			

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2019	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2020	Value (\$) at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 3.4%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (b) (c)								
1,076,250	2,148,676 (d)	—	—	—	790	—	3,224,926	3,224,926
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.8%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (b)								
568,188	7,938,761	7,731,869	—	—	2,681	—	775,080	775,080
<b>1,644,438</b>	<b>10,087,437</b>	<b>7,731,869</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,471</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4,000,006</b>	<b>4,000,006</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

- (a) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$3,192,593, which is 3.4% of net assets.
- (b) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (c) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (d) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

MSCI: Morgan Stanley Capital International

## Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common Stocks (e)	\$94,247,653	\$ —	\$ —	\$94,247,653
Rights	3,055	—	—	3,055
Short-Term Investments (e)	4,000,006	—	—	4,000,006
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$98,250,714</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$98,250,714</b>

(e) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$68,299,610) — including \$3,192,593 of securities loaned	\$94,250,708
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$3,224,926)*	3,224,926
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$775,080)	775,080
Cash	1,410
Receivable for Fund shares sold	6,940
Dividends receivable	73,829
Interest receivable	226
Other assets	1,004
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>98,334,123</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	3,224,926
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	12,937
Accrued management fee	30,474
Accrued Trustees' fees	1,037
Other accrued expenses and payables	64,837
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,334,211</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$94,999,912</b>

<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	29,941,281
Paid-in capital	65,058,631
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$94,999,912</b>

## **Net Asset Value**

### **Class A**

**Net Asset Value**, offering and redemption price per share (\$92,074,981 ÷ 9,267,005 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized) **\$ 9.94**

### **Class B**

**Net Asset Value**, offering and redemption price per share (\$2,924,931 ÷ 294,408 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized) **\$ 9.93**

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$1,143)	\$ 858,648
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	2,681
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	790
<b>Total income</b>	<b>862,119</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	187,703
Administration fee	47,233
Services to Shareholders	741
Recordkeeping fee (Class B)	983
Distribution service fee (Class B)	3,666
Custodian fee	3,030
Professional fees	39,648
Reports to shareholders	17,598
Trustees' fees and expenses	3,398
Other	4,320
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>308,320</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>553,799</b>

## **Realized and Unrealized gain (loss)**

Net realized gain (loss) from investments	3,704,717
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	(10,854,915)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>(7,150,198)</b>

**Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations** **\$ (6,596,399)**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 553,799	\$ 1,378,690
Net realized gain (loss)	3,704,717	4,633,506
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(10,854,915)	21,368,817
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(6,596,399)	27,381,013
Distributions to shareholders :		
Class A	(5,813,005)	(12,354,795)
Class B	(175,513)	(374,998)
Total distributions	(5,988,518)	(12,729,793)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,363,119	2,580,344
Reinvestment of distributions	5,813,005	12,354,795
Payments of shares redeemed	(9,621,400)	(14,245,198)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(2,445,276)	689,941
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	121,806	20,736
Reinvestment of distributions	175,513	374,998
Payments of shares redeemed	(339,498)	(345,789)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	(42,179)	49,945
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	(15,072,372)	15,391,106
Net assets at beginning of period	110,072,284	94,681,178
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 94,999,912</b>	<b>\$ 110,072,284</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	9,438,162	9,343,340
Shares sold	138,023	247,017
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	652,414	1,204,171
Shares redeemed	(961,594)	(1,356,366)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(171,157)	94,822
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>9,267,005</b>	<b>9,438,162</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	295,485	289,832
Shares sold	10,926	2,008
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	19,676	36,549
Shares redeemed	(31,679)	(32,904)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	(1,077)	5,653
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>294,408</b>	<b>295,485</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months	Years Ended December 31,				
	Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$11.31</b>	<b>\$9.83</b>	<b>\$14.64</b>	<b>\$13.16</b>	<b>\$13.29</b>	<b>\$12.76</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.06	.14	.14	.17	.17	.15
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(.77)	2.70	(.71)	2.44	1.09	.52
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(.71)</b>	<b>2.84</b>	<b>(.57)</b>	<b>2.61</b>	<b>1.26</b>	<b>.67</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.15)	(.12)	(.27)	(.17)	(.19)	(.11)
Net realized gains	(.51)	(1.24)	(3.97)	(.96)	(1.20)	(.03)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.66)</b>	<b>(1.36)</b>	<b>(4.24)</b>	<b>(1.13)</b>	<b>(1.39)</b>	<b>(.14)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$9.94</b>	<b>\$11.31</b>	<b>\$9.83</b>	<b>\$14.64</b>	<b>\$13.16</b>	<b>\$13.29</b>
Total Return (%)	(5.61)**	30.30	(5.69)	21.02	10.48	5.25

## Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data

Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	92	107	92	105	163	176
Ratio of expenses (%) <sup>b</sup>	.63*	.62	.61	.57	.57	.56
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.16*	1.32	1.14	1.22	1.34	1.11
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	21**	40	43	39	43	27

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

Class B	Six Months	Years Ended December 31,				
	Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$11.29</b>	<b>\$9.81</b>	<b>\$14.62</b>	<b>\$13.14</b>	<b>\$13.26</b>	<b>\$12.74</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.04	.11	.10	.13	.13	.11
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(.77)	2.70	(.72)	2.44	1.10	.52
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(.73)</b>	<b>2.81</b>	<b>(.62)</b>	<b>2.57</b>	<b>1.23</b>	<b>.63</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.12)	(.09)	(.22)	(.13)	(.15)	(.08)
Net realized gains	(.51)	(1.24)	(3.97)	(.96)	(1.20)	(.03)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.63)</b>	<b>(1.33)</b>	<b>(4.19)</b>	<b>(1.09)</b>	<b>(1.35)</b>	<b>(.11)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$9.93</b>	<b>\$11.29</b>	<b>\$9.81</b>	<b>\$14.62</b>	<b>\$13.14</b>	<b>\$13.26</b>
Total Return (%)	(5.85)**	29.92	(6.02)	20.68	10.25	4.91

## Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data

Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	3	3	3	3	2	2
Ratio of expenses (%) <sup>b</sup>	.95*	.94	.93	.86	.86	.83
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.84*	1.00	.82	.94	1.06	.84
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	21**	40	43	39	43	27

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I (the "Trust") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end, management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust. The Trust consists of five diversified funds: DWS Bond VIP, DWS Capital Growth VIP, DWS Core Equity VIP, DWS CROCI® International VIP and DWS Global Small Cap VIP (individually or collectively hereinafter referred to as a "Fund" or the "Funds"). These financial statements report on DWS Core Equity VIP. The Trust is intended to be the underlying investment vehicle for variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies to be offered by the separate accounts of certain life insurance companies ("Participating Insurance Companies").

**Multiple Classes of Shares of Beneficial Interest.** The Fund offers two classes of shares (Class A shares and Class B shares). Class B shares are subject to Rule 12b-1 distribution fees under the 1940 Act and recordkeeping fees equal to an annual rate of 0.25% and up to 0.15%, respectively, of the average daily net assets of the Class B shares of the Fund. Class A shares are not subject to such fees.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares, except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class (including the applicable 12b-1 distribution fees and recordkeeping fees). Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities and exchange-traded funds ("ETF's") are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Securities for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities and ETF's are generally categorized as Level 1.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Trustees and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund's valuation procedures, factors used in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company's or issuer's financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Securities Lending.** Deutsche Bank AG, as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as common stocks in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end. As of period end, the remaining contractual maturity of the collateral agreements was overnight and continuous.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**Federal Income Taxes.** The Fund is treated as a separate taxpayer as provided for in the Internal Revenue Code, as amended. It is the Fund's policy to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable income to the separate accounts of the Participating Insurance Companies which hold its shares.

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$72,500,344. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$25,750,370. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$31,516,969 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$5,766,599.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed, and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific Fund are allocated to that Fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a Fund are apportioned among the Funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

## B. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$20,401,824 and \$28,549,258, respectively.

## C. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$250 million of average daily net assets	.390%
Next \$750 million of average daily net assets	.365%
Over \$1 billion of average daily net assets	.340%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.39% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest) of each class as follows:

Class A	.72%
Class B	1.03%

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid the Advisor an annual fee ("Administration Fee") of 0.10% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$47,233, of which \$7,579 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company (“DSC”), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. (“DST”), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2020
Class A	\$ 317	\$ 106
Class B	60	20
	<b>\$ 377</b>	<b>\$ 126</b>

**Distribution Service Agreement.** DWS Distributors, Inc. (“DDI”), also an affiliate of the Advisor, is the Trust’s Distributor. In accordance with the Master Distribution Plan, DDI receives 12b-1 fees of up to 0.25% of average daily net assets of Class B shares. Pursuant to the Master Distribution Plan, DDI remits these fees to the Participating Insurance Companies for various costs incurred or paid by these companies in connection with marketing and distribution of Class B shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$3,666, of which \$599 is unpaid.

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$4,520, of which \$1,710 is unpaid.

**Trustees’ Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund’s assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

**Security Lending Fees.** Deutsche Bank AG serves as securities lending agent for the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund incurred lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG for the amount of \$60.

## D. Ownership of the Fund

At June 30, 2020, two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 49% and 17%, respectively. Two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, each owning 48% and 38%, respectively.

## E. Line of Credit

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the “Participants”) share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

## **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund's accounting and financial reporting.

## **G. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG ("DB"), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order ("Consent Order"), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the "DWS Service Providers"). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB's 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees, distribution and service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 943.90	\$ 941.50
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.04	\$ 4.59

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,021.73	\$ 1,020.14
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.17	\$ 4.77

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series I — DWS Core Equity VIP	.63%	.95%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](https://dws.com/calculators).



## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trust’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS Core Equity VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board

believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 3rd quartile, 3rd quartile and 1st quartile, respectively, of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has outperformed its benchmark in the five-year period and has underperformed its benchmark in the one- and three-year periods ended December 31, 2018.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were lower than the median (1st quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be lower than the median (2nd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class's total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to a comparable DWS U.S. registered fund ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Fund. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public

relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.

# Notes

# Notes

# Notes



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June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I

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## **DWS CROCI® International VIP**

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Investing in foreign securities, presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. Stocks may decline in value. The Fund will be managed on the premise that stocks with lower CROCI® Economic P/E Ratios may outperform stocks with higher CROCI® Economic P/E Ratios over time. This premise may not always be correct and prospective investors should evaluate this assumption prior to investing in the Fund. Investing in derivatives entails special risks relating to liquidity, leverage and credit that may reduce returns and/or increase volatility. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

In June 2016, citizens of the United Kingdom approved a referendum to leave the European Union and in March 2017, the United Kingdom initiated the formal process of withdrawing from the EU and the withdrawal is expected to take effect on January 31, 2020. Significant uncertainty exists regarding any adverse economic and political effects the United Kingdom's withdrawal may have on the United Kingdom, other EU countries and the global economy.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

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# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

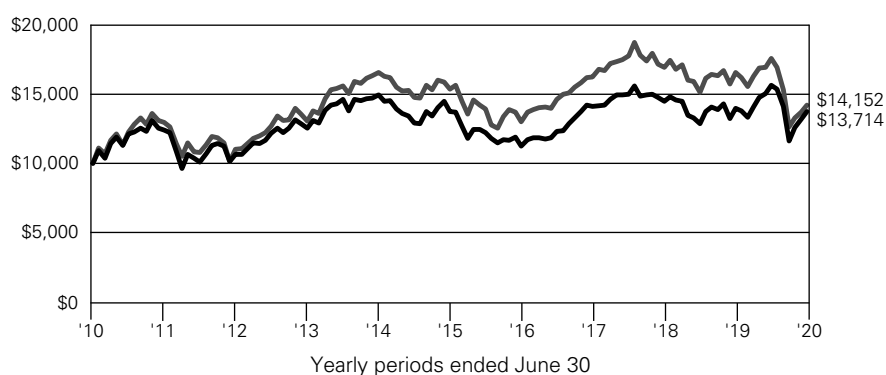
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns. While all share classes have the same underlying portfolio, their performance will differ.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 are 1.01% and 1.29% for Class A and Class B shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

■ DWS CROCI® International VIP — Class A  
 ■ MSCI EAFE® Value Index



MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australasia and the Far East) Value Index captures large and mid-capitalization securities exhibiting overall value style characteristics across developed markets countries around the world, excluding the U.S. and Canada. The value investment style characteristics for index construction are defined using three variables: book value to price, 12-month forward earnings to price and dividend yield.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

## Comparative Results

DWS CROCI® International VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
<b>Class A</b>	Growth of \$10,000	\$8,787	\$9,845	\$9,744	\$10,009	\$13,714
	Average annual total return	-12.13%	-1.55%	-0.86%	0.02%	3.21%
MSCI EAFE Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$8,073	\$8,552	\$8,729	\$9,228	\$14,152
	Average annual total return	-19.27%	-14.48%	-4.43%	-1.59%	3.53%
DWS CROCI® International VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
<b>Class B</b>	Growth of \$10,000	\$8,781	\$9,822	\$9,673	\$9,873	\$13,374
	Average annual total return	-12.19%	-1.78%	-1.10%	-0.26%	2.95%
MSCI EAFE Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$8,073	\$8,552	\$8,729	\$9,228	\$14,152
	Average annual total return	-19.27%	-14.48%	-4.43%	-1.59%	3.53%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Common Stocks	96%	97%
Preferred Stocks	3%	3%
Cash Equivalents	1%	0%
	100%	100%

<b>Geographical Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Japan	31%	30%
France	14%	9%
United Kingdom	11%	19%
Germany	9%	5%
Switzerland	9%	9%
Australia	8%	7%
Netherlands	5%	7%
Belgium	4%	4%
Sweden	3%	0%
Singapore	2%	2%
Spain	2%	3%
Ireland	1%	—
Finland	1%	0%
Italy	—	3%
Hong Kong	—	1%
New Zealand	—	1%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Consumer Discretionary	20%	28%
Health Care	19%	16%
Materials	12%	11%
Industrials	11%	15%
Financials	11%	14%
Consumer Staples	11%	4%
Information Technology	8%	4%
Communication Services	5%	4%
Energy	2%	4%
Utilities	1%	—
	100%	100%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at sec.gov. The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on dws.com from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Di Kumble, CFA, Managing Director  
John Moody, Vice President  
Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 96.1%</b>		
<b>Australia 7.9%</b>		
Aristocrat Leisure Ltd.	18,497	330,103
Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd.	81,221	1,055,125
BHP Group Ltd.	128,710	3,207,276
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	9,108	439,684
National Australia Bank Ltd.	16,131	204,926
Orica Ltd.	24,474	283,828
(Cost \$5,796,517)		<b>5,520,942</b>
<b>Belgium 3.6%</b>		
UCB SA (Cost \$1,674,267)	21,455	<b>2,493,762</b>
<b>Finland 0.8%</b>		
Nokia Oyj (Cost \$415,357)	119,388	<b>525,131</b>
<b>France 14.0%</b>		
Arkema SA	5,212	500,835
Atos SE*	10,594	909,105
BNP Paribas SA*	11,150	445,791
Capgemini SE	5,062	584,188
Credit Agricole SA*	65,776	631,211
Engie SA*	80,513	999,479
Kering SA	1,414	772,845
Sanofi	31,326	3,211,164
Television Francaise 1*	98,360	536,400
TOTAL SA (a)	30,552	1,180,673
(Cost \$10,266,654)		<b>9,771,691</b>
<b>Germany 6.4%</b>		
adidas AG*	1,781	470,613
Bayer AG (Registered)	6,438	479,498
Beiersdorf AG	20,141	2,293,176
Brenntag AG	14,650	772,740
Fresenius SE & Co. KGaA	9,518	475,611
(Cost \$4,321,521)		<b>4,491,638</b>
<b>Ireland 1.3%</b>		
CRH PLC	9,143	315,221
DCC PLC	3,917	328,006
James Hardie Industries PLC	13,194	255,252
(Cost \$738,237)		<b>898,479</b>
<b>Japan 30.5%</b>		
Bridgestone Corp.	76,591	2,462,167
Central Japan Railway Co.	15,974	2,471,141
Nintendo Co., Ltd.	2,500	1,117,368
Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	36,100	1,051,946
Sekisui House Ltd.	96,333	1,833,372
Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd.	5,609	656,471
Shionogi & Co., Ltd.	19,600	1,227,041
Sony Corp.	6,134	422,057
Subaru Corp.	19,657	408,808
Sumitomo Electric Industries Ltd.	112,649	1,295,236
Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.	112,556	3,165,738
Tokyo Electron Ltd.	4,472	1,103,795
Toyota Industries Corp.	42,932	2,271,943
Toyota Motor Corp.	24,346	1,526,569
Z Holdings Corp.	49,000	239,253
(Cost \$21,738,438)		<b>21,252,905</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Netherlands 5.4%</b>		
Koninklijke Ahold Delhaize NV	53,185	1,455,597
Koninklijke KPN NV	390,340	1,037,868
Randstad NV	28,495	1,280,612
(Cost \$3,914,725)		<b>3,774,077</b>
<b>Singapore 2.1%</b>		
Venture Corp., Ltd. (Cost \$1,478,153)	128,083	<b>1,494,879</b>
<b>Spain 1.9%</b>		
Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria SA (Cost \$2,122,601)	388,626	<b>1,343,668</b>
<b>Sweden 2.5%</b>		
Alfa Laval AB*	11,366	251,671
Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson "B"	123,402	1,144,399
Volvo AB "B"*	22,429	353,155
(Cost \$1,595,518)		<b>1,749,225</b>
<b>Switzerland 8.4%</b>		
Adecco Group AG (Registered)	30,374	1,437,185
LafargeHolcim Ltd. (Registered)*	32,265	1,431,941
Roche Holding AG (Genusschein)	8,660	3,016,456
(Cost \$5,884,081)		<b>5,885,582</b>
<b>United Kingdom 11.3%</b>		
BAE Systems PLC	80,353	483,015
British American Tobacco PLC	32,246	1,244,419
Bunzl PLC	9,250	249,398
GlaxoSmithKline PLC	65,899	1,341,012
HSBC Holdings PLC	64,886	304,264
Imperial Brands PLC	24,299	464,744
Mondi PLC	13,090	246,548
Pearson PLC	27,127	193,955
Persimmon PLC*	50,788	1,444,897
Rio Tinto PLC	18,154	1,030,396
Smiths Group PLC	10,782	189,405
Taylor Wimpey PLC	387,639	689,422
(Cost \$7,660,554)		<b>7,881,475</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks (Cost \$67,606,623)</b>		<b>67,083,454</b>
<b>Preferred Stocks 2.7%</b>		
<b>Germany</b>		
Henkel AG & Co. KGaA (Cost \$2,313,723)	20,354	<b>1,897,343</b>
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 1.1%</b>		
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (b) (c) (Cost \$734,400)	734,400	<b>734,400</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)		% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.6%</b>			<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b>		
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (b) (Cost \$443,626)	443,626	443,626	(Cost \$71,098,372)	100.5	70,158,823
			<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(0.5)	<b>(380,183)</b>
			<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>69,778,640</b>

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2019	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2020	Value (\$) at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 1.1%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (b) (c)								
—	734,400 (d)	—	—	—	1,225	—	734,400	734,400
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.6%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (b)								
226,563	5,094,256	4,877,193	—	—	2,193	—	443,626	443,626
<b>226,563</b>	<b>5,828,656</b>	<b>4,877,193</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,418</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,178,026</b>	<b>1,178,026</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

- (a) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$695,605, which is 1.0% of net assets.
- (b) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (c) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (d) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

## Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common Stocks				
Australia	\$ —	\$ 5,520,942	\$ —	\$ 5,520,942
Belgium	—	2,493,762	—	2,493,762
Finland	—	525,131	—	525,131
France	—	9,771,691	—	9,771,691
Germany	—	4,491,638	—	4,491,638
Ireland	—	898,479	—	898,479
Japan	—	21,252,905	—	21,252,905
Netherlands	—	3,774,077	—	3,774,077
Singapore	—	1,494,879	—	1,494,879
Spain	—	1,343,668	—	1,343,668
Sweden	—	1,749,225	—	1,749,225
Switzerland	—	5,885,582	—	5,885,582
United Kingdom	—	7,881,475	—	7,881,475
Preferred Stocks	—	1,897,343	—	1,897,343
Short-Term Investments (e)	1,178,026	—	—	1,178,026
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,178,026</b>	<b>\$ 68,980,797</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 70,158,823</b>

(e) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$69,920,346 — including \$695,605 of securities loaned)	\$ 68,980,797
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$734,400)*	734,400
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$443,626)	443,626
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$167,289)	168,236
Receivable for Fund shares sold	13,038
Dividends receivable	89,990
Interest receivable	46
Foreign taxes recoverable	217,989
Other assets	1,080
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>70,649,202</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	734,400
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	26,887
Accrued management fee	38,338
Accrued Trustees' fees	1,522
Other accrued expenses and payables	69,415
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>870,562</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 69,778,640</b>

<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	(34,105,898)
Paid-in capital	103,884,538
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 69,778,640</b>

<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$69,479,704 ÷ 11,214,978 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 6.20</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$298,936 ÷ 48,096 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 6.22</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$119,513)	\$ 1,126,583
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	2,193
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	1,225
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,130,001</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	226,377
Administration fee	34,182
Services to shareholders	3,393
Distribution service fee (Class B)	362
Custodian fee	10,690
Professional fees	41,924
Reports to shareholders	22,318
Trustees' fees and expenses	2,702
Other	7,246
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>349,194</b>
Expense reductions	(45,834)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>303,360</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>826,641</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	(2,745,768)
Foreign currency	(48,541)
	(2,794,309)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(7,937,565)
Foreign currency	125
	(7,937,440)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>(10,731,749)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ (9,905,108)</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 826,641	\$ 2,461,031
Net realized gain (loss)	(2,794,309)	(2,705,026)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(7,937,440)	15,303,338
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(9,905,108)	15,059,343
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(2,471,928)	(2,300,083)
Class B	(9,620)	(8,223)
Total distributions	(2,481,548)	(2,308,306)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,997,487	3,060,066
Reinvestment of distributions	2,471,928	2,300,083
Payments for shares redeemed	(3,998,432)	(9,141,481)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	470,983	(3,781,332)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	14,678	14,796
Reinvestment of distributions	9,620	8,223
Payments for shares redeemed	(7,360)	(17,636)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	16,938	5,383
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	(11,898,735)	8,975,088
Net assets at beginning of period	81,677,375	72,702,287
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 69,778,640</b>	<b>\$ 81,677,375</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	11,073,845	11,634,868
Shares sold	332,338	460,287
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	453,565	345,358
Shares redeemed	(644,770)	(1,366,668)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	141,133	(561,023)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>11,214,978</b>	<b>11,073,845</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	45,067	44,210
Shares sold	2,400	2,213
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	1,759	1,231
Shares redeemed	(1,130)	(2,587)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	3,029	857
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>48,096</b>	<b>45,067</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months	Years Ended December 31,				
	Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$7.35</b>	<b>\$6.22</b>	<b>\$7.34</b>	<b>\$6.47</b>	<b>\$7.15</b>	<b>\$7.86</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.07	.22	.20	.16	.16	.21
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(.99)	1.11	(1.25)	1.21	(.13)	(.59)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(.92)</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>(1.05)</b>	<b>1.37</b>	<b>.03</b>	<b>(.38)</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.23)	(.20)	(.07)	(.50)	(.71)	(.33)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$6.20</b>	<b>\$7.35</b>	<b>\$6.22</b>	<b>\$7.34</b>	<b>\$6.47</b>	<b>\$7.15</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(12.13)**	21.77	(14.39)	21.96	.74	(5.48)

## Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data

Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	69	81	72	92	94	105
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.00*	1.11	1.13	1.10	1.12	1.05
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.87*	.87	.87	.84	.84	.98
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	2.37*	3.22	2.78	2.24	2.46	2.74
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	36**	101	59	73	67	99

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

Class B	Six Months	Years Ended December 31,				
	Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$7.36</b>	<b>\$6.24</b>	<b>\$7.36</b>	<b>\$6.48</b>	<b>\$7.16</b>	<b>\$7.87</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.07	.20	.18	.13	.14	.19
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(1.00)	1.11	(1.24)	1.23	(.13)	(.59)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(.93)</b>	<b>1.31</b>	<b>(1.06)</b>	<b>1.36</b>	<b>.01</b>	<b>(.40)</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.21)	(.19)	(.06)	(.48)	(.69)	(.31)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$6.22</b>	<b>\$7.36</b>	<b>\$6.24</b>	<b>\$7.36</b>	<b>\$6.48</b>	<b>\$7.16</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(12.19)**	21.24	(14.57)	21.76	.48	(5.71)

## Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data

Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	.30	.33	.28	.33	.27	.27
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.28*	1.39	1.41	1.38	1.40	1.33
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.12*	1.12	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.23
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	2.13*	2.96	2.54	1.86	2.18	2.47
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	36**	101	59	73	67	99

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I (the "Trust") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust. The Trust consists of five diversified funds: DWS Bond VIP, DWS Capital Growth VIP, DWS Core Equity VIP, DWS CROCI® International VIP and DWS Global Small Cap VIP (individually or collectively hereinafter referred to as a "Fund" or the "Funds"). These financial statements report on DWS CROCI® International VIP. The Trust is intended to be the underlying investment vehicle for variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies to be offered by the separate accounts of certain life insurance companies ("Participating Insurance Companies").

**Multiple Classes of Shares of Beneficial Interest.** The Fund offers two classes of shares (Class A shares and Class B shares). Class B shares are subject to Rule 12b-1 distribution fees under the 1940 Act and recordkeeping fees equal to an annual rate of 0.25% and up to 0.15%, respectively, of the average daily net assets of the Class B shares of the Fund. Class A shares are not subject to such fees.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares, except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class (including the applicable 12b-1 distribution fees and recordkeeping fees). Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Securities for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities are generally categorized as Level 1 securities. For certain international equity securities, in order to adjust for events which may occur between the close of the foreign exchanges and the close of the New York Stock Exchange, a fair valuation model may be used. This fair valuation model takes into account comparisons to the valuation of American Depositary Receipts (ADRs), exchange-traded funds, futures contracts and certain indices and these securities are categorized as Level 2.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Trustees and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund's valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company's or

issuer's financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Securities Lending.** Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as common stocks in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end. As of period end, the remaining contractual maturity of the collateral agreements were overnight and continuous.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**Taxes.** The Fund is treated as a separate taxpayer as provided for in the Internal Revenue Code, as amended. It is the Fund's policy to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable income to the separate accounts of the Participating Insurance Companies which hold its shares.

Additionally, the Fund may be subject to taxes imposed by the governments of countries in which it invests and are generally based on income and/or capital gains earned or repatriated, a portion of which may be recoverable. Based upon the current interpretation of the tax rules and regulations, estimated tax liabilities and recoveries on certain foreign securities are recorded on an accrual basis and are reflected as components of interest income or net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments. Tax liabilities realized as a result of security sales are reflected as a component of net realized gain/loss on investments.

At December 31, 2019, the Fund had a net tax basis capital loss carryforward of approximately \$30,763,000, which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely, including short-term losses (\$7,950,000) and long-term losses (\$22,813,000).

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$71,494,025. The net unrealized depreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$1,335,202. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$5,845,169 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$7,180,371.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provisions for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to investments in foreign denominated investments, passive foreign investment companies and certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific Fund are allocated to that Fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a Fund are apportioned among the Funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis net of foreign withholding taxes. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Certain dividends from foreign securities may be recorded subsequent to the ex-dividend date as soon as the Fund is informed of such dividends. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

## B. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$25,549,166 and \$25,387,215, respectively.

## C. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$500 million of average daily net assets	.650%
Over \$500 million of average daily net assets	.600%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.65% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive all or a portion of its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest) of each class as follows:

Class A	.87%
Class B	1.12%

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$	45,606
Class B		228
	<b>\$</b>	<b>45,834</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid the Advisor an annual fee ("Administration Fee") of 0.10% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$34,182, of which \$5,563 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company ("DSC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. ("DST"), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2020
Class A	\$ 311	\$ 103
Class B	40	13
	<b>\$ 351</b>	<b>\$ 116</b>

**Distribution Service Agreement.** DWS Distributors, Inc. ("DDI"), also an affiliate of the Advisor, is the Trusts' Distributor. In accordance with the Master Distribution Plan, DDI receives 12b-1 fees of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of Class B shares. Pursuant to the Master Distribution Plan, DDI remits these fees to the Participating Insurance Companies for various costs incurred or paid by these companies in connection with marketing and distribution of Class B shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$362, of which \$61 is unpaid.

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$4,974, of which \$1,721 is unpaid.

**Trustees' Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent

that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund's assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

#### **D. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2020, five participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 26%, 17%, 13%, 11% and 11%, respectively. Two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, each owning 85% and 10%, respectively.

#### **E. Line of Credit**

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the "Participants") share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund's accounting and financial reporting.

#### **G. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG ("DB"), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order ("Consent Order"), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the "DWS Service Providers"). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB's 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees, distribution and service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 878.70	\$ 878.10
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.06	\$ 5.23

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,020.54	\$ 1,019.29
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.37	\$ 5.62

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series I — DWS CROCI® International VIP	.87%	1.12%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](http://dws.com/calculators).

## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, Advisors provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did experience a temporary breach of the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). The breach was caused by the temporary reclassification of Japanese securities as illiquid due to an extended Japanese holiday market closure. The temporary reclassification of Japanese securities caused the Fund to exceed the 15% limit on illiquid investments for a two day period. Because the holiday closure was anticipated in advance, no actions were needed to rebalance the Fund’s portfolio. Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, Advisors stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. Advisors also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trusts’ policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trusts’ policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.



## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS CROCI® International VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board

believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 2nd quartile, 3rd quartile and 4th quartile, respectively, of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has underperformed its benchmark in the one-, three-, and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were higher than the median (3rd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that, effective October 1, 2019, in connection with the 2019 contract renewal process, DIMA agreed to reduce the Fund's contractual management fee at each breakpoint by 0.14% and 0.04%, respectively. The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be higher than the median (3rd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class's total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to comparable DWS U.S. registered funds ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Funds. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board noted that DIMA pays a licensing fee to an affiliate related to the Fund's use of the CROCI® strategy. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which

pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.



VS1cint-3 (R-028378-9 8/20)

June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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## **DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP**

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Stocks may decline in value. The Fund will be managed using the CROCI® Investment Process which is based on portfolio management's belief that, over time, stocks which display more favorable financial metrics (for example, the CROCI® Economic P/E Ratio) as generated by this process may outperform stocks which display less favorable metrics. This premise may not prove to be correct and prospective investors should evaluate this assumption prior to investing in the Fund. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT  
NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

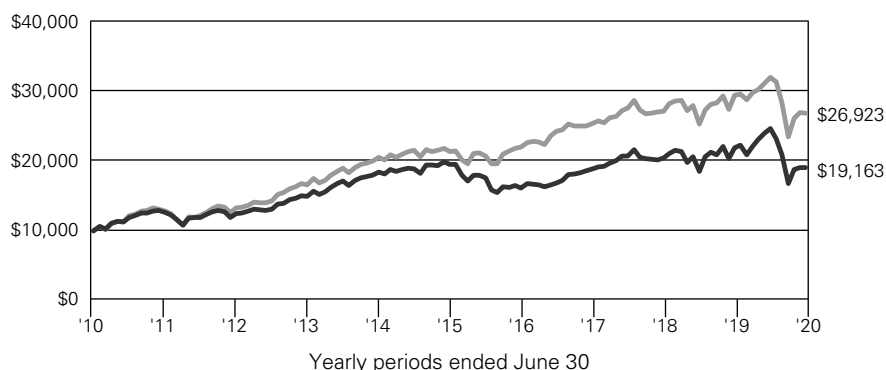
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns. While all share classes have the same underlying portfolio, their performance will differ.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 are 0.84% and 1.16% for Class A and Class B shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000

■ DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP — Class A  
■ Russell 1000® Value Index



Russell 1000® Value Index is an unmanaged market capitalization-weighted index of value-oriented stocks of the largest U.S. domiciled companies that are included in the Russell 1000 Index. Value-oriented stocks tend to have lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values. Russell 1000 Index is an unmanaged price-only index of the 1,000 largest capitalized companies that are domiciled in the U.S. and whose common stocks are traded.

Effective December 1, 2019, the Russell 1000® Value Index has replaced the S&P 500® Index as the fund's primary benchmark index. The Advisor believes that the new index better represents the fund's investment strategy and is therefore more suitable for performance comparison.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

Prior to May 1, 2017, the Fund operated with a different investment strategy. Prior to October 3, 2016, the Fund had a team that operated with a different investment strategy. Performance would have been different if the Fund's current strategy had been in effect.

## Comparative Results

DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$7,751	\$8,701	\$10,123	\$9,769	\$19,163
	Average annual total return	-22.49%	-12.99%	0.41%	-0.47%	6.72%
Russell 1000® Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$8,374	\$9,116	\$10,557	\$12,546	\$26,923
	Average annual total return	-16.26%	-8.84%	1.82%	4.64%	10.41%
DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$7,739	\$8,672	\$10,028	\$9,630	\$18,602
	Average annual total return	-22.61%	-13.28%	0.09%	-0.75%	6.40%
Russell 1000® Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$8,374	\$9,116	\$10,557	\$12,546	\$26,923
	Average annual total return	-16.26%	-8.84%	1.82%	4.64%	10.41%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Common Stocks	99%	99%
Cash Equivalents	1%	1%
	100%	100%

## **Sector Diversification**

(As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Financials	27%	38%
Health Care	26%	16%
Industrials	13%	10%
Communication Services	12%	10%
Information Technology	9%	2%
Consumer Staples	7%	—
Consumer Discretionary	6%	2%
Utilities	—	17%
Energy	—	3%
Materials	—	2%
	100%	100%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## **Portfolio Management Team**

Di Kumble, CFA, Managing Director

John Moody, Vice President

Portfolio Managers



# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 98.8%</b>		
<b>Communication Services 11.8%</b>		
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services 4.8%</b>		
AT&T, Inc.	95,210	2,878,198
Verizon Communications, Inc.	50,512	2,784,727
		<b>5,662,925</b>
<b>Media 7.0%</b>		
Comcast Corp. "A"	72,758	2,836,107
Discovery, Inc. "A"* (a)	130,351	2,750,406
Fox Corp. "A"	100,144	2,685,862
		<b>8,272,375</b>
<b>Consumer Discretionary 5.6%</b>		
<b>Auto Components 2.8%</b>		
BorgWarner, Inc. (a)	94,052	<b>3,320,036</b>
<b>Household Durables 2.8%</b>		
Garmin Ltd.	33,819	<b>3,297,352</b>
<b>Consumer Staples 6.8%</b>		
<b>Beverages 2.1%</b>		
Molson Coors Beverage Co. "B"	73,006	<b>2,508,486</b>
<b>Food Products 2.2%</b>		
The JM Smucker Co.	24,871	<b>2,631,601</b>
<b>Tobacco 2.5%</b>		
Altria Group, Inc.	74,457	<b>2,922,437</b>
<b>Financials 26.6%</b>		
<b>Banks 18.4%</b>		
Citigroup, Inc.	61,536	3,144,490
Comerica, Inc.	83,876	3,195,676
Huntington Bancshares, Inc.	345,070	3,117,707
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	30,833	2,900,152
M&T Bank Corp.	29,975	3,116,501
U.S. Bancorp.	85,525	3,149,030
Zions Bancorp. NA	93,672	3,184,848
		<b>21,808,404</b>
<b>Capital Markets 5.3%</b>		
Bank of New York Mellon Corp.	82,544	3,190,325
State Street Corp.	48,074	3,055,103
		<b>6,245,428</b>
<b>Consumer Finance 2.9%</b>		
Synchrony Financial	155,042	<b>3,435,731</b>
<b>Health Care 26.1%</b>		
<b>Biotechnology 14.7%</b>		
AbbVie, Inc.	30,908	3,034,547
Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	27,282	3,062,132
Amgen, Inc.	12,081	2,849,425
Biogen, Inc.*	8,952	2,395,108
Gilead Sciences, Inc.	37,812	2,909,255
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	4,944	3,083,325
		<b>17,333,792</b>
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 2.5%</b>		
McKesson Corp.	19,154	<b>2,938,607</b>
<b>Pharmaceuticals 8.9%</b>		
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	44,435	2,612,778
Merck & Co., Inc.	35,380	2,735,935

	Shares	Value (\$)
Mylan NV*	172,589	2,775,231
Pfizer, Inc.	74,184	2,425,817
		<b>10,549,761</b>
<b>Industrials 12.4%</b>		
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics 2.4%</b>		
CH Robinson Worldwide, Inc.	35,606	<b>2,815,011</b>
<b>Building Products 2.7%</b>		
Johnson Controls International PLC	94,338	<b>3,220,699</b>
<b>Machinery 5.0%</b>		
Cummins, Inc.	17,323	3,001,383
PACCAR, Inc.	39,945	2,989,883
		<b>5,991,266</b>
<b>Professional Services 2.3%</b>		
ManpowerGroup, Inc.	39,313	<b>2,702,769</b>
<b>Information Technology 9.5%</b>		
<b>IT Services 7.2%</b>		
Amdocs Ltd.	44,531	2,711,047
Cognizant Technology Solutions Corp. "A"	52,743	2,996,857
International Business Machines Corp.	22,892	2,764,667
		<b>8,472,571</b>
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals 2.3%</b>		
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.	278,634	<b>2,711,109</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$123,006,415)		<b>116,840,360</b>

## Securities Lending Collateral 4.9%

DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (b) (c) (Cost \$5,723,396)	5,723,396	<b>5,723,396</b>
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## Cash Equivalents 1.0%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (b) (Cost \$1,217,640)	1,217,640	<b>1,217,640</b>
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	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$129,947,451)	104.7	<b>123,781,396</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(4.7)	<b>(5,513,118)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>118,268,278</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2019	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2020	Value (\$) at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 4.8%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (b) (c)								
3,120,056	2,603,340(d)	—	—	—	2,817	—	5,723,396	5,723,396
<b>Cash Equivalents 1.0%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (b)								
845,193	6,444,255	6,071,808	—	—	4,053	—	1,217,640	1,217,640
<b>3,965,249</b>	<b>9,047,595</b>	<b>6,071,808</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>6,870</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>6,941,036</b>	<b>6,941,036</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

- (a) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$5,587,702, which is 4.7% of net assets.
- (b) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (c) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (d) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

### Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common Stocks (e)	\$ 116,840,360	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 116,840,360
Short-Term Investment (e)	6,941,036	—	—	6,941,036
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 123,781,396</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 123,781,396</b>

(e) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$123,006,415) — including \$5,587,702 of securities loaned	\$116,840,360
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$5,723,396)*	5,723,396
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$1,217,640)	1,217,640
Cash	10,000
Receivable for Fund shares sold	3,045
Dividends receivable	351,452
Interest receivable	571
Other assets	1,598
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>124,148,062</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	5,723,396
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	42,284
Accrued management fee	47,042
Accrued Trustees' fees	2,475
Other accrued expenses and payables	64,587
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>5,879,784</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$118,268,278</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	(22,193,173)
Paid-in capital	140,461,451
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$118,268,278</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , and redemption price per share (\$115,438,318 ÷ 10,123,663 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited shares authorized)	<b>\$ 11.40</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$2,829,960 ÷ 246,898 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited shares authorized)	<b>\$ 11.46</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends	\$ 2,016,515
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	4,053
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	2,817
<b>Total income</b>	<b>2,023,385</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	409,257
Administration fee	61,816
Services to Shareholders	3,450
Recordkeeping fee (Class B)	984
Distribution service fee (Class B)	3,755
Custodian fee	2,962
Professional fees	37,860
Reports to shareholders	16,172
Trustees' fees and expenses	4,068
Other	4,469
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>544,793</b>
Expense reductions	(105,696)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>439,097</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>1,584,288</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized gain (loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from investments	(17,172,226)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	(19,129,241)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>(36,301,467)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$(34,717,179)</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 1,584,288	\$ 3,092,197
Net realized gain (loss)	(17,172,226)	6,704,808
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(19,129,241)	31,036,303
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(34,717,179)	40,833,308
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(9,467,191)	(14,271,121)
Class B	(221,204)	(332,950)
Total distributions	(9,688,395)	(14,604,071)
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	3,488,605	3,373,728
Reinvestment of distributions	9,467,191	14,271,121
Payments of shares redeemed	(7,143,940)	(15,030,273)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	5,811,856	2,614,576
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	205,448	146,155
Reinvestment of distributions	221,204	332,950
Payments of shares redeemed	(205,128)	(438,366)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	221,524	40,739
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	(38,372,194)	28,884,552
Net assets at beginning of period	156,640,472	127,755,920
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 118,268,278</b>	<b>\$ 156,640,472</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	9,489,452	9,266,278
Shares sold	280,725	231,369
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	895,666	1,002,890
Shares redeemed	(542,180)	(1,011,085)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	634,211	223,174
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>10,123,663</b>	<b>9,489,452</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	226,957	223,302
Shares sold	15,885	9,627
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	20,809	23,283
Shares redeemed	(16,753)	(29,255)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	19,941	3,655
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>246,898</b>	<b>226,957</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	\$ 16.12	\$13.46	\$16.64	\$13.75	\$15.29	\$17.38
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.16	.31	.29	.24	.23	.11
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(3.87)	3.92	(1.89)	2.88	(.93)	(1.20)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	(3.71)	4.23	(1.60)	3.12	(.70)	(1.09)
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.31)	(.30)	(.41)	(.23)	(.14)	(.25)
Net realized gains on investment transactions	(.70)	(1.27)	(1.17)	—	(.70)	(.75)
<b>Total distributions</b>	(1.01)	(1.57)	(1.58)	(.23)	(.84)	(1.00)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	\$ 11.40	\$16.12	\$13.46	\$16.64	\$13.75	\$15.29
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(22.49)**	32.95	(10.50)	22.88 <sup>c</sup>	(4.39)	(6.87)
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	115	153	125	153	227	293
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	.86*	.84	.84	.82	.81	.78
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	.69*	.70	.72	.72	.74	.73
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	2.52*	2.13	1.89	1.59	1.66	.65
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	63**	111	100	97	293	121
<p><sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.</p> <p><sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.</p> <p><sup>c</sup> The Fund's total return includes a reimbursement by the Adviser for commission costs incurred in connection with purchases and sales of portfolio assets due to the change in investment strategy, which otherwise would have reduced total return by 0.03%.</p> <p><sup>d</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.</p> <p>* Annualized</p> <p>** Not annualized</p>						

Class B	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	\$ 16.17	\$13.50	\$16.67	\$13.78	\$15.31	\$17.40
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.14	.27	.24	.20	.19	.06
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(3.88)	3.92	(1.88)	2.87	(.92)	(1.21)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	(3.74)	4.19	(1.64)	3.07	(.73)	(1.15)
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.27)	(.25)	(.36)	(.18)	(.10)	(.19)
Net realized gains on investment transactions	(.70)	(1.27)	(1.17)	—	(.70)	(.75)
<b>Total distributions</b>	(.97)	(1.52)	(1.53)	(.18)	(.80)	(.94)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	\$ 11.46	\$16.17	\$13.50	\$16.67	\$13.78	\$15.31
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(22.61)**	32.49	(10.71)	22.45 <sup>c</sup>	(4.62)	(7.16)
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	3	4	3	4	4	4
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	1.18*	1.16	1.16	1.15	1.13	1.10
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	1.00*	1.02	1.04	1.03	1.05	1.04
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	2.21*	1.82	1.55	1.31	1.37	.35
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	63**	111	100	97	293	121
<p><sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.</p> <p><sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.</p> <p><sup>c</sup> The Fund's total return includes a reimbursement by the Adviser for commission costs incurred in connection with purchases and sales of portfolio assets due to the change in investment strategy, which otherwise would have reduced total return by 0.03%.</p> <p><sup>d</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.</p> <p>* Annualized</p> <p>** Not annualized</p>						

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP (the “Fund”) is a diversified series of Deutsche DWS Variable Series II (the “Trust”), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust.

**Multiple Classes of Shares of Beneficial Interest.** The Fund offers two classes of shares (Class A shares and Class B shares). Sales of Class B shares are subject to recordkeeping fees up to 0.15% and Rule 12b-1 fees under the 1940 Act equal to an annual rate of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Class B shares of the Fund. Class A shares are not subject to such fees.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class (including the applicable Rule 12b-1 fee and recordkeeping fees). Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund’s financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”) which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund’s investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund’s own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Securities for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities are generally categorized as Level 1.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Board and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund’s valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security’s disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company’s or issuer’s financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund’s Investment Portfolio.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into

U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**Securities Lending.** Deutsche Bank AG, as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as common stocks in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end. As of period end, the remaining contractual maturity of the collateral agreements was overnight and continuous.

**Federal Income Taxes.** The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders.

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$130,319,741. The net unrealized depreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$6,538,345. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$6,714,538 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$13,252,883.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed, and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period

may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific fund are allocated to that fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a fund are apportioned among the funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

## B. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment transactions (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$79,559,843 and \$81,996,733, respectively.

## C. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Under the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$250 million	.650%
Next \$750 million	.625%
Next \$1.5 billion	.600%
Next \$2.5 billion	.575%
Next \$2.5 billion	.550%
Next \$2.5 billion	.525%
Next \$2.5 billion	.500%
Over \$12.5 billion	.475%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.65% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive all or a portion of its fee and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.69%
Class B	1.00%

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$	102,988
Class B		2,708
	<b>\$</b>	<b>105,696</b>



**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid DIMA an annual fee (“Administration Fee”) of 0.10% of the Fund’s average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund’s average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$61,816, of which \$9,617 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company (“DSC”), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. (“DST”), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2020
Class A	\$ 191	\$ 62
Class B	113	34
	<b>\$ 304</b>	<b>\$ 96</b>

**Distribution Service Agreement.** Under the Fund’s Class B 12b-1 plan, DWS Distributors, Inc. (“DDI”) received a fee (“Distribution Service Fee”) of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of Class B shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$3,755, of which \$593 is unpaid.

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$4,610, of which \$1,133 is unpaid.

**Trustees’ Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund’s assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

**Securities Lending Agent Fees.** Deutsche Bank AG serves as securities lending agent for the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$212.

#### D. Ownership of the Fund

At June 30, 2020, two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 60% and 33%. Two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, each owning 62% and 15%.

#### E. Line of Credit

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the “Participants”) share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The

Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund's accounting and financial reporting.

#### **G. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG ("DB"), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order ("Consent Order"), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the "DWS Service Providers"). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB's 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees, distribution and service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 775.10	\$ 773.90
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.05	\$ 4.41

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,021.43	\$ 1,019.89
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.47	\$ 5.02

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP	.69%	1.00%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](http://dws.com/calculators).

## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trust’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board

believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 3rd quartile, 4th quartile and 4th quartile, respectively, of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has underperformed its benchmark in the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018. The Board noted the disappointing investment performance of the Fund in recent periods and continued to discuss with senior management of DIMA the factors contributing to such underperformance and actions being taken to improve performance. The Board considered that, effective October 3, 2016, the Fund changed its investment strategy and portfolio management team, and noted that the Fund further changed its investment strategy, effective May 1, 2017. The Board recognized the efforts by DIMA in recent years to enhance its investment platform and improve long-term performance across the DWS fund complex.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were higher than the median (3rd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be lower than the median (2nd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class's total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to comparable DWS U.S. registered funds ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Funds. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency

services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board noted that DIMA pays a licensing fee to an affiliate related to the Fund's use of the CROCI® strategy. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.



VS2CUS-3 (R-028386-9 8/20)



June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Investments VIT Funds

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## DWS Equity 500 Index VIP

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from your insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from the insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Stocks may decline in value. Various factors, including costs, cash flows and security selection, may cause the Fund's performance to differ from that of the index. Investing in derivatives entails special risks relating to liquidity, leverage and credit that may reduce returns and/or increase volatility. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT  
NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

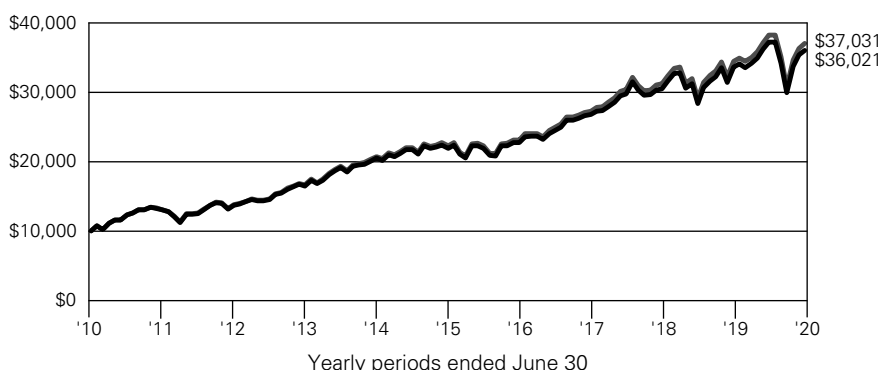
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance figures for Classes A, B and B2 differ because each class maintains a distinct expense structure. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 are 0.35%, 0.72% and 0.74% for Class A, Class B and Class B2 shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

- DWS Equity 500 Index VIP – Class A
- S&P 500® Index



S&P 500® Index is an unmanaged, capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks. The index is designed to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

## Comparative Results

DWS Equity 500 Index VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,677	\$10,719	\$13,470	\$16,427	\$36,021
	Average annual total return	-3.23%	7.19%	10.44%	10.44%	13.67%
S&P 500 Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,692	\$10,751	\$13,577	\$16,645	\$37,031
	Average annual total return	-3.08%	7.51%	10.73%	10.73%	13.99%
DWS Equity 500 Index VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,660	\$10,681	\$13,328	\$16,163	\$34,996
	Average annual total return	-3.40%	6.81%	10.05%	10.08%	13.34%
S&P 500 Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,692	\$10,751	\$13,577	\$16,645	\$37,031
	Average annual total return	-3.08%	7.51%	10.73%	10.73%	13.99%
DWS Equity 500 Index VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B2	Growth of \$10,000	9,659	\$10,679	\$13,313	\$16,111	\$34,661
	Average annual total return	-3.41%	6.79%	10.01%	10.01%	13.24%
S&P 500 Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,692	\$10,751	\$13,577	\$16,645	\$37,031
	Average annual total return	-3.08%	7.51%	10.73%	10.73%	13.99%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Common Stocks	98%	98%
Cash Equivalents	2%	2%
Government & Agency Obligations	0%	0%
Rights	0%	—
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Common Stocks and Rights)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Information Technology	27%	23%
Health Care	14%	14%
Consumer Discretionary	11%	10%
Communication Services	11%	10%
Financials	10%	13%
Industrials	8%	9%
Consumer Staples	7%	7%
Utilities	3%	3%
Real Estate	3%	3%
Energy	3%	5%
Materials	3%	3%
	100%	100%

## Ten Largest Equity Holdings (27.5% of Net Assets)

<b>1. Microsoft Corp.</b> Develops, manufactures, licenses, sells and supports software products	<b>5.9%</b>
<b>2. Apple, Inc.</b> Designs, manufactures and markets personal computers and related computing and mobile communication devices	<b>5.7%</b>
<b>3. Amazon.com, Inc.</b> Online retailer that offers a wide range of products, including books, music, videotapes, computers, electronics, home and garden, and numerous products	<b>4.4%</b>
<b>4. Alphabet, Inc.</b> Holding company with subsidiaries that provide web-based search, advertisements, maps, software applications, mobile operating systems and a variety of other products	<b>3.2%</b>
<b>5. Facebook, Inc.</b> Operates a social networking web site	<b>2.1%</b>
<b>6. Johnson &amp; Johnson</b> Provider of health care products	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>7. Berkshire Hathaway, Inc.</b> Holding company of insurance business and a variety of other businesses	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>8. Visa, Inc.</b> Operates a retail electronic payments network and manages global financial services	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>9. Procter &amp; Gamble Co.</b> Manufacturer of diversified consumer products	<b>1.1%</b>
<b>10. JPMorgan Chase &amp; Co.</b> Provider of global financial services	<b>1.1%</b>

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at sec.gov. The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on dws.com from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Manager

Brent Reeder

Senior Vice President, Northern Trust Investments, Inc., Subadvisor to the Fund

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 98.1%</b>			<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 1.5%</b>		
<b>Communication Services 10.6%</b>			<b>Carnival Corp. (a)</b>		
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services 1.7%</b>			<b>Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc.*</b>		
AT&T, Inc.	154,816	4,680,087	10,262	168,502	
CenturyLink, Inc.	21,169	212,325	560	589,322	
Verizon Communications, Inc.	89,953	4,959,109	2,869	217,384	
		<b>9,851,521</b>	850	314,024	
<b>Entertainment 2.0%</b>			5,992	440,112	
Activision Blizzard, Inc.	16,749	1,271,249	7,391	336,586	
Electronic Arts, Inc.*	6,257	826,237	5,826	499,463	
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc.*	3,146	139,462	16,145	2,978,268	
Netflix, Inc.*	9,557	4,348,817	10,540	177,072	
Take-Two Interactive Software, Inc.*	2,491	347,669	5,481	90,053	
Walt Disney Co.	39,225	4,373,980	3,687	185,456	
		<b>11,307,414</b>	25,349	1,865,433	
			2,155	160,526	
			6,577	571,607	
				<b>8,593,808</b>	
<b>Interactive Media &amp; Services 5.4%</b>			<b>Household Durables 0.4%</b>		
Alphabet, Inc. "A"*	6,519	9,244,268	D.R. Horton, Inc.	7,175	397,854
Alphabet, Inc. "C"*	6,358	8,987,732	Garmin Ltd.	3,201	312,097
Facebook, Inc. "A"*	52,254	11,865,316	Leggett & Platt, Inc.	2,751	96,698
Twitter, Inc.*	17,034	507,443	Lennar Corp. "A"	5,923	364,975
		<b>30,604,759</b>	Mohawk Industries, Inc.*	1,325	134,832
<b>Media 1.3%</b>			Newell Brands, Inc.	8,544	135,679
Charter Communications, Inc. "A"*	3,272	1,668,851	NVR, Inc.*	76	247,665
Comcast Corp. "A"	98,895	3,854,927	PulteGroup, Inc.	5,600	190,568
Discovery, Inc. "C"*	7,069	136,149	Whirlpool Corp.	1,328	172,016
Discovery, Inc. "A"* (a)	3,366	71,022			<b>2,052,384</b>
DISH Network Corp. "A"*	5,559	191,841	<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 4.9%</b>		
Fox Corp. "A"	7,456	199,970	Amazon.com, Inc.*	9,106	25,121,815
Fox Corp. "B"	3,504	94,047	Booking Holdings, Inc.*	889	1,415,590
Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.	8,573	147,113	eBay, Inc.	14,357	753,025
News Corp. "A"	8,780	104,131	Expedia Group, Inc.	2,938	241,503
News Corp. "B"	2,201	26,302			<b>27,531,933</b>
Omnicom Group, Inc.	4,730	258,258	<b>Leisure Products 0.0%</b>		
ViacomCBS, Inc. "B"	11,887	277,205	Hasbro, Inc.	2,793	<b>209,335</b>
		<b>7,029,816</b>	<b>Multiline Retail 0.5%</b>		
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 0.2%</b>			Dollar General Corp.	5,466	1,041,328
T-Mobile U.S., Inc.*	11,958	<b>1,245,426</b>	Dollar Tree, Inc.*	5,212	483,048
<b>Consumer Discretionary 10.6%</b>			Kohl's Corp.	3,536	73,443
<b>Auto Components 0.1%</b>			Target Corp.	10,856	1,301,960
Aptiv PLC	5,825	453,884			<b>2,899,779</b>
BorgWarner, Inc. (a)	4,541	160,297	<b>Specialty Retail 2.3%</b>		
		<b>614,181</b>	Advance Auto Parts, Inc.	1,523	216,951
<b>Automobiles 0.2%</b>			AutoZone, Inc.*	505	569,700
Ford Motor Co.	84,812	515,657	Best Buy Co., Inc.	4,886	426,401
General Motors Co.	27,400	693,220	CarMax, Inc.*	3,516	314,858
		<b>1,208,877</b>	Home Depot, Inc.	23,360	5,851,913
<b>Distributors 0.1%</b>			L Brands, Inc.	5,340	79,940
Genuine Parts Co.	3,104	269,924	Lowe's Companies, Inc.	16,391	2,214,752
LKQ Corp.*	6,788	177,846	O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.*	1,607	677,624
		<b>447,770</b>	Ross Stores, Inc.	7,732	659,076
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 0.0%</b>			The Gap, Inc.	4,429	55,894
H&R Block, Inc.	3,978	<b>56,806</b>	Tiffany & Co.	2,379	290,095
			TJX Companies, Inc.	26,000	1,314,560
			Tractor Supply Co.	2,535	334,088
			Ulta Beauty, Inc.*	1,214	246,952
					<b>13,252,804</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 0.6%</b>		
Hanesbrands, Inc.	7,905	89,247
NIKE, Inc. "B"	26,950	2,642,448
PVH Corp.	1,459	70,105
Ralph Lauren Corp.	987	71,577
Tapestry, Inc.	6,014	79,866
Under Armour, Inc. "A"*	4,226	41,161
Under Armour, Inc. "C"*	4,609	40,744
VF Corp.	6,989	425,910

**3,461,058**

### Consumer Staples 6.8%

#### Beverages 1.6%

Brown-Forman Corp. "B"	3,905	248,592
Coca-Cola Co.	84,018	3,753,924
Constellation Brands, Inc. "A"	3,648	638,218
Molson Coors Beverage Co. "B"	4,206	144,518
Monster Beverage Corp.*	8,120	562,878
PepsiCo, Inc.	30,156	3,988,433

**9,336,563**

#### Food & Staples Retailing 1.5%

Costco Wholesale Corp.	9,601	2,911,119
Kroger Co.	16,997	575,349
Sysco Corp.	11,065	604,813
Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc.	16,000	678,240
Walmart, Inc.	30,794	3,688,505

**8,458,026**

#### Food Products 1.1%

Archer-Daniels-Midland Co.	12,039	480,356
Campbell Soup Co. (a)	3,742	185,715
Conagra Brands, Inc.	10,616	373,365
General Mills, Inc.	13,164	811,561
Hormel Foods Corp.	6,128	295,799
Kellogg Co.	5,443	359,565
Kraft Heinz Co.	13,651	435,330
Lamb Weston Holdings, Inc.	3,173	202,850
McCormick & Co., Inc.	2,671	479,204
Mondelez International, Inc. "A"	31,068	1,588,507
The Hershey Co.	3,227	418,284
The JM Smucker Co.	2,440	258,176
Tyson Foods, Inc. "A"	6,319	377,307

**6,266,019**

#### Household Products 1.7%

Church & Dwight Co., Inc.	5,320	411,236
Clorox Co.	2,723	597,345
Colgate-Palmolive Co.	18,662	1,367,178
Kimberly-Clark Corp.	7,413	1,047,828
Procter & Gamble Co.	53,783	6,430,833

**9,854,420**

#### Personal Products 0.2%

Coty, Inc. "A"	6,186	27,651
Estee Lauder Companies, Inc. "A"	4,883	921,325

**948,976**

#### Tobacco 0.7%

Altria Group, Inc.	40,286	1,581,225
Philip Morris International, Inc.	33,833	2,370,340

**3,951,565**

### Energy 2.8%

#### Energy Equipment & Services 0.2%

Baker Hughes Co.	14,319	220,369
Halliburton Co.	19,408	251,916
National Oilwell Varco, Inc.	8,514	104,297
Schlumberger Ltd.	30,174	554,900
TechnipFMC PLC	9,118	62,367

**1,193,849**

#### Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels 2.6%

Apache Corp.	8,240	111,240
Cabot Oil & Gas Corp.	8,583	147,456
Chevron Corp.	40,556	3,618,812
Concho Resources, Inc.	4,202	216,403
ConocoPhillips	23,290	978,646
Devon Energy Corp.	8,056	91,355
Diamondback Energy, Inc.	3,383	141,477
EOG Resources, Inc.	12,675	642,116
Exxon Mobil Corp.	91,814	4,105,922
Hess Corp.	5,696	295,110
HollyFrontier Corp.	3,210	93,732
Kinder Morgan, Inc.	42,269	641,221
Marathon Oil Corp.	17,578	107,577
Marathon Petroleum Corp.	14,096	526,908
Noble Energy, Inc.	10,955	98,157
Occidental Petroleum Corp.	19,511	357,051
ONEOK, Inc.	9,559	317,550
Phillips 66	9,538	685,782
Pioneer Natural Resources Co.	3,579	349,668
Valero Energy Corp.	8,916	524,439
Williams Companies, Inc.	26,228	498,857

**14,549,479**

### Financials 9.9%

#### Banks 3.6%

Bank of America Corp.	169,736	4,031,230
Citigroup, Inc.	45,210	2,310,231
Citizens Financial Group, Inc.	9,431	238,038
Comerica, Inc.	2,955	112,585
Fifth Third Bancorp.	15,524	299,303
First Republic Bank	3,738	396,191
Huntington Bancshares, Inc.	21,886	197,740
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	66,267	6,233,074
KeyCorp	21,072	256,657
M&T Bank Corp.	2,802	291,324
People's United Financial, Inc.	9,200	106,444
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.	9,222	970,247
Regions Financial Corp.	20,885	232,241
SVB Financial Group*	1,132	243,980
Truist Financial Corp.	29,269	1,099,051
U.S. Bancorp.	29,829	1,098,304
Wells Fargo & Co.	81,010	2,073,856
Zions Bancorp. NA	3,444	117,096

**20,307,592**

#### Capital Markets 2.6%

Ameriprise Financial, Inc.	2,658	398,806
Bank of New York Mellon Corp.	17,497	676,259
BlackRock, Inc.	3,356	1,825,966
Cboe Global Markets, Inc.	2,375	221,540
Charles Schwab Corp.	24,895	839,957
CME Group, Inc.	7,798	1,267,487
E*TRADE Financial Corp.	4,728	235,124
Franklin Resources, Inc.	5,925	124,247

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	11,899	1,089,948			
Invesco Ltd.	8,628	92,837			
MarketAxess Holdings, Inc.	834	417,767			
Moody's Corp.	3,503	962,379			
Morgan Stanley	26,023	1,256,911			
MSCI, Inc.	1,837	613,227			
Nasdaq, Inc.	2,542	303,693			
Northern Trust Corp.	4,509	357,744			
Raymond James Financial, Inc.	2,623	180,541			
S&P Global, Inc.	5,239	1,726,146			
State Street Corp.	7,639	485,459			
T. Rowe Price Group, Inc.	4,951	611,449			
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.	6,725	1,328,995			
		<b>15,016,482</b>			
<b>Consumer Finance 0.5%</b>					
American Express Co.	14,341	1,365,263			
Capital One Financial Corp.	9,879	618,327			
Discover Financial Services	6,624	331,796			
Synchrony Financial	11,646	258,075			
		<b>2,573,461</b>			
<b>Diversified Financial Services 1.3%</b>					
Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. "B"*	42,251	<b>7,542,226</b>			
<b>Insurance 1.9%</b>					
Aflac, Inc.	15,625	562,969			
Allstate Corp.	6,824	661,860			
American International Group, Inc.	18,552	578,451			
Aon PLC "A"	5,002	963,385			
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.	4,146	404,194			
Assurant, Inc.	1,266	130,765			
Chubb Ltd.	9,820	1,243,408			
Cincinnati Financial Corp.	3,346	214,244			
Everest Re Group Ltd.	890	183,518			
Globe Life, Inc.	2,103	156,106			
Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.	7,674	295,833			
Lincoln National Corp.	4,083	150,214			
Loews Corp.	5,208	178,582			
Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.	11,096	1,191,378			
MetLife, Inc.	16,787	613,061			
Principal Financial Group, Inc.	5,459	226,767			
Progressive Corp.	12,757	1,021,963			
Prudential Financial, Inc.	8,581	522,583			
The Travelers Companies, Inc.	5,492	626,363			
Unum Group	4,432	73,527			
W.R. Berkley Corp.	3,077	176,281			
Willis Towers Watson PLC	2,794	550,278			
		<b>10,725,730</b>			
<b>Health Care 14.4%</b>					
<b>Biotechnology 2.4%</b>					
AbbVie, Inc.	38,301	3,760,392			
Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	4,785	537,068			
Amgen, Inc.	12,789	3,016,414			
Biogen, Inc.*	3,548	949,267			
Gilead Sciences, Inc.	27,183	2,091,460			
Incyte Corp.*	3,876	402,988			
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	2,194	1,368,288			
Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	5,644	1,638,510			
		<b>13,764,387</b>			
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 3.7%</b>					
Abbott Laboratories	38,458	3,516,215			
ABIOMED, Inc.*	981	236,970			
Align Technology, Inc.*	1,576	432,518			
Baxter International, Inc.	11,036	950,200			
Becton, Dickinson & Co.	6,409	1,533,481			
Boston Scientific Corp.*	31,013	1,088,866			
Danaher Corp.	13,687	2,420,272			
DENTSPLY SIRONA, Inc.	4,698	206,994			
DexCom, Inc.*	2,006	813,232			
Edwards Lifesciences Corp.*	13,503	933,192			
Hologic, Inc.*	5,574	317,718			
IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.*	1,857	613,107			
Intuitive Surgical, Inc.*	2,534	1,443,949			
Medtronic PLC	29,145	2,672,597			
ResMed, Inc.	3,164	607,488			
STERIS PLC	1,863	285,859			
Stryker Corp.	7,001	1,261,510			
Teleflex, Inc.	1,021	371,624			
The Cooper Companies, Inc.	1,058	300,091			
Varian Medical Systems, Inc.*	1,993	244,182			
West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc.	1,580	358,929			
Zimmer Biomet Holdings, Inc.	4,494	536,404			
		<b>21,145,398</b>			
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 2.8%</b>					
AmerisourceBergen Corp.	3,196	322,061			
Anthem, Inc.	5,480	1,441,130			
Cardinal Health, Inc.	6,266	327,023			
Centene Corp.*	12,524	795,900			
Cigna Corp.	8,009	1,502,889			
CVS Health Corp.	28,394	1,844,758			
DaVita, Inc.*	1,852	146,567			
HCA Healthcare, Inc.	5,758	558,872			
Henry Schein, Inc.*	3,049	178,031			
Humana, Inc.	2,883	1,117,883			
Laboratory Corp. of America Holdings*	2,118	351,821			
McKesson Corp.	3,518	539,732			
Quest Diagnostics, Inc.	2,886	328,889			
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	20,615	6,080,394			
Universal Health Services, Inc. "B"	1,661	154,290			
		<b>15,690,240</b>			
<b>Health Care Technology 0.1%</b>					
Cerner Corp.	6,614	<b>453,390</b>			
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services 1.2%</b>					
Agilent Technologies, Inc.	6,681	590,400			
Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc. "A"*	465	209,943			
Illumina, Inc.*	3,201	1,185,490			
IQVIA Holdings, Inc.*	3,886	551,346			
Mettler-Toledo International, Inc.*	525	422,914			
PerkinElmer, Inc.	2,368	232,277			
Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc.	8,589	3,112,138			
Waters Corp.*	1,362	245,705			
		<b>6,550,213</b>			
<b>Pharmaceuticals 4.2%</b>					
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	49,167	2,891,020			
Eli Lilly & Co.	18,278	3,000,882			
Johnson & Johnson	57,280	8,055,286			
Merck & Co., Inc.	54,874	4,243,406			

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Mylan NV*	11,307	181,817	Emerson Electric Co.	12,979	805,087
Perrigo Co. PLC	3,018	166,805	Rockwell Automation, Inc.	2,491	530,583
Pfizer, Inc.	120,722	3,947,609			<b>2,539,103</b>
Zoetis, Inc.	10,309	1,412,745			
		<b>23,899,570</b>	<b>Industrial Conglomerates 1.1%</b>		
<b>Industrials 7.8%</b>			3M Co.	12,501	1,950,031
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 1.7%</b>			General Electric Co.	190,018	1,297,823
Boeing Co.	11,649	2,135,262	Honeywell International, Inc.	15,256	2,205,865
General Dynamics Corp.	5,023	750,738	Roper Technologies, Inc.	2,271	881,738
Howmet Aerospace, Inc.	8,071	127,925			<b>6,335,457</b>
Huntington Ingalls Industries, Inc.	897	156,518	<b>Machinery 1.5%</b>		
L3Harris Technologies, Inc.	4,692	796,092	Caterpillar, Inc.	11,762	1,487,893
Lockheed Martin Corp.	5,361	1,956,336	Cummins, Inc.	3,207	555,645
Northrop Grumman Corp.	3,385	1,040,684	Deere & Co.	6,791	1,067,206
Raytheon Technologies Corp.	31,955	1,969,067	Dover Corp.	3,119	301,171
Teledyne Technologies, Inc.*	797	247,827	Flowserve Corp.	2,969	84,676
Textron, Inc.	5,107	168,071	Fortive Corp.	6,388	432,212
TransDigm Group, Inc.	1,090	481,834	IDEX Corp.	1,626	256,973
		<b>9,830,354</b>	Illinois Tool Works, Inc.	6,253	1,093,337
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics 0.5%</b>			Ingersoll Rand, Inc.*	7,613	214,077
C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc.	2,979	235,520	Otis Worldwide Corp.	8,842	502,756
Expeditors International of Washington, Inc.	3,592	273,136	PACCAR, Inc.	7,489	560,552
FedEx Corp.	5,228	733,070	Parker-Hannifin Corp.	2,816	516,088
United Parcel Service, Inc. "B"	15,305	1,701,610	Pentair PLC	3,459	131,407
		<b>2,943,336</b>	Snap-on, Inc. (a)	1,198	165,935
<b>Airlines 0.2%</b>			Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.	3,344	466,087
Alaska Air Group, Inc.	2,749	99,679	Westinghouse Air Brake Technologies Corp.	3,924	225,905
American Airlines Group, Inc. (a)	10,800	141,156	Xylem, Inc.	3,890	252,694
Delta Air Lines, Inc.	12,415	348,241			<b>8,314,614</b>
Southwest Airlines Co.	11,591	396,180	<b>Professional Services 0.3%</b>		
United Airlines Holdings, Inc.*	5,484	189,801	Equifax, Inc.	2,662	457,544
		<b>1,175,057</b>	IHS Markit Ltd.	8,710	657,605
<b>Building Products 0.4%</b>			Nielsen Holdings PLC	7,923	117,736
A.O. Smith Corp. (a)	2,851	134,339	Robert Half International, Inc.	2,554	134,928
Allegion PLC	1,960	200,351	Verisk Analytics, Inc.	3,546	603,529
Carrier Global Corp.	17,858	396,805			<b>1,971,342</b>
Fortune Brands Home & Security, Inc.	3,055	195,306	<b>Road &amp; Rail 1.0%</b>		
Johnson Controls International PLC	16,108	549,927	CSX Corp.	16,624	1,159,358
Masco Corp.	5,735	287,955	J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc.	1,804	217,093
Trane Technologies PLC	5,243	466,522	Kansas City Southern	2,036	303,955
		<b>2,231,205</b>	Norfolk Southern Corp.	5,549	974,238
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 0.4%</b>			Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc.	2,065	350,203
Cintas Corp.	1,833	488,238	Union Pacific Corp.	14,755	2,494,628
Copart, Inc.*	4,478	372,883			<b>5,499,475</b>
Republic Services, Inc.	4,512	370,210	<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors 0.2%</b>		
Rollins, Inc.	3,089	130,943	Fastenal Co.	12,529	536,742
Waste Management, Inc.	8,452	895,151	United Rentals, Inc.*	1,559	232,353
		<b>2,257,425</b>	W.W. Grainger, Inc.	928	291,541
<b>Construction &amp; Engineering 0.1%</b>					<b>1,060,636</b>
Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.	2,831	240,069	<b>Information Technology 26.9%</b>		
Quanta Services, Inc.	2,974	116,670	<b>Communications Equipment 0.9%</b>		
		<b>356,739</b>	Arista Networks, Inc.*	1,186	249,096
<b>Electrical Equipment 0.4%</b>			Cisco Systems, Inc.	92,142	4,297,503
AMETEK, Inc.	4,937	441,220	F5 Networks, Inc.*	1,359	189,553
Eaton Corp. PLC	8,713	762,213	Juniper Networks, Inc.	7,377	168,638
			Motorola Solutions, Inc.	3,670	514,277
					<b>5,419,067</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components 0.5%</b>		
Amphenol Corp. "A"	6,435	616,537
CDW Corp.	3,077	357,486
Corning, Inc.	16,299	422,144
FLIR Systems, Inc.	2,739	111,121
IPG Photonics Corp.*	751	120,453
Keysight Technologies, Inc.*	4,066	409,771
TE Connectivity Ltd.	7,170	584,714
Zebra Technologies Corp. "A"*	1,147	293,575

**2,915,801**

**IT Services 5.6%**

Accenture PLC "A"	13,826	2,968,719
Akamai Technologies, Inc.*	3,567	381,990
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.	9,338	1,390,335
Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.	2,475	312,320
Cognizant Technology Solutions Corp. "A"	11,706	665,135
DXC Technology Co.	5,778	95,337
Fidelity National Information Services, Inc.	13,411	1,798,281
Fiserv, Inc.*	12,194	1,190,378
FleetCor Technologies, Inc.*	1,816	456,779
Gartner, Inc.*	1,958	237,564
Global Payments, Inc.	6,484	1,099,816
International Business Machines Corp.	19,277	2,328,083
Jack Henry & Associates, Inc.	1,687	310,459
Leidos Holdings, Inc.	2,908	272,392
Mastercard, Inc. "A"	19,220	5,683,354
Paychex, Inc.	6,908	523,281
PayPal Holdings, Inc.*	25,516	4,445,653
VeriSign, Inc.*	2,229	461,024
Visa, Inc. "A" (a)	36,649	7,079,487
Western Union Co.	8,917	192,786

**31,893,173**

**Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment 4.7%**

Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*	25,453	1,339,082
Analog Devices, Inc.	8,027	984,431
Applied Materials, Inc.	19,955	1,206,280
Broadcom, Inc.	8,688	2,742,020
Intel Corp.	92,019	5,505,497
KLA Corp.	3,363	654,036
Lam Research Corp.	3,159	1,021,810
Maxim Integrated Products, Inc.	5,738	347,780
Microchip Technology, Inc.	5,329	561,197
Micron Technology, Inc.*	24,164	1,244,929
NVIDIA Corp.	13,368	5,078,637
Qorvo, Inc.*	2,469	272,899
QUALCOMM, Inc.	24,451	2,230,176
Skyworks Solutions, Inc.	3,613	461,958
Texas Instruments, Inc.	19,951	2,533,178
Xilinx, Inc.	5,282	519,696

**26,703,606**

**Software 9.2%**

Adobe, Inc.*	10,472	4,558,566
ANSYS, Inc.*	1,851	539,992
Autodesk, Inc.*	4,767	1,140,219
Cadence Design Systems, Inc.*	6,073	582,765
Citrix Systems, Inc.	2,532	374,508
Fortinet, Inc.*	2,912	399,730

	Shares	Value (\$)
Intuit, Inc.	5,667	1,678,509
Microsoft Corp.	164,808	33,540,076
NortonLifeLock, Inc.	11,781	233,617
Oracle Corp.	45,233	2,500,028
Paycom Software, Inc.*	1,042	322,739
salesforce.com, Inc.*	19,583	3,668,484
ServiceNow, Inc.*	4,145	1,678,974
Synopsys, Inc.*	3,255	634,725
Tyler Technologies, Inc.*	864	299,704

**52,152,636**

**Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals 6.0%**

Apple, Inc.	88,548	32,302,310
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.	28,205	274,435
HP, Inc.	31,010	540,504
NetApp, Inc.	4,795	212,754
Seagate Technology PLC	4,896	237,015
Western Digital Corp.	6,494	286,710
Xerox Holding Corp.	4,136	63,240

**33,916,968**

**Materials 2.5%**

**Chemicals 1.8%**

Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.	4,801	1,159,250
Albemarle Corp.	2,352	181,598
Celanese Corp.	2,518	217,404
CF Industries Holdings, Inc.	4,749	133,637
Corteva, Inc.	16,367	438,472
Dow, Inc.	16,122	657,133
DuPont de Nemours, Inc.	15,930	846,361
Eastman Chemical Co.	3,027	210,800
Ecolab, Inc.	5,391	1,072,539
FMC Corp.	2,781	277,043
International Flavors & Fragrances, Inc. (a)	2,343	286,924
Linde PLC	11,413	2,420,811
LyondellBasell Industries NV "A"	5,536	363,826
PPG Industries, Inc.	5,127	543,770
The Mosaic Co.	7,228	90,422
The Sherwin-Williams Co.	1,755	1,014,127

**9,914,117**

**Construction Materials 0.1%**

Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	1,337	276,184
Vulcan Materials Co.	2,905	336,544

**612,728**

**Containers & Packaging 0.3%**

Amcor PLC	33,826	345,363
Avery Dennison Corp.	1,790	204,221
Ball Corp.	7,051	489,974
International Paper Co.	8,552	301,116
Packaging Corp. of America	2,097	209,281
Sealed Air Corp.	3,430	112,675
Westrock Co.	5,741	162,241

**1,824,871**

**Metals & Mining 0.3%**

Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc.	31,599	365,601
Newmont Corp.	17,436	1,076,499
Nucor Corp.	6,591	272,933

**1,715,033**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Real Estate 2.8%</b>		
<b>Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) 2.7%</b>		
Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc.	2,743	445,052
American Tower Corp.	9,636	2,491,291
Apartment Investment & Management Co. "A"	3,294	123,986
AvalonBay Communities, Inc.	3,035	469,332
Boston Properties, Inc.	3,119	281,895
Crown Castle International Corp.	9,060	1,516,191
Digital Realty Trust, Inc.	5,831	828,643
Duke Realty Corp.	7,872	278,590
Equinix, Inc.	1,924	1,351,225
Equity Residential	7,579	445,797
Essex Property Trust, Inc.	1,427	327,026
Extra Space Storage, Inc.	2,854	263,624
Federal Realty Investment Trust	1,488	126,793
Healthpeak Properties, Inc.	11,604	319,806
Host Hotels & Resorts, Inc.	15,144	163,404
Iron Mountain, Inc. (a)	6,301	164,456
Kimco Realty Corp.	9,433	121,120
Mid-America Apartment Communities, Inc.	2,450	280,942
Prologis, Inc.	16,051	1,498,040
Public Storage	3,278	629,015
Realty Income Corp.	7,442	442,799
Regency Centers Corp.	3,780	173,464
SBA Communications Corp.	2,443	727,819
Simon Property Group, Inc.	6,690	457,462
SL Green Realty Corp.	1,643	80,984
UDR, Inc.	6,266	234,223
Ventas, Inc.	8,094	296,402
Vornado Realty Trust	3,463	132,321
Welltower, Inc.	9,044	468,027
Weyerhaeuser Co.	16,191	363,650
		<b>15,503,379</b>
<b>Real Estate Management &amp; Development 0.1%</b>		
CBRE Group, Inc. "A"*	7,295	<b>329,880</b>
<b>Utilities 3.0%</b>		
<b>Electric Utilities 1.9%</b>		
Alliant Energy Corp.	5,513	263,742
American Electric Power Co., Inc.	10,805	860,510
Duke Energy Corp.	15,969	1,275,763
Edison International	8,201	445,396
Entergy Corp.	4,314	404,696
Eversource Energy	4,961	294,138
Exelon Corp.	7,325	609,953
Exelon Corp.	21,119	766,409
FirstEnergy Corp.	11,715	454,308
NextEra Energy, Inc.	10,642	2,555,889
NRG Energy, Inc.	5,345	174,033
Pinnacle West Capital Corp.	2,394	175,456
PPL Corp.	16,685	431,140
Southern Co.	22,958	1,190,372
Xcel Energy, Inc.	11,349	709,313
		<b>10,611,118</b>
<b>Gas Utilities 0.0%</b>		
Atmos Energy Corp.	2,660	<b>264,883</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Independent Power &amp; Renewable Electricity Producers 0.0%</b>		
AES Corp.	14,487	<b>209,917</b>
<b>Multi-Utilities 1.0%</b>		
Ameren Corp.	5,372	377,974
CenterPoint Energy, Inc.	11,753	219,428
CMS Energy Corp.	6,257	365,534
Consolidated Edison, Inc.	7,272	523,075
Dominion Energy, Inc.	18,261	1,482,428
DTE Energy Co.	4,179	449,242
NiSource, Inc.	8,344	189,743
Public Service Enterprise Group, Inc.	11,025	541,989
Sempra Energy	6,344	743,707
WEC Energy Group, Inc.	6,869	602,068
		<b>5,495,188</b>
<b>Water Utilities 0.1%</b>		
American Water Works Co., Inc.	3,904	<b>502,289</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$259,783,261)		<b>557,094,654</b>
<b>Rights 0.0%</b>		
<b>Communication Services</b>		
T-Mobile U.S., Inc.		
Expiration Date 7/27/2020*		
(Cost \$3,082)	8,329	<b>1,399</b>
	<b>Principal Amount (\$)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
<b>Government &amp; Agency Obligations 0.2%</b>		
<b>U.S. Treasury Obligation</b>		
U.S. Treasury Bills,		
1.47%**, 7/16/2020 (b)		
(Cost \$924,586)	925,000	<b>924,951</b>
	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 1.5%</b>		
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (c) (d)	8,665,265	<b>8,665,265</b>
(Cost \$8,665,265)		
<b>Cash Equivalents 1.6%</b>		
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (c)	9,064,200	<b>9,064,200</b>
(Cost \$9,064,200)		
	<b>% of Net Assets</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b>	101.4	<b>575,750,469</b>
(Cost \$278,440,394)		
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(1.4)	<b>(8,009,459)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>567,741,010</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2019	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2020	Value (\$) at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 1.5%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (c) (d)								
251,422	8,413,843 (e)	—	—	—	5,307	—	8,665,265	8,665,265
<b>Cash Equivalents 1.6%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (c)								
11,512,814	33,475,765	35,924,379	—	—	15,178	—	9,064,200	9,064,200
<b>11,764,236</b>	<b>41,889,608</b>	<b>35,924,379</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>20,485</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>17,729,465</b>	<b>17,729,465</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

\*\* Annualized yield at time of purchase; not a coupon rate.

- (a) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$8,549,619, which is 1.5% of net assets.
- (b) At June 30, 2020, this security has been pledged, in whole or in part, to cover initial margin requirements for open futures contracts.
- (c) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (d) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (e) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

S&P: Standard & Poor's

At June 30, 2020, open futures contracts purchased were as follows:

Futures	Currency	Expiration Date	Contracts	Notional Amount (\$)	Notional Value (\$)	Unrealized Appreciation (\$)
S&P 500 E-Mini Index	USD	9/18/2020	66	10,151,859	10,197,660	45,801

#### Currency Abbreviation

USD United States Dollar

For information on the Fund's policy and additional disclosures regarding futures contracts, please refer to the Derivatives section of Note B in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

#### Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments.

Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common Stocks (f)	\$557,094,654	\$ —	\$ —	\$557,094,654
Rights	1,399	—	—	1,399
Government & Agency Obligations	—	924,951	—	924,951
Short-Term Investments (f)	17,729,465	—	—	17,729,465
Derivatives (g)				
Futures Contracts	45,801	—	—	45,801
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$574,871,319</b>	<b>\$924,951</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$575,796,270</b>

(f) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

(g) Derivatives include unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on open futures contracts.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$260,710,929) — including \$8,549,619 of securities loaned	\$ 558,021,004
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$8,665,265)*	8,665,265
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$9,064,200)	9,064,200
Cash	10,000
Receivable for Fund shares sold	399,005
Dividends receivable	437,266
Interest receivable	3,357
Receivable for variation margin on futures contracts	140,281
Other assets	4,119
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>576,744,497</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	8,665,265
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	124,943
Accrued management fee	59,325
Accrued Trustees' fees	5,287
Other accrued expenses and payables	148,667
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>9,003,487</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 567,741,010</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	306,133,381
Paid-in capital	261,607,629
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 567,741,010</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$517,320,262 ÷ 25,281,467 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.001 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 20.46</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$34,762,149 ÷ 1,696,525 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.001 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 20.49</b>
<b>Class B2</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$15,658,599 ÷ 763,475 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.001 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 20.51</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends	\$ 5,682,452
Interest	3,811
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	15,178
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	5,307
<b>Total income</b>	<b>5,706,748</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	550,940
Administration fee	270,226
Services to shareholders	899
Recordkeeping fee (Class B and Class B-2)	32,417
Distribution service fees (Class B and Class B-2)	58,594
Custodian fee	7,329
Professional fees	37,543
Reports to shareholders	25,717
Trustees' fees and expenses	14,438
Other	21,296
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>1,019,399</b>
Expense reductions	(212,974)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>806,425</b>
<b>Net investment income (loss)</b>	<b>4,900,323</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	12,369,917
Futures	(629,681)
	11,740,236
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(37,167,022)
Futures	(90,643)
	(37,257,665)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>(25,517,429)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ (20,617,106)</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019	Other Information	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
Operations:			<b>Class A</b>		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 4,900,323	\$ 9,389,401	Shares outstanding at beginning of period	24,258,385	24,962,490
Net realized gain (loss)	11,740,236	35,798,268	Shares sold	656,644	755,485
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(37,257,665)	107,301,276	Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	2,207,713	1,743,647
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(20,617,106)	152,488,945	Shares redeemed	(1,841,275)	(3,203,237)
Distributions to shareholders:			Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	1,023,082	(704,105)
Class A	(40,621,912)	(36,093,488)	Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>25,281,467</b>	<b>24,258,385</b>
Class B	(2,466,115)	(1,569,495)	<b>Class B</b>		
Class B2	(1,183,053)	(1,061,799)	Shares outstanding at beginning of period	1,426,637	1,109,669
Total distributions	(44,271,080)	(38,724,782)	Shares sold	218,804	475,525
Fund share transactions:			Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	133,737	75,675
<b>Class A</b>			Shares redeemed	(82,653)	(234,232)
Proceeds from shares sold	13,076,172	15,867,889	Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	269,888	316,968
Reinvestment of distributions	40,621,912	36,093,488	Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>1,696,525</b>	<b>1,426,637</b>
Payments for shares redeemed	(38,165,718)	(67,585,767)	<b>Class B2</b>		
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	15,532,366	(15,624,390)	Shares outstanding at beginning of period	742,685	784,684
<b>Class B</b>			Shares sold	8,218	18,043
Proceeds from shares sold	4,570,005	10,003,444	Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	64,087	51,146
Reinvestment of distributions	2,466,115	1,569,495	Shares redeemed	(51,515)	(111,188)
Payments for shares redeemed	(1,741,570)	(4,895,248)	Net increase (decrease) in Class B2 shares	20,790	(41,999)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	5,294,550	6,677,691	Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>763,475</b>	<b>742,685</b>
<b>Class B2</b>					
Proceeds from shares sold	165,558	373,269			
Reinvestment of distributions	1,183,053	1,061,799			
Payments for shares redeemed	(1,071,759)	(2,353,334)			
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B2 share transaction	276,852	(918,266)			
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	(43,784,418)	103,899,198			
Net assets at beginning of period	611,525,428	507,626,230			
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 567,741,010</b>	<b>\$ 611,525,428</b>			

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	\$ 23.14	\$18.90	\$22.19	\$19.58	\$19.40	\$20.41
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.19	.35	.37	.34	.35	.35
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(1.13)	5.37	(1.31)	3.69	1.74	(.10)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	(.94)	5.72	(.94)	4.03	2.09	.25
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.39)	(.43)	(.38)	(.37)	(.40)	(.33)
Net realized gains	(1.35)	(1.05)	(1.97)	(1.05)	(1.51)	(.93)
<b>Total distributions</b>	(1.74)	(1.48)	(2.35)	(1.42)	(1.91)	(1.26)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	\$ 20.46	\$23.14	\$18.90	\$22.19	\$19.58	\$19.40
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(3.23)**	31.19	(4.65)	21.53	11.61	1.13
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	517	561	472	541	519	530
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.34*	.35	.34	.34	.34	.34
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.26*	.27	.30	.33	.33	.33
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.81*	1.68	1.73	1.67	1.88	1.77
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	1**	3	3	3	4	3

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

Class B	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	\$ 23.12	\$18.89	\$22.17	\$19.58	\$19.40	\$20.40
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.15	.28	.29	.28	.30	.30
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(1.12)	5.35	(1.29)	3.67	1.74	(.09)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	(.97)	5.63	(1.00)	3.95	2.04	.21
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.31)	(.35)	(.31)	(.31)	(.35)	(.28)
Net realized gains	(1.35)	(1.05)	(1.97)	(1.05)	(1.51)	(.93)
<b>Total distributions</b>	(1.66)	(1.40)	(2.28)	(1.36)	(1.86)	(1.21)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	\$ 20.49	\$23.12	\$18.89	\$22.17	\$19.58	\$19.40
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(3.40)**	30.66	(4.94)	21.07	11.32	.92
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	35	33	21	25	18	12
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.72*	.72	.71	.71	.69	.67
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.64*	.65	.65	.65	.61	.58
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.43*	1.31	1.38	1.35	1.61	1.53
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	1**	3	3	3	4	3

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

<b>Class B2</b>	<b>Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>				<b>2015</b>
			<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>		
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>							
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$ 23.14</b>	<b>\$18.90</b>	<b>\$22.18</b>	<b>\$19.57</b>	<b>\$19.39</b>	<b>\$20.40</b>	
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>							
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.15	.27	.28	.26	.28	.28	
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(1.13)	5.36	(1.30)	3.69	1.74	(.10)	
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(.98)</b>	<b>5.63</b>	<b>(1.02)</b>	<b>3.95</b>	<b>2.02</b>	<b>.18</b>	
<i>Less distributions from:</i>							
Net investment income	(.30)	(.34)	(.29)	(.29)	(.33)	(.26)	
Net realized gains	(1.35)	(1.05)	(1.97)	(1.05)	(1.51)	(.93)	
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(1.65)</b>	<b>(1.39)</b>	<b>(2.26)</b>	<b>(1.34)</b>	<b>(1.84)</b>	<b>(1.19)</b>	
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$ 20.51</b>	<b>\$23.14</b>	<b>\$18.90</b>	<b>\$22.18</b>	<b>\$19.57</b>	<b>\$19.39</b>	
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(3.41)**	30.64	(5.00)	21.06	11.20	.76	
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>							
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	16	17	15	17	17	17	
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.73*	.74	.73	.74	.74	.74	
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.65*	.67	.70	.72	.71	.68	
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.42*	1.28	1.32	1.27	1.50	1.42	
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	1**	3	3	3	4	3	

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Deutsche DWS Investments VIT Funds (the "Trust") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company. The Trust is organized as a Massachusetts business trust. DWS Equity 500 Index VIP (the "Fund") is a diversified series of the Trust offered to investors. The Fund is an underlying investment vehicle for variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies to be offered by the separate accounts of certain life insurance companies ("Participating Insurance Companies").

**Multiple Classes of Shares of Beneficial Interest.** The Fund offers three classes of shares to investors: Class A shares, Class B shares and Class B2 shares. Class B and Class B2 shares are subject to Rule 12b-1 distribution fees under the 1940 Act equal to an annual rate of 0.25% of Class B and Class B2 shares average daily net assets. In addition, Class B and Class B2 shares are subject to recordkeeping fees equal to an annual rate up to 0.15% of average daily net assets. Class A shares are not subject to such fees.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares, except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class (including the applicable 12b-1 distribution fees and record keeping fees). Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Securities for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities are generally categorized as Level 1.

Debt securities are valued at prices supplied by independent pricing services approved by the Fund's Board. If the pricing services are unable to provide valuations, securities are valued at the most recent bid quotation or evaluated price, as applicable, obtained from one or more broker-dealers. Such services may use various pricing techniques which take into account appropriate factors such as yield, quality, coupon rate, maturity, type of issue, trading characteristics and other data, as well as broker quotes. These securities are generally categorized as Level 2.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Futures contracts are generally valued at the settlement prices established each day on the exchange on which they are traded and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Board and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund's valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition; the price



and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company's or issuer's financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Securities Lending.** Deutsche Bank AG, as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. As of period end, any securities on loan were collateralized by cash. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as common stock in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end. As of period end, the remaining contractual maturity of the collateral agreements were overnight and continuous.

**Federal Income Taxes.** The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders.

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$285,959,336. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$289,788,607. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$320,637,074 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$30,848,467.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Net investment income of the Fund, if any, is declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed, and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to investments in futures contracts and

certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund’s maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific fund are allocated to that fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a fund are apportioned among the funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Real Estate Investment Trusts.** The Fund at its fiscal year end recharacterizes distributions received from a Real Estate Investment Trust (“REIT”) investment based on information provided by the REIT into the following categories: ordinary income, long-term and short-term capital gains, and return of capital. If information is not available timely from a REIT, the recharacterization will be estimated for financial statement purposes and a recharacterization will be made within the accounting records in the following year when such information becomes available. Distributions received from REITs in excess of income are recorded as either a reduction of cost of investments or realized gains.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

## B. Derivative Instruments

A futures contract is an agreement between a buyer or seller and an established futures exchange or its clearinghouse in which the buyer or seller agrees to take or make a delivery of a specific amount of a financial instrument at a specified price on a specific date (settlement date). For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested in futures to keep cash on hand to meet shareholder redemptions or other needs while maintaining exposure to the stock market.

Upon entering into a futures contract, the Fund is required to deposit with a financial intermediary cash or securities (“initial margin”) in an amount equal to a certain percentage of the face value indicated in the futures contract. Subsequent payments (“variation margin”) are made or received by the Fund dependent upon the daily fluctuations in the value and are recorded for financial reporting purposes as unrealized gains or losses by the Fund. Gains or losses are realized when the contract expires or is closed. Since all futures contracts are exchange traded, counterparty risk is minimized as the exchange’s clearinghouse acts as the counterparty, and guarantees the futures against default. Upon a futures contract close out or expiration, realized gain or loss is recognized.

Certain risks may arise upon entering into futures contracts, including the risk that an illiquid market will limit the Fund’s ability to close out a futures contract prior to the settlement date and the risk that the futures contract is not well correlated with the security, index or currency to which it relates. Risk of loss may exceed amounts disclosed in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

A summary of the open futures contracts as of June 30, 2020, is included in a table following the Fund’s Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the investment in futures contracts purchased had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$2,698,000 to \$12,763,000.

The following tables summarize the value of the Fund’s derivative instruments held as of June 30, 2020 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities, presented by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Asset Derivative</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>
Equity Contracts (a)	\$ 45,801

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Assets and Liabilities account:

(a) Includes cumulative appreciation of futures contracts as disclosed in the Investment Portfolio. Unsettled variation margin is disclosed separately within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Additionally, the amount of unrealized and realized gains and losses on derivative instruments recognized in Fund earnings during the six months ended June 30, 2020 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Operations is summarized in the following tables by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Realized Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>
Equity Contracts (b)	\$ (629,681)

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Operations account:

(b) Net realized gain (loss) from futures

<b>Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>
Equity Contracts (c)	\$ (90,643)

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Operations account:

(c) Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on futures

### C. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$7,644,928 and \$24,046,157, respectively.

### D. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA” or the “Advisor”), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”), the Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold, or entered into by the Fund or delegates such responsibility to the Fund’s subadvisor. Northern Trust Investments, Inc. (“NTI”) serves as subadvisor. As a subadvisor to the Fund, NTI makes investment decisions and buys and sells securities for the Fund. NTI is paid by the Advisor for the services NTI provides to the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee based on its average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$1 billion of the Fund’s average daily net assets	.200%
Next \$1 billion of such net assets	.175%
Over \$2 billion of such net assets	.150%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.20% of the Fund’s average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive all or a portion of its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest) of each classes as follows:

Class A	.26%
Class B	.64%
Class B2	.66%

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$ 193,902
Class B	13,072
Class B2	6,000
	<b>\$ 212,974</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to the Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid DIMA an annual fee (“Administration Fee”) of 0.10% of the Fund’s

average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$270,226, of which \$45,008 is unpaid.

**Distribution Service Agreement.** DWS Distributors, Inc. ("DDI"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the Fund's distributor. In accordance with the Distribution Plan, DDI receives 12b-1 fees of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of Class B and B2 shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Distribution Service Fees were as follows:

Distribution Service Fees	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2020
Class B	\$ 39,357	\$ 6,956
Class B2	19,237	3,186
	<b>\$ 58,594</b>	<b>\$ 10,142</b>

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company ("DSC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent of the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. ("DST"), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2020
Class A	\$ 229	\$ 76
Class B	40	13
Class B2	25	8
	<b>\$ 294</b>	<b>\$ 97</b>

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$8,009, of which \$4,239 unpaid.

**Trustees' Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund's assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

**Securities Lending Agent Fees.** Deutsche Bank AG serves as securities lending agent for the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$400.

## E. Line of Credit

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the "Participants") share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of

the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

#### **F. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2020, two participating insurance companies were beneficial owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 52% and 14%, respectively. At June 30, 2020, one participating insurance company was beneficial owner of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, owning 88%. At June 30, 2020, two participating insurance companies were beneficial owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B2 shares of the Fund, each owning 84% and 16%, respectively.

#### **G. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund's accounting and financial reporting.

#### **H. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG ("DB"), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order ("Consent Order"), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the "DWS Service Providers"). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB's 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees, distribution and service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Class B2</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 967.70	\$ 966.00	\$ 965.90
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 1.27	\$ 3.13	\$ 3.18

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Class B2</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,023.57	\$ 1,021.68	\$ 1,021.63
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 1.31	\$ 3.22	\$ 3.27

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Class B2</b>
DWS Equity 500 Index VIP	.26%	.64%	.65%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](http://dws.com/calculators).

## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Fund’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Fund voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Fund’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS Equity 500 Index VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) and sub-advisory agreement (the “Sub-Advisory Agreement” and together with the Agreement, the “Agreements”) between DIMA and Northern Trust Investments, Inc. (“NTI”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreements, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreements, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s and NTI’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreements, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreements. The Board noted that, under the Agreements, DIMA and NTI provide portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. Throughout the course of the year, the Board also received information regarding DIMA’s oversight of fund sub-advisors, including NTI. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by



Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund’s performance (Class A shares) was in the 2nd quartile, 2nd quartile and 1st quartile, respectively, of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers).

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund’s investment management fee schedule, sub-advisory fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. (“Broadridge”) and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund’s administrative services agreement, were higher than the median (3rd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). With respect to the sub-advisory fee paid to NTI, the Board noted that the fee is paid by DIMA out of its fee and not directly by the Fund. The Board noted that the Fund’s Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be higher than the median (3rd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) (“Broadridge Universe Expenses”). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class’s total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund’s total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund’s management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to comparable DWS U.S. registered funds (“DWS Funds”) and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Funds. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors (“DWS Europe Funds”) managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA and NTI.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA’s methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates’ overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available. The Board did not consider the profitability of NTI with respect to the Fund. The Board noted that DIMA pays NTI’s fee out of its management fee, and its understanding that the Fund’s sub-advisory fee schedule was the product of an arm’s length negotiation with DIMA.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund’s investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund’s fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and NTI and Their Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or “fall-out” benefits received by DIMA and NTI and their affiliates, including any fees

received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA and NTI related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA and NTI related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel. The Board also considered the attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to the oversight of the investment sub-advisor's compliance program and compliance with the applicable fund policies and procedures.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreements is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreements.

# Notes



vit-equ500-3 (R-028371-9 8/20)

June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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## DWS Global Equity VIP

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Stocks may decline in value. Investing in foreign securities, particularly those of emerging markets, presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. Emerging markets tend to be more volatile and less liquid than the markets of more mature economies, and generally have less diverse and less mature economic structures and less stable political systems than those of developed countries. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT  
NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

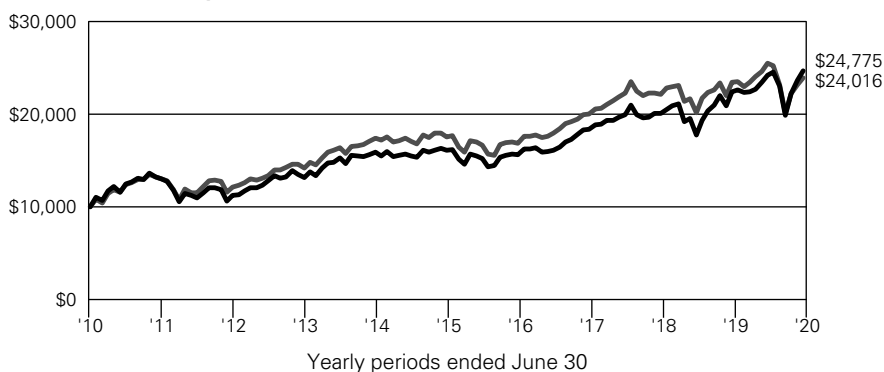
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns.

The gross expense ratio of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 is 1.22% for Class A shares and may differ from the expense ratio disclosed in the Financial Highlights table in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

- DWS Global Equity VIP — Class A
- MSCI All Country World Index



The MSCI All Country World Index is an unmanaged equity index which captures large and mid-capitalization representation across 23 developed markets and 26 emerging markets countries. It covers approximately 85% of the global investable equity opportunity set.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

Prior to July 12, 2013, the Fund was named DWS Diversified International Equity VIP and had a subadvisor and a different investment management team that operated with a different investment strategy. Performance would have been different if the fund's current investment strategy had been in effect.

## Comparative Results

DWS Global Equity VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,205	\$11,023	\$13,439	\$15,331	\$24,775
	Average annual total return	2.05%	10.23%	10.35%	8.92%	9.50%
MSCI All Country World Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,375	\$10,211	\$11,956	\$13,672	\$24,016
	Average annual total return	-6.25%	2.11%	6.14%	6.46%	9.16%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Common Stocks	100%	99%
Cash Equivalent	0%	1%
Rights	0%	—
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalent and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Information Technology	23%	21%
Health Care	18%	15%
Financials	17%	20%
Consumer Discretionary	11%	11%
Communication Services	10%	8%
Industrials	8%	10%
Consumer Staples	7%	7%
Materials	4%	4%
Energy	2%	3%
Real Estate	0%	1%
	100%	100%

<b>Geographical Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalent and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
United States	55%	52%
Germany	7%	9%
China	7%	7%
Switzerland	6%	5%
Canada	5%	7%
France	4%	4%
Japan	4%	4%
United Kingdom	3%	3%
Ireland	3%	3%
Sweden	2%	1%
Argentina	1%	2%
Others	3%	3%
	100%	100%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Manager

Sebastian P. Werner, PhD, Director



# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 99.4%</b>		
<b>Argentina 1.5%</b>		
Globant SA* (Cost \$140,221)	2,720	<b>407,592</b>
<b>Brazil 0.6%</b>		
Pagueuro Digital Ltd. "A"* (Cost \$157,458)	4,600	<b>162,564</b>
<b>Canada 5.3%</b>		
Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.	4,650	297,879
Alimentation Couche-Tard, Inc. "B"	10,340	324,229
Brookfield Asset Management, Inc. "A"	26,400	868,851
(Cost \$696,999)		<b>1,490,959</b>
<b>China 6.9%</b>		
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. (ADR)*	2,400	517,680
China Literature Ltd. 144A*	14	95
Momo, Inc. (ADR)	4,200	73,416
New Oriental Education & Technology Group, Inc. (ADR)*	1,490	194,043
Ping An Insurance (Group) Co. of China Ltd. "H"	41,500	416,623
Tencent Holdings Ltd.	11,200	722,193
(Cost \$1,275,025)		<b>1,924,050</b>
<b>France 3.8%</b>		
Cie de St-Gobain SA*	5,400	195,944
LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE	275	122,291
Schneider Electric SE	971	108,674
TOTAL SA (a)	6,060	234,187
VINCI SA	4,400	406,312
(Cost \$1,203,561)		<b>1,067,408</b>
<b>Germany 7.0%</b>		
adidas AG*	485	128,157
Allianz SE (Registered)	2,055	422,177
BASF SE	2,200	123,858
Deutsche Boerse AG	3,650	663,245
Evonik Industries AG	7,800	199,459
Fresenius Medical Care AG & Co. KGaA	4,700	405,502
(Cost \$1,580,447)		<b>1,942,398</b>
<b>Ireland 3.0%</b>		
Experian PLC	11,041	388,935
Kerry Group PLC "A" (b)	49	6,087
Kerry Group PLC "A" (b)	3,451	429,336
(Cost \$484,487)		<b>824,358</b>
<b>Japan 3.7%</b>		
Kao Corp.	2,800	221,792
Keyence Corp.	1,200	501,747
SMC Corp.	600	307,384
(Cost \$751,300)		<b>1,030,923</b>
<b>Luxembourg 1.0%</b>		
Eurofins Scientific SE* (Cost \$121,487)	460	<b>290,282</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Malaysia 0.3%</b>		
IHH Healthcare Bhd. (Cost \$83,204)	63,900	<b>82,120</b>
<b>Norway 0.5%</b>		
Mowi ASA (Cost \$82,231)	7,200	<b>137,014</b>
<b>Singapore 0.8%</b>		
DBS Group Holdings Ltd. (Cost \$279,300)	15,200	<b>227,902</b>
<b>Sweden 1.8%</b>		
Assa Abloy AB "B"	6,700	137,395
Spotify Technology SA* (c)	1,445	373,085
(Cost \$343,592)		<b>510,480</b>
<b>Switzerland 5.7%</b>		
Lonza Group AG (Registered)	1,930	1,022,910
Nestle SA (Registered)	5,185	575,031
(Cost \$459,542)		<b>1,597,941</b>
<b>United Kingdom 3.2%</b>		
Aon PLC (c)	1,500	288,900
Compass Group PLC	8,360	115,784
Halma PLC	8,200	234,478
Spirax-Sarco Engineering PLC	1,950	241,828
(Cost \$447,072)		<b>880,990</b>
<b>United States 54.3%</b>		
Activision Blizzard, Inc.	6,961	528,340
Alphabet, Inc. "A"*	450	638,122
Amazon.com, Inc.*	141	388,994
American Express Co.	2,166	206,203
AMETEK, Inc.	4,195	374,907
Amphenol Corp. "A"	6,000	574,860
Apple, Inc.	1,155	421,344
Applied Materials, Inc.	5,750	347,588
AZEK Co., Inc.*	728	23,194
Becton, Dickinson & Co.	1,171	280,185
CBRE Group, Inc. "A"*	2,850	128,877
Danaher Corp.	5,500	972,565
DexCom, Inc.*	760	308,104
Ecolab, Inc.	2,280	453,606
EOG Resources., Inc.	3,300	167,178
EPAM Systems, Inc.*	1,900	478,819
Evolent Health, Inc. "A"*	13,500	96,120
Exact Sciences Corp.*	2,005	174,315
Fiserv, Inc.*	3,475	339,230
Hologic, Inc.*	3,000	171,000
Intuit, Inc.	1,200	355,428
Johnson & Johnson	1,700	239,071
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	5,300	498,518
Las Vegas Sands Corp.	2,460	112,028
Livongo Health, Inc.* (a)	1,650	124,064
MasterCard, Inc. "A"	1,740	514,518
McDonald's Corp.	2,285	421,514
Microsoft Corp.	4,860	989,059
Mondelez International, Inc. "A"	7,320	374,272
NVIDIA Corp.	1,130	429,298
PPD, Inc*	9,800	262,640
Progressive Corp.	12,800	1,025,408
Quidel Corp.*	830	185,704

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
Schlumberger Ltd.	3,960	72,824
ServiceMaster Global Holdings, Inc.*	8,100	289,089
ServiceNow, Inc.*	1,375	556,957
T-Mobile U.S., Inc.*	3,950	411,393
TJX Companies, Inc.	5,491	277,625
Vroom, Inc.*	1,332	69,450
YETI Holdings, Inc.* (a)	8,300	354,659
Zoetis, Inc.	3,720	509,789
(Cost \$8,710,685)		<b>15,146,859</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$16,816,611)		<b>27,723,840</b>

## Rights 0.0%

### United States

T-Mobile U.S., Inc., Expiration Date 07/27/2020* (Cost \$1,462)	3,950	<b>664</b>
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## Securities Lending Collateral 2.3%

DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (d) (e) (Cost \$635,058)	635,058	<b>635,058</b>
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## Cash Equivalents 0.4%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (d) (Cost \$111,130)	111,130	<b>111,130</b>
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	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$17,564,261)	102.1	<b>28,470,692</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(2.1)	<b>(573,907)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>27,896,785</b>

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$)	Purchases	Sales	Net Realized Gain/Loss	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)	Income	Capital Gain Distributions	Number of Shares at 6/30/2020	Value (\$)
at 12/31/2019	Cost (\$)	Proceeds (\$)	(Gain) (\$)	(Loss) (\$)	(Income) (\$)	(Distributions) (\$)	at 6/30/2020	at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 2.3%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (d) (e)								
836,078	—	201,020 (f)	—	—	6,052	—	635,058	635,058
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.4%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (d)								
364,206	2,705,998	2,959,074	—	—	975	—	111,130	111,130
<b>1,200,284</b>	<b>2,705,998</b>	<b>3,160,094</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>7,027</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>746,188</b>	<b>746,188</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

- (a) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$620,553, which is 2.2% of net assets.
- (b) Securities with the same description are the same corporate entity but trade on different stock exchanges.
- (c) Listed on the New York Stock Exchange.
- (d) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (e) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (f) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

144A: Security exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers.

ADR: American Depositary Receipt

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

<b>Assets</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
Common Stocks				
Argentina	\$ 407,592	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 407,592
Brazil	162,564	—	—	162,564
Canada	1,490,959	—	—	1,490,959
China	785,139	1,138,911	—	1,924,050
France	—	1,067,408	—	1,067,408
Germany	—	1,942,398	—	1,942,398
Ireland	—	824,358	—	824,358
Japan	—	1,030,923	—	1,030,923
Luxembourg	—	290,282	—	290,282
Malaysia	—	82,120	—	82,120
Norway	—	137,014	—	137,014
Singapore	—	227,902	—	227,902
Sweden	373,085	137,395	—	510,480
Switzerland	—	1,597,941	—	1,597,941
United Kingdom	288,900	592,090	—	880,990
United States	15,146,859	—	—	15,146,859
Rights	664	—	—	664
Short-Term Investments (g)	746,188	—	—	746,188
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 19,401,950</b>	<b>\$ 9,068,742</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 28,470,692</b>

(g) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$16,818,073) — including \$620,553 of securities loaned	\$27,724,504
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$635,058)*	635,058
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$111,130)	111,130
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$77,134)	75,099
Receivable for investments sold	26,410
Receivable for Fund shares sold	108
Dividends receivable	19,051
Interest receivable	651
Foreign taxes recoverable	16,910
Other assets	289
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>28,609,210</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	635,058
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	16,409
Accrued management fee	7,492
Accrued Trustees' fees	301
Other accrued expenses and payables	53,165
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>712,425</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$27,896,785</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	11,444,493
Paid-in capital	16,452,292
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$27,896,785</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net asset value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$27,896,785 ÷ 2,217,150 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 12.58</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$13,164)	\$ 246,724
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	975
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	6,052
<b>Total income</b>	<b>253,751</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	88,259
Administration fee	13,322
Services to shareholders	114
Custodian fee	5,718
Professional fees	37,554
Reports to shareholders	13,862
Trustees' fees and expenses	1,668
Other	5,178
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>165,675</b>
Expense reductions	(51,617)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>114,058</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>139,693</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	483,270
Foreign currency	(1,404)
	481,866
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(249,475)
Foreign currency	(1,689)
	(251,164)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>230,702</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ 370,395</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 139,693	\$ 197,722
Net realized gain (loss)	481,866	987,156
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(251,164)	7,411,902
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	370,395	8,596,780
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(1,173,276)	(2,329,682)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	383,392	1,084,314
Reinvestment of distributions	1,173,276	2,329,682
Payments for shares redeemed	(2,758,339)	(4,708,430)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(1,201,671)	(1,294,434)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>(2,004,552)</b>	<b>4,972,664</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	29,901,337	24,928,673
Net assets at end of period	<b>27,896,785</b>	<b>29,901,337</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	2,310,277	2,415,204
Shares sold	30,576	87,985
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	107,739	200,144
Shares redeemed	(231,442)	(393,056)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(93,127)	(104,927)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>2,217,150</b>	<b>2,310,277</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months	Years Ended December 31,				
	Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$12.94</b>	<b>\$10.32</b>	<b>\$11.70</b>	<b>\$9.48</b>	<b>\$9.00</b>	<b>\$9.21</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.06	.08	.06	.05	.04	.05
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	.12	3.55	(1.35)	2.22	.51	(.21)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	.18	3.63	(1.29)	2.27	.55	(.16)
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.09)	(.06)	(.09)	(.05)	(.07)	(.05)
Net realized gains	(.45)	(.95)	—	—	—	—
<b>Total distributions</b>	(.54)	(1.01)	(.09)	(.05)	(.07)	(.05)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$12.58</b>	<b>\$12.94</b>	<b>\$10.32</b>	<b>\$11.70</b>	<b>\$9.48</b>	<b>\$9.00</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	2.05**	36.26	(11.12)	24.04	6.11 <sup>c</sup>	(1.75)
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	28	30	25	31	43	49
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	1.22*	1.22	1.22	1.06	1.03	1.00
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	.84*	.88	.92	.95	.95	.91
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.03*	.69	.51	.49	.49	.58
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	7**	12	43	19	46	79

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reimbursed.

<sup>c</sup> Includes a reimbursement by the Advisor for a realized loss on a trade executed incorrectly, which otherwise would have reduced total return by 0.31%.

<sup>d</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

DWS Global Equity VIP (the “Fund”) is a diversified series of Deutsche DWS Variable Series II (the “Trust”), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust.

The Fund’s financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”) which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund’s investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund’s own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Securities for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities are generally categorized as Level 1. For certain international equity securities, in order to adjust for events which may occur between the close of the foreign exchanges and the close of the New York Stock Exchange, a fair valuation model may be used. This fair valuation model takes into account comparisons to the valuation of American Depositary Receipts (ADRs), futures contracts and certain indices and these securities are categorized as Level 2.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Board and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund’s valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security’s disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company’s or issuer’s financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund’s Investment Portfolio.

**Securities Lending.** Deutsche Bank AG, as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. As of period end, any securities on loan were collateralized by cash. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government &

Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as common stocks in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end. As of period end, the remaining contractual maturity of the collateral agreements were overnight and continuous.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**Taxes.** The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders. Additionally, the Fund may be subject to taxes imposed by the governments of countries in which it invests and are generally based on income and/or capital gains earned or repatriated, a portion of which may be recoverable. Based upon the current interpretation of the tax rules and regulations, estimated tax liabilities and recoveries on certain foreign securities are recorded on an accrual basis and are reflected as components of interest income or net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments. Tax liabilities realized as a result of security sales are reflected as a component of net realized gain/loss on investments.

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$17,622,972. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$10,847,720. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$11,943,751 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$1,096,031.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to investments in foreign denominated investments and certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized



gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific fund are allocated to that fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a fund are apportioned among the funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Certain dividends from foreign securities may be recorded subsequent to the ex-dividend date as soon as the Fund is informed of such dividends. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

## B. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment transactions (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$1,858,827 and \$3,979,754, respectively.

## C. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$1.5 billion	.650%
Next \$1.75 billion	.635%
Next \$1.75 billion	.620%
Over \$5 billion	.605%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.65% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fee and/or reimburse certain operating expenses to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) of Class A shares at 0.84%.

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed were \$51,617.

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid DIMA an annual fee ("Administration Fee") of 0.10% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$13,322, of which \$2,194 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company ("DSC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency

agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. ("DST"), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC aggregated \$40, of which \$13 is unpaid.

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$4,368, of which \$1,572 is unpaid.

**Trustees' Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund's assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

**Securities Lending Fees.** Deutsche Bank AG serves as lending agent for the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund incurred lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$454.

#### **D. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2020, one participating insurance company was owner of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, owning 99%.

#### **E. Line of Credit**

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the "Participants") share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund's accounting and financial reporting.

#### **G. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG ("DB"), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data

reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order (“Consent Order”), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the “DWS Service Providers”). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB’s 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,020.50
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.22

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,020.69
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.22

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratio</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS Global Equity VIP	.84%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](https://dws.com/calculators).

## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trust’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS Global Equity VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board

believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 3rd quartile of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has underperformed its benchmark in the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were lower than the median (2nd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be higher than the median (3rd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board noted that the expense limitation agreed to by DIMA was expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to comparable DWS U.S. registered funds ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Funds. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.



# Notes



VS2GE-3 (R-028380-9 8/20)

June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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## DWS Global Income Builder VIP

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Although allocation among different asset categories generally limits risk, fund management may favor an asset category that underperforms other assets or markets as a whole. Stocks may decline in value. Investing in foreign securities, particularly those of emerging markets, presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. Emerging markets tend to be more volatile and less liquid than the markets of more mature economies, and generally have less diverse and less mature economic structures and less stable political systems than those of developed countries. Investing in derivatives entails special risks relating to liquidity, leverage and credit that may reduce returns and/or increase volatility. Bond investments are subject to interest-rate, credit, liquidity and market risks to varying degrees. When interest rates rise, bond prices generally fall. Credit risk refers to the ability of an issuer to make timely payments of principal and interest. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT  
NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

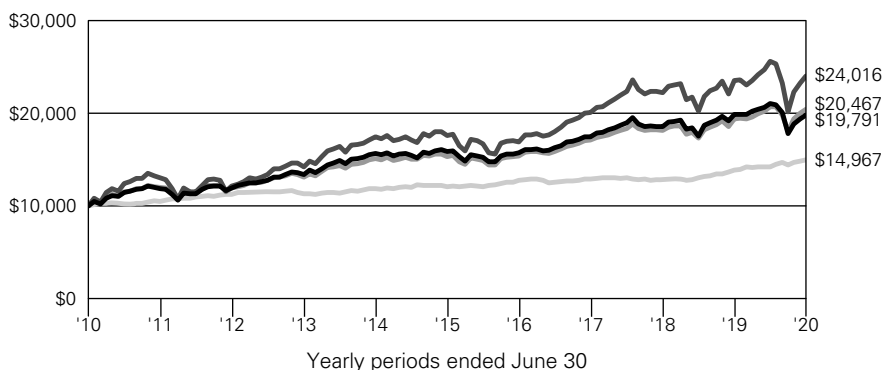
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 are 0.68% and 1.10% for Class A and Class B shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

- DWS Global Income Builder VIP — Class A
- MSCI All Country World Index
- Blended Index 60/40
- Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Universal Index



MSCI All Country World Index is an unmanaged equity index which captures large and mid-capitalization representation across 23 developed markets and 26 emerging markets countries. It covers approximately 85% of the global investable equity opportunity set.

The Blended Index 60/40 consists of an equally weighted blend of 60% MSCI All Country World Index and 40% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Universal Index.

Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Universal Index measures the performance of U.S. dollar-denominated taxable bonds that are rated either investment grade or high yield. The index includes U.S. Treasury bonds, investment-grade and high yield U.S. corporate bonds, mortgage-backed securities, and Eurodollar bonds.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

## Comparative Results

<b>DWS Global Income Builder VIP</b>		<b>6-Month<sup>‡</sup></b>	<b>1-Year</b>	<b>3-Year</b>	<b>5-Year</b>	<b>10-Year</b>
<b>Class A</b>	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,407	\$9,957	\$11,320	\$12,481	\$19,791
	Average annual total return	-5.93%	-0.43%	4.22%	4.53%	7.06%
MSCI All Country World Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,375	\$10,211	\$11,956	\$13,672	\$24,016
	Average annual total return	-6.25%	2.11%	6.14%	6.46%	9.16%
Blended Index 60/40	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,898	\$10,534	\$11,969	\$13,372	\$20,467
	Average annual total return	-1.02%	5.34%	6.17%	5.98%	7.43%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Universal Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,517	\$10,788	\$11,627	\$12,416	\$14,967
	Average annual total return	5.17%	7.88%	5.15%	4.42%	4.12%
<b>DWS Global Income Builder VIP</b>		<b>6-Month<sup>‡</sup></b>	<b>1-Year</b>	<b>Life of Class*</b>		
<b>Class B</b>	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,393	\$9,938	\$10,600		
	Average annual total return	-6.07%	-0.62%	2.73%		
MSCI All Country World Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,375	\$10,211	\$10,753		
	Average annual total return	-6.25%	2.11%	3.41%		
Blended Index 60/40	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,898	\$10,534	\$11,250		
	Average annual total return	-1.02%	5.34%	5.60%		
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Universal Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,517	\$10,788	\$11,706		
	Average annual total return	5.17%	7.88%	7.54%		

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

\* Class B commenced operations on May 1, 2018.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
<b>Equity</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>64%</b>
Common Stocks	52%	60%
Preferred Stocks	4%	4%
<b>Fixed Income</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>35%</b>
Corporate Bonds	14%	9%
Asset-Backed	6%	6%
Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	6%	8%
Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities	5%	5%
Exchange-Traded Funds	3%	3%
Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs	3%	1%
Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations	3%	2%
Government & Agency Obligations	2%	1%
<b>Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1%</b>
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Equities, Corporate Bonds and Preferred Securities)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Information Technology	18%	15%
Financials	14%	19%
Health Care	13%	9%
Communication Services	12%	10%
Consumer Discretionary	9%	9%
Industrials	8%	7%
Utilities	8%	8%
Consumer Staples	7%	6%
Real Estate	5%	6%
Energy	3%	7%
Materials	3%	4%
	100%	100%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 6.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Dokyoung Lee, CFA, Director

Di Kumble, CFA, Managing Director

Thomas M. Farina, CFA, Managing Director

Scott Agi, CFA, Director

Darwei Kung, Managing Director

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 53.1%</b>					
<b>Communication Services 5.8%</b>					
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services 2.6%</b>					
AT&T, Inc.	18,226	550,972	Honda Motor Co., Ltd.	4,757	121,541
BCE, Inc.	3,851	160,609	NIO, Inc. (ADR)*	28,424	219,433
Deutsche Telekom AG (Registered)	10,645	180,081	Subaru Corp.	10,253	213,232
HKT Trust & HKT Ltd. "SS", (Units)	55,817	81,989	Tesla, Inc.*	120	129,577
Koninklijke KPN NV	51,475	136,866	Toyota Motor Corp.	3,280	205,666
Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corp.	6,492	151,297			<b>1,019,921</b>
Orange SA	12,938	155,044	<b>Diversified Consumer Services 0.1%</b>		
Singapore Telecommunications Ltd.	58,599	104,203	Tal Education Group (ADR)*	2,104	<b>143,871</b>
Spark New Zealand Ltd.	24,010	71,052	<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 0.7%</b>		
Swisscom AG (Registered)	290	152,341	Crown Resorts Ltd.	19,445	131,056
Telefonica Brasil SA (ADR) (Preferred)	14,238	126,149	Genting Singapore Ltd.	136,348	74,918
Telefonica Deutschland Holding AG	26,046	77,324	Las Vegas Sands Corp.	3,603	164,080
Telenor ASA	11,293	164,717	Restaurant Brands International, Inc.	1,065	57,965
Telia Co. AB	62,452	234,303	Sands China Ltd.	43,348	171,077
TELUS Corp.	10,607	177,903	Wynn Macau Ltd.	87,521	151,271
Verizon Communications, Inc.	8,576	472,795	Yum! Brands, Inc.	670	58,230
		<b>2,997,645</b>			<b>808,597</b>
<b>Entertainment 0.4%</b>			<b>Household Durables 0.5%</b>		
iQIYI, Inc. (ADR)*	3,572	82,835	Barratt Developments PLC	12,120	75,009
NetEase, Inc. (ADR)	874	375,278	Garmin Ltd.	1,461	142,448
		<b>458,113</b>	Newell Brands, Inc.	13,241	210,267
<b>Interactive Media &amp; Services 0.5%</b>			Sekisui House Ltd.	6,509	123,877
Alphabet, Inc. "C"*	79	111,675			<b>551,601</b>
Facebook, Inc. "A"*	756	171,665	<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 1.7%</b>		
Tencent Holdings Ltd. (ADR)	4,763	304,832	Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. (ADR)*	617	133,087
		<b>588,172</b>	Amazon.com, Inc.*	552	1,522,869
<b>Media 0.8%</b>			JD.com, Inc. (ADR)*	4,173	251,131
Charter Communications, Inc. "A"*	721	367,739	Pinduoduo, Inc. (ADR)*	910	78,114
Comcast Corp. "A"	5,408	210,804	Wayfair, Inc. "A"*	378	74,697
Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.	6,475	111,111			<b>2,059,898</b>
ITV PLC	82,971	77,221	<b>Multiline Retail 0.3%</b>		
Omnicom Group, Inc.	1,813	98,990	Target Corp.	1,358	162,865
Shaw Communications, Inc. "B"	6,402	104,405	Wesfarmers Ltd.	5,503	171,568
		<b>970,270</b>			<b>334,433</b>
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 1.5%</b>			<b>Specialty Retail 0.5%</b>		
China Mobile Ltd. (ADR)	12,057	405,597	Hennes & Mauritz AB "B"	7,940	116,050
KDDI Corp.	6,423	192,594	Home Depot, Inc.	1,228	307,626
Mobile TeleSystems PJSC (ADR)	9,429	86,653	TJX Companies, Inc.	2,509	126,855
NTT DoCoMo, Inc.	32,133	855,197			<b>550,531</b>
Vodafone Group PLC	133,622	213,209	<b>Consumer Staples 4.6%</b>		
		<b>1,753,250</b>	<b>Beverages 0.5%</b>		
<b>Consumer Discretionary 4.8%</b>			Coca-Cola Co.	6,566	293,369
<b>Auto Components 0.1%</b>			PepsiCo, Inc.	2,335	308,827
Bridgestone Corp. (a)	3,366	<b>108,207</b>			<b>602,196</b>
<b>Automobiles 0.9%</b>			<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 1.7%</b>		
Bayerische Motoren Werke AG	2,043	130,472	Casino Guichard Perrachon SA	3,152	116,684
			Colruyt SA	2,282	125,783
			Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc.	15,027	636,995
			Walmart, Inc.	6,956	833,190
			Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC	82,388	195,401
					<b>1,908,053</b>
			<b>Food Products 1.3%</b>		
			Bunge Ltd.	1,546	63,587
			General Mills, Inc.	2,697	166,270

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



	Shares	Value (\$)
Hormel Foods Corp.	7,677	370,569
Kellogg Co.	2,198	145,200
Kraft Heinz Co.	4,960	158,174
Mowi ASA	5,970	113,607
Nestle SA (Registered)	3,317	367,865
The JM Smucker Co.	1,333	141,045
		<b>1,526,317</b>

#### Household Products 0.4%

Kimberly-Clark Corp.	1,069	151,103
Procter & Gamble Co.	2,761	330,133
		<b>481,236</b>

#### Personal Products 0.1%

Pola Orbis Holdings, Inc. (a)	7,248	<b>126,057</b>
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#### Tobacco 0.6%

British American Tobacco PLC	7,869	303,676
Philip Morris International, Inc.	5,301	371,388
		<b>675,064</b>

#### Energy 1.5%

##### Energy Equipment & Services 0.7%

Baker Hughes Co.	8,192	126,075
Halliburton Co.	50,991	661,863
		<b>787,938</b>

##### Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels 0.8%

Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.	3,297	57,192
Chevron Corp.	2,463	219,773
Galp Energia, SGPS, SA	5,500	64,063
Kinder Morgan, Inc.	6,994	106,099
Marathon Petroleum Corp.	9,583	358,213
Valero Energy Corp.	2,868	168,696
		<b>974,036</b>

#### Financials 5.3%

##### Banks 2.4%

Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd.	8,090	105,096
Bank of Nova Scotia	2,952	122,159
BOC Hong Kong Holdings Ltd.	40,360	129,015
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	1,742	116,433
Citizens Financial Group, Inc.	2,439	61,560
DBS Group Holdings Ltd.	12,091	181,287
Erste Group Bank AG*	8,325	197,045
Hang Seng Bank Ltd.	4,225	71,397
Huntington Bancshares, Inc.	45,220	408,563
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	1,970	185,298
Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc.	27,823	109,096
Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.	92,364	113,178
Nordea Bank Abp*	8,560	59,506
Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp., Ltd.	15,646	101,625
People's United Financial, Inc.	9,120	105,518
Royal Bank of Canada	2,844	192,959
Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.	4,122	115,935
Svenska Handelsbanken AB "A"*	7,709	73,496
Toronto-Dominion Bank	3,552	158,527
Truist Financial Corp.	2,763	103,751
United Overseas Bank Ltd.	5,290	77,024
		<b>2,788,468</b>

#### Capital Markets 0.5%

3i Group PLC	5,701	59,056
Amundi SA 144A*	1,013	79,684
Apollo Global Management, Inc.	1,237	61,751
Blackstone Group, Inc. "A"	1,958	110,940
CME Group, Inc.	691	112,315
Magellan Financial Group Ltd.	3,842	157,087
		<b>580,833</b>

#### Insurance 2.4%

Admiral Group PLC	2,995	85,208
Ageas	2,603	92,593
Allianz SE (Registered)	781	160,448
American Financial Group, Inc.	1,017	64,539
Assicurazioni Generali SpA	9,746	147,982
Baloise Holding AG (Registered)	750	112,954
Chubb Ltd.	637	80,657
Everest Re Group Ltd.	754	155,475
Fidelity National Financial, Inc.	3,008	92,225
Manulife Financial Corp.	23,546	320,341
MetLife, Inc.	3,035	110,838
MS&AD Insurance Group Holdings, Inc.	3,315	90,886
Muenchener Rueckversicherungs-Gesellschaft AG (Registered)	500	130,402
Poste Italiane SpA 144A	13,013	113,732
QBE Insurance Group Ltd.	28,719	176,540
Sampo Oyj "A"	11,055	382,336
SCOR SE*	2,596	71,504
Sompo Holdings, Inc.	2,456	84,424
Zurich Insurance Group AG	824	291,856
		<b>2,764,940</b>

#### Health Care 7.3%

##### Biotechnology 2.1%

AbbVie, Inc.	6,200	608,716
Amgen, Inc.	1,429	337,044
BeiGene Ltd. (ADR)*	618	116,431
Gilead Sciences, Inc.	8,756	673,687
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	1,048	653,585
Zai Lab Ltd. (ADR)*	1,048	86,072
		<b>2,475,535</b>

##### Health Care Equipment & Supplies 0.5%

Abbott Laboratories	2,660	243,204
DexCom, Inc.*	155	62,837
Medtronic PLC	2,420	221,914
		<b>527,955</b>

##### Health Care Providers & Services 0.4%

Cardinal Health, Inc.	2,961	154,535
CVS Health Corp.	1,151	74,780
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	804	237,140
		<b>466,455</b>

##### Pharmaceuticals 4.3%

Astellas Pharma, Inc.	8,519	142,156
AstraZeneca PLC	2,335	245,033
Bayer AG (Registered)	2,184	162,663
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	4,800	282,240
Canopy Growth Corp.* (a)	3,796	61,486
Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	13,242	708,801
Eli Lilly & Co.	1,701	279,270
GlaxoSmithKline PLC	13,529	275,309
H. Lundbeck AS	2,484	93,773

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
Hikma Pharmaceuticals PLC	2,017	55,582
Johnson & Johnson	2,881	405,155
Merck & Co., Inc.	5,229	404,359
Novartis AG (Registered)	4,210	368,541
Novo Nordisk AS "B"	2,925	190,676
Pfizer, Inc.	11,109	363,264
Roche Holding AG (Genusschein)	1,423	495,660
Sanofi	2,465	252,682
Takeda Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	5,341	191,541

**4,978,191**

## Industrials 4.9%

### Aerospace & Defense 0.6%

BAE Systems PLC	20,037	120,446
General Dynamics Corp.	802	119,867
Lockheed Martin Corp.	405	147,792
Raytheon Technologies Corp.	2,694	166,004
Singapore Technologies Engineering Ltd.	42,026	100,245

**654,354**

### Air Freight & Logistics 0.1%

United Parcel Service, Inc. "B"	1,338	<b>148,759</b>
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### Airlines 0.1%

Deutsche Lufthansa AG (Registered)*	8,594	<b>86,726</b>
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### Building Products 0.1%

Johnson Controls International PLC	3,412	<b>116,486</b>
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### Commercial Services & Supplies 0.1%

Quad Graphics, Inc.	2	7
Waste Management, Inc.	1,165	123,385

**123,392**

### Construction & Engineering 0.4%

Bouygues SA*	3,271	112,760
HOCHTIEF AG	1,912	171,051
Kajima Corp.	11,284	133,083

**416,894**

### Electrical Equipment 0.6%

ABB Ltd. (Registered)	6,423	145,676
Eaton Corp. PLC	1,738	152,040
Emerson Electric Co.	1,542	95,650
Prysmian SpA	12,226	284,288

**677,654**

### Industrial Conglomerates 0.4%

3M Co.	878	136,959
Honeywell International, Inc.	910	131,577
Siemens AG (Registered)	1,358	161,137

**429,673**

### Machinery 0.6%

Cummins, Inc.	586	101,530
Komatsu Ltd.	3,555	72,765
Metso Oyj	1,831	60,232
PACCAR, Inc.	3,071	229,864
Wartsila OYJ Abp	8,930	74,302
Yangzijiang Shipbuilding Holdings Ltd.	167,210	112,168

**650,861**

### Professional Services 0.1%

Adecco Group AG (Registered)	2,516	<b>119,048</b>
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## Road & Rail 0.5%

Aurizon Holdings Ltd.	105,978	361,681
Uber Technologies, Inc.*	3,744	116,363
Union Pacific Corp.	953	161,124

**639,168**

## Trading Companies & Distributors 0.9%

ITOCHU Corp.	8,175	176,053
Marubeni Corp.	18,772	84,926
Mitsubishi Corp.	28,355	596,369
Mitsui & Co., Ltd.	8,467	125,167
Sumitomo Corp.	9,205	105,366

**1,087,881**

## Transportation Infrastructure 0.4%

Aena SME SA 144A*	513	68,742
Transurban Group (Units)	46,711	460,085

**528,827**

## Information Technology 12.1%

### Communications Equipment 0.8%

Cisco Systems, Inc.	8,739	407,587
Juniper Networks, Inc.	5,866	134,097
Motorola Solutions, Inc.	876	122,754
Nokia Oyj	39,748	174,832
Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson "B"	14,837	137,595

**976,865**

### Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components 0.6%

Cognex Corp.	1,340	80,025
Corning, Inc.	4,867	126,055
Kyocera Corp.	1,632	88,830
Murata Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	2,456	143,998
TE Connectivity Ltd.	1,518	123,793
Venture Corp., Ltd.	12,417	144,921

**707,622**

### IT Services 3.8%

Accenture PLC "A"	1,226	263,247
Afterpay Ltd.*	1,800	76,871
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.	1,156	172,117
Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.	1,205	152,059
Fujitsu Ltd.	1,632	191,203
GDS Holdings Ltd. (ADR)*	1,030	82,050
International Business Machines Corp.	3,276	395,642
Leidos Holdings, Inc.	1,576	147,624
MasterCard, Inc. "A"	1,391	411,319
NEC Corp.	4,208	201,660
Okta, Inc.*	601	120,338
Paychex, Inc.	2,629	199,147
PayPal Holdings, Inc.*	1,382	240,786
Shopify, Inc. "A"*	460	437,017
Square, Inc. "A"*	5,092	534,354
Twilio, Inc. "A"*(a)	412	90,401
Visa, Inc. "A" (a)	2,257	435,985
Western Union Co.	10,851	234,598
Wirecard AG	596	4,121

**4,390,539**

### Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment 2.5%

Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*	2,164	113,848
Analog Devices, Inc.	1,159	142,140

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
Applied Materials, Inc.	1,529	92,428
Broadcom, Inc.	1,886	595,240
Intel Corp.	4,529	270,970
KLA Corp.	890	173,087
Lam Research Corp.	462	149,439
Maxim Integrated Products, Inc.	2,934	177,830
NVIDIA Corp.	223	84,720
QUALCOMM., Inc.	2,027	184,883
Skyworks Solutions, Inc.	721	92,187
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (ADR)	9,053	513,939
Texas Instruments, Inc.	2,256	286,444
Tokyo Electron Ltd.	343	84,660

**2,961,815**

#### Software 2.5%

Adobe, Inc.*	695	302,540
Autodesk, Inc.*	378	90,414
DocuSign, Inc.*	756	130,191
Intuit, Inc.	537	159,054
Microsoft Corp.	3,602	733,043
Oracle Corp.	4,591	253,745
Paycom Software, Inc.*	429	132,874
salesforce.com, Inc.*	940	176,090
SAP SE	1,033	145,177
ServiceNow, Inc.*	565	228,859
Splunk, Inc.*	532	105,708
Trade Desk, Inc. "A"* (a)	189	76,829
Trend Micro, Inc.	2,817	158,403
WiseTech Global Ltd.	6,524	88,534
Workday, Inc. "A"*	429	80,377

**2,861,838**

#### Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals 1.9%

Apple, Inc.	1,931	704,429
Brother Industries Ltd.	4,139	74,697
Canon, Inc. (a)	18,840	373,597
FUJIFILM Holdings Corp.	1,374	58,761
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.	9,576	93,174
HP, Inc.	7,736	134,839
NetApp, Inc.	3,748	166,299
Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. (GDR) (Registered)	190	209,570
Seagate Technology PLC	5,763	278,987
Seiko Epson Corp.	9,669	110,793

**2,205,146**

#### Materials 1.5%

##### Chemicals 0.8%

Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.	597	144,152
BASF SE	1,232	69,361
Dow, Inc.	8,209	334,599
Linde PLC	411	87,177
Mitsubishi Chemical Holdings Corp.	19,424	113,023
Nutrien Ltd.	5,135	164,989
Sociedad Quimica y Minera de Chile SA (ADR)	2,336	60,899

**974,200**

##### Construction Materials 0.1%

LafargeHolcim Ltd. (Registered)	2,945	<b>130,701</b>
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##### Containers & Packaging 0.3%

Arcor PLC	15,086	154,028
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	Shares	Value (\$)
International Paper Co.	3,576	125,911
Westrock Co.	4,015	113,464

**393,403**

#### Metals & Mining 0.3%

Anglo American PLC	2,780	65,097
Mitsubishi Materials Corp.	4,397	92,991
Polyus PJSC (GDR)	995	83,729
Rio Tinto PLC	1,101	62,491

**304,308**

#### Real Estate 1.8%

##### Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

Ascendas Real Estate Investment Trust	132,702	305,218
CapitaLand Commercial Trust	77,096	94,118
CapitaLand Mall Trust	88,568	125,205
Crown Castle International Corp.	884	147,937
Host Hotels & Resorts, Inc.	30,796	332,289
Mid-America Apartment Communities, Inc.	706	80,957
National Retail Properties, Inc.	2,450	86,926
Prologis, Inc.	1,531	142,888
Public Storage	289	55,456
Realty Income Corp.	1,986	118,167
Suntec Real Estate Investment Trust	88,603	90,187
VICI Properties, Inc.	18,414	371,779
WP Carey, Inc.	1,820	123,123

**2,074,250**

#### Utilities 3.5%

##### Electric Utilities 2.3%

American Electric Power Co., Inc.	1,587	126,389
Duke Energy Corp.	2,109	168,488
EDP — Energias de Portugal SA	35,630	170,287
Endesa SA	8,045	198,733
Enel Americas SA (ADR)	7,952	59,720
Enel SpA	20,810	180,243
Entergy Corp.	1,301	122,047
Eergy, Inc.	2,228	132,098
Exelon Corp.	3,175	115,221
Fortum Oyj	22,365	427,820
NextEra Energy, Inc.	751	180,368
OGE Energy Corp.	3,067	93,114
Power Assets Holdings Ltd.	26,792	145,674
PPL Corp.	7,329	189,381
Red Electrica Corp. SA	8,536	159,777
Southern Co.	3,514	182,201

**2,651,561**

##### Gas Utilities 0.2%

Naturgy Energy Group SA	6,532	121,578
Snam SpA	28,043	136,992

**258,570**

##### Multi-Utilities 1.0%

Consolidated Edison, Inc.	1,634	117,534
Dominion Energy, Inc.	2,840	230,551
DTE Energy Co.	1,162	124,915
Engie SA*	9,043	112,259
National Grid PLC (a)	13,458	165,426
Public Service Enterprise Group, Inc.	2,400	117,984
Sempra Energy	971	113,830

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
WEC Energy Group, Inc.	1,605	140,678
		<b>1,123,177</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$53,310,270)		<b>61,701,501</b>

## Preferred Stocks 4.4%

### Financials 2.7%

AGNC Investment Corp. Series C, 7.0%	14,427	327,349
Capital One Financial Corp. Series G, 5.2%	10,000	243,100
Citigroup, Inc. Series S, 6.3%	15,000	384,150
Fifth Third Bancorp. Series I, 6.625%	10,000	264,100
JPMorgan Chase & Co. Series AA, 6.1%	15,000	381,150
KeyCorp. Series E, 6.125%	10,000	254,200
Morgan Stanley Series K, 5.85%	10,000	257,400
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Series J, 5.5%	17,000	431,800
Truist Financial Corp., Series H, 5.625%	10,000	252,800
Wells Fargo & Co. Series Y, 5.625%	15,000	380,400
		<b>3,176,449</b>

### Real Estate 1.0%

Kimco Realty Corp. Series L, 5.125%	15,000	351,600
Prologis, Inc. Series Q, 8.54%	164	11,808
Simon Property Group, Inc. Series J, 8.375%	8,000	483,200
VEREIT, Inc. Series F, 6.7%	10,801	270,241
		<b>1,116,849</b>

### Utilities 0.7%

Dominion Energy, Inc. Series A, 5.25%	30,000	763,500
<b>Total Preferred Stocks</b> (Cost \$5,443,902)		<b>5,056,798</b>

## Warrants 0.0%

### Materials

Hercules Trust II, Expiration Date 3/31/2029* (b) (Cost \$30,284)	170	9,099
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## Corporate Bonds 13.7%

### Communication Services 2.9%

Amazon.com, Inc., 2.5%, 6/3/2050	20,000	20,532
AT&T, Inc.:		
2.75%, 6/1/2031	135,000	140,561
3.65%, 6/1/2051	100,000	104,702
CCO Holdings LLC:		
144A, 4.5%, 8/15/2030	250,000	255,000
144A, 4.75%, 3/1/2030	100,000	102,319
144A, 5.875%, 5/1/2027	250,000	260,862
Charter Communications Operating LLC:		
3.7%, 4/1/2051	35,000	34,329

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
5.05%, 3/30/2029	100,000	118,041
Comcast Corp.:		
1.95%, 1/15/2031	45,000	45,511
2.8%, 1/15/2051	50,000	51,274
CSC Holdings LLC, 144A, 4.125%, 12/1/2030	200,000	198,250
Lamar Media Corp., 144A, 3.75%, 2/15/2028	110,000	103,708
Netflix, Inc.:		
4.375%, 11/15/2026	100,000	104,017
5.5%, 2/15/2022	175,000	182,481
5.875%, 11/15/2028	140,000	159,425
NortonLifeLock, Inc., 3.95%, 6/15/2022	275,000	278,781
Sirius XM Radio, Inc., 144A, 4.125%, 7/1/2030	145,000	143,399
T-Mobile U.S.A., Inc.:		
144A, 3.875%, 4/15/2030	80,000	89,037
144A, 4.375%, 4/15/2040	60,000	69,403
144A, 4.5%, 4/15/2050	130,000	154,730
VeriSign, Inc.:		
4.625%, 5/1/2023	300,000	301,875
5.25%, 4/1/2025	300,000	332,250
ViacomCBS, Inc., 4.2%, 5/19/2032	55,000	61,842
Walt Disney Co., 3.6%, 1/13/2051	50,000	55,697
		<b>3,368,026</b>

### Consumer Discretionary 1.7%

1011778 BC Unlimited Liability Co., 144A, 4.375%, 1/15/2028	225,000	220,543
Dollar General Corp., 4.125%, 4/3/2050	20,000	23,932
Ford Motor Co.:		
8.5%, 4/21/2023	70,000	74,025
9.0%, 4/22/2025	110,000	119,042
Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC:		
4.271%, 1/9/2027	200,000	186,437
4.542%, 8/1/2026	202,000	191,395
General Motors Co., 5.4%, 10/2/2023	35,000	37,844
General Motors Financial Co., Inc.:		
3.95%, 4/13/2024	180,000	186,210
5.2%, 3/20/2023	45,000	48,092
Home Depot, Inc.:		
3.125%, 12/15/2049	85,000	93,309
3.35%, 4/15/2050	50,000	57,127
Lowe's Companies, Inc.:		
5.0%, 4/15/2040	35,000	45,635
5.125%, 4/15/2050	25,000	34,119
McDonald's Corp., 4.2%, 4/1/2050	50,000	60,622
O'Reilly Automotive, Inc., 4.2%, 4/1/2030	35,000	40,987
Prime Security Services Borrower LLC:		
144A, 5.25%, 4/15/2024	255,000	260,737
144A, 6.25%, 1/15/2028	70,000	65,975
QVC, Inc., 4.75%, 2/15/2027	185,000	178,895
Ralph Lauren Corp., 2.95%, 6/15/2030	20,000	20,537
RELX Capital, Inc., 3.0%, 5/22/2030	15,000	16,167
William Carter Co, 144A, 5.5%, 5/15/2025	40,000	41,250
		<b>2,002,880</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
<b>Consumer Staples 0.4%</b>		
Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide, Inc.: 4.35%, 6/1/2040	50,000	56,957
5.55%, 1/23/2049	121,000	161,316
BAT Capital Corp., 4.906%, 4/2/2030	55,000	64,323
Constellation Brands, Inc., 2.875%, 5/1/2030	45,000	47,679
General Mills, Inc., 2.875%, 4/15/2030	70,000	76,215
Keurig Dr Pepper, Inc.: 3.2%, 5/1/2030	25,000	27,812
3.8%, 5/1/2050	15,000	16,949
Philip Morris International, Inc., 2.1%, 5/1/2030	65,000	66,976
		<b>518,227</b>
<b>Energy 1.0%</b>		
Cheniere Corpus Christi Holdings LLC, 5.875%, 3/31/2025	200,000	224,154
Devon Energy Corp., 5.0%, 6/15/2045	110,000	97,815
Energy Transfer Operating LP, 5.5%, 6/1/2027	100,000	111,460
Enterprise Products Operating LLC, 4.2%, 1/31/2050	172,000	191,910
Exxon Mobil Corp., 3.482%, 3/19/2030	110,000	125,187
Hess Corp., 5.8%, 4/1/2047	70,000	76,081
Marathon Petroleum Corp.: 4.5%, 5/1/2023	125,000	134,714
4.7%, 5/1/2025	110,000	123,140
Plains All American Pipeline LP, 3.8%, 9/15/2030	50,000	48,989
Total Capital International SA, 3.127%, 5/29/2050	60,000	61,558
		<b>1,195,008</b>
<b>Financials 2.2%</b>		
Air Lease Corp., 3.0%, 2/1/2030	125,000	115,862
Avolon Holdings Funding Ltd., 144A, 3.25%, 2/15/2027	64,000	51,694
Banco De Credito Del Peru, 144A, 3.125%, 7/1/2030 (d)	100,000	99,150
Bank of America Corp.: 2.676%, 6/19/2041	60,000	61,619
4.3%, Perpetual (e)	102,000	91,535
Barclays PLC, 2.852%, 5/7/2026	200,000	208,973
BPCE SA, 144A, 4.875%, 4/1/2026	500,000	566,732
Citigroup, Inc., 2.572%, 6/3/2031	130,000	134,454
Equinix, Inc., (REIT), 2.15%, 7/15/2030	34,000	33,702
Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.: 2.1%, 6/15/2030	52,000	52,837
3.0%, 6/15/2050	33,000	34,136
JPMorgan Chase & Co, 2.956%, 5/13/2031	55,000	58,332
Park Aerospace Holdings Ltd., 144A, 5.25%, 8/15/2022	175,000	164,268
PayPal Holdings, Inc., 2.85%, 10/1/2029	150,000	163,164
REC Ltd., 144A, 4.75%, 5/19/2023	200,000	205,362

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., 4.4%, Perpetual (e)	31,000	27,590
Truist Financial Corp., 4.8%, Perpetual (e)	300,000	276,324
Westpac Banking Corp., 5.0%, Perpetual (a) (e)	200,000	197,654
		<b>2,543,388</b>
<b>Health Care 1.8%</b>		
AbbVie, Inc., 4.875%, 11/14/2048	75,000	98,493
Anthem, Inc., 2.25%, 5/15/2030	85,000	87,201
Biogen, Inc., 3.15%, 5/1/2050	50,000	48,143
Centene Corp.: 3.375%, 2/15/2030	65,000	65,631
4.25%, 12/15/2027	90,000	92,872
Cigna Corp.: 2.4%, 3/15/2030	30,000	31,128
3.2%, 3/15/2040	15,000	15,890
CVS Health Corp.: 4.25%, 4/1/2050	20,000	23,899
5.05%, 3/25/2048	285,000	373,319
HCA, Inc.: 3.5%, 9/1/2030	405,000	390,085
5.25%, 6/15/2026	500,000	577,661
Molina Healthcare, Inc., 144A, 4.375%, 6/15/2028	90,000	89,888
Stryker Corp., 2.9%, 6/15/2050	60,000	60,161
Teleflex, Inc., 144A, 4.25%, 6/1/2028	25,000	25,625
UnitedHealth Group, Inc., 2.9%, 5/15/2050	50,000	52,801
		<b>2,032,797</b>
<b>Industrials 1.0%</b>		
Agilent Technologies, Inc., 2.1%, 6/4/2030	45,000	46,114
Boeing Co.: 2.7%, 5/1/2022	135,000	136,688
4.508%, 5/1/2023	140,000	147,900
4.875%, 5/1/2025	98,000	106,801
5.04%, 5/1/2027	130,000	143,365
Empresa de Transporte de Pasajeros Metro SA, 144A, 3.65%, 5/7/2030	200,000	215,750
General Electric Co.: 3.45%, 5/1/2027	50,000	51,176
3.625%, 5/1/2030	40,000	40,045
Mileage Plus Holdings LLC, 144A, 6.5%, 6/20/2027 (d)	39,000	39,098
Otis Worldwide Corp., 144A, 3.112%, 2/15/2040	80,000	81,522
Roper Technologies, Inc., 2.0%, 6/30/2030	40,000	40,030
Westinghouse Air Brake Technologies Corp., 3.2%, 6/15/2025	70,000	71,330
WRKCo., Inc., 3.0%, 6/15/2033	30,000	31,247
		<b>1,151,066</b>
<b>Information Technology 0.6%</b>		
Broadcom, Inc., 144A, 5.0%, 4/15/2030	70,000	80,456
HP, Inc., 2.2%, 6/17/2025	140,000	144,503
KLA Corp., 3.3%, 3/1/2050	31,000	32,019

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
Lam Research Corp., 2.875%, 6/15/2050	24,000	24,725
Microchip Technology, Inc., 144A, 2.67%, 9/1/2023	55,000	56,611
Micron Technology, Inc., 2.497%, 4/24/2023	70,000	72,748
NVIDIA Corp.:		
3.5%, 4/1/2040	14,000	16,329
3.5%, 4/1/2050	22,000	25,136
NXP BV, 144A, 2.7%, 5/1/2025	15,000	15,724
Open Text Corp., 144A, 3.875%, 2/15/2028	175,000	168,492
Oracle Corp., 3.6%, 4/1/2050	25,000	27,822

**664,565**

### Materials 0.3%

MEGlobal Canada ULC, 144A, 5.0%, 5/18/2025	256,000	275,310
Newmont Corp., 2.25%, 10/1/2030	45,000	45,606
Nucor Corp., 2.7%, 6/1/2030	15,000	15,748

**336,664**

### Real Estate 0.5%

American Tower Corp.:		
(REIT), 2.1%, 6/15/2030	55,000	55,135
(REIT), 3.8%, 8/15/2029	165,000	186,743
Iron Mountain, Inc.:		
144A, 5.0%, 7/15/2028	55,000	53,883
144A, 5.25%, 7/15/2030	105,000	103,425
Office Properties Income Trust, (REIT), 4.15%, 2/1/2022	60,000	59,639
Omega Healthcare Investors, Inc.:		
(REIT), 4.5%, 4/1/2027	50,000	52,384
(REIT), 4.75%, 1/15/2028	60,000	63,508
Welltower, Inc., (REIT), 2.75%, 1/15/2031	40,000	39,954

**614,671**

### Utilities 1.3%

Calpine Corp., 144A, 4.5%, 2/15/2028	225,000	219,375
Duke Energy Indiana LLC, 2.75%, 4/1/2050	60,000	60,390
Edison International, 5.75%, 6/15/2027	300,000	344,464
NextEra Energy Operating Partners LP:		
144A, 3.875%, 10/15/2026	190,000	189,724
144A, 4.25%, 7/15/2024	275,000	278,094
Pacific Gas and Electric Co.:		
2.5%, 2/1/2031	20,000	19,567
3.3%, 8/1/2040	70,000	68,226
3.5%, 8/1/2050	50,000	48,324
Perusahaan Listrik Negara PT, 144A, 2.875%, 10/25/2025	EUR 260,000	303,794

**1,531,958**

**Total Corporate Bonds** (Cost \$15,352,095)

**15,959,250**

### Asset-Backed 6.3%

#### Automobile Receivables 3.2%

AmeriCredit Automobile Receivables Trust, "C", Series 2019-2, 2.74%, 4/18/2025	720,000	741,137
Avis Budget Rental Car Funding AESOP LLC, "C", Series 2019- 1A, 144A, 4.53%, 3/20/2023	100,000	93,913
CPS Auto Receivables Trust, "E", Series 2015-C, 144A, 6.54%, 8/16/2021	500,000	504,827
Flagship Credit Auto Trust, "C", Series 2019-4, 144A, 2.77%, 12/15/2025	1,100,000	1,114,831
GMF Floorplan Owner Revolving Trust, "C", Series 2019-1, 144A, 3.06%, 4/15/2024	260,000	257,822
Hertz Vehicle Financing II LP, "B", Series 2017-2A, 144A, 4.2%, 10/25/2023	500,000	477,990
Hyundai Auto Receivables Trust, "C", Series 2019-B, 2.4%, 6/15/2026	500,000	509,964

**3,700,484**

#### Credit Card Receivables 0.7%

Fair Square Issuance Trust, "A", Series 2020-AA, 144A, 2.9%, 9/20/2024	800,000	<b>797,420</b>
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#### Miscellaneous 2.4%

Ares XXXIV CLO Ltd., "AR2", Series 2015-2A, 144A, 3-month USD-LIBOR + 1.250%, 2.026%**, 4/17/2033	640,000	623,328
DB Master Finance LLC, "A21", Series 2019-1A, 144A, 3.787%, 5/20/2049	218,350	225,335
Domino's Pizza Master Issuer LLC, "A23", Series 2017-1A, 144A, 4.118%, 7/25/2047	331,500	357,523
Hilton Grand Vacations Trust, "B", Series 2014-AA, 144A, 2.07%, 11/25/2026	49,137	48,837
MWV Owner Trust, "A", Series 2019-1A, 144A, 2.89%, 11/20/2036	420,812	428,051
RR 8 Ltd., "A1B", Series 2020-8A, 144A, 3-month USD-LIBOR + 1.450%, 2.259%**, 4/15/2033	490,000	479,486
Taco Bell Funding LLC, "A21", Series 2018-1A, 144A, 4.318%, 11/25/2048	492,500	502,980
Wendy's Funding LLC, "A21", Series 2018-1A, 144A, 3.573%, 3/15/2048	156,000	161,686

**2,827,226**

**Total Asset-Backed** (Cost \$7,318,014)

**7,325,130**

### Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs 2.9%

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp., 6.0%, 3/1/2038	2,711	3,210
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
Federal National Mortgage Association:		
2.5%, 7/1/2050 (d)	3,200,000	3,335,872
4.5%, 9/1/2035	4,817	5,351
6.0%, 1/1/2024	4,960	5,264
<b>Total Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs</b> (Cost \$3,329,897)		<b>3,349,697</b>

### Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities 5.2%

Benchmark Mortgage Trust, "A4" Series 2019-B13, 2.952%, 8/15/2057	1,400,000	1,540,154
BX Commercial Mortgage Trust, "D", Series 2018-IND, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.300%, 1.485%**, 11/15/2035	175,000	172,591
CFK Trust, "A", Series 2020-MF2, 144A, 2.387%, 3/15/2039	750,000	753,329
Citigroup Commercial Mortgage Trust:		
"A", Series 2020-555, 144A, 2.647%, 12/10/2041	700,000	720,359
"D", Series 2019-PRM, 144A, 4.35%, 5/10/2036	500,000	505,817
DBWF Mortgage Trust, "C", Series 2018-GLKS, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.750%, 1.944%**, 12/19/2030	250,000	223,715
FHLMC Multifamily Structured Pass-Through Certificates:		
"X1", Series K043, Interest Only, 0.661%, 12/25/2024	4,835,965	101,361
"X1P", Series KL05, Interest Only, 1.024%, 6/25/2029	4,800,000	320,987
Freddie Mac Multifamily Structured Pass Through Certificates, "X1", Series K110, Interest Only, 1.698%, 4/25/2030	3,500,000	471,385
GMAC Commercial Mortgage Securities, Inc., "G", Series 2004-C1, 144A, 5.455%, 3/10/2038	394,448	265,137
MTRO Commercial Mortgage Trust, "C", Series 2019-TECH, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.300%, 1.485%**, 12/15/2033	250,000	235,469
Multifamily Connecticut Avenue Securities Trust, "M7", Series 2019-01, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.700%, 1.885%**, 10/15/2049	379,128	350,645
NYT Mortgage Trust, "B", Series 2019-NYT, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.400%, 1.585%**, 12/15/2035	350,000	339,514
<b>Total Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities</b> (Cost \$6,148,668)		<b>6,000,463</b>

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
<b>Collateralized Mortgage Obligations 6.3%</b>		
Connecticut Avenue Securities Trust:		
"1M2", Series 2019-R03, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.150%, 2.335%**, 9/25/2031	123,851	122,299
"1M2", Series 2019-R02, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.300%, 2.485%**, 8/25/2031	176,438	173,784
Fannie Mae Connecticut Avenue Securities:		
"1M2", Series 2018-C06, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.000%, 2.185%**, 3/25/2031	130,490	125,255
"1M2", Series 2018-C01, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.250%, 2.435%**, 7/25/2030	163,988	160,010
"1M2", Series 2018-C05, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.350%, 2.535%**, 1/25/2031	458,216	448,009
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.:		
"GV", Series 4827, 4.0%, 7/15/2031	655,587	697,794
"PI", Series 3843, Interest Only, 4.5%, 5/15/2038	49,624	475
"C31", Series 303, Interest Only, 4.5%, 12/15/2042	815,060	132,433
"H", Series 2278, 6.5%, 1/15/2031	102	113
Federal National Mortgage Association:		
"4", Series 406, Interest Only, 4.0%, 9/25/2040	353,253	36,427
"I", Series 2003-84, Interest Only, 6.0%, 9/25/2033	82,008	17,552
Freddie Mac Structured Agency Credit Risk Debt Notes:		
"M2", Series 2020-DNA2, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.850%, 2.035%**, 2/25/2050	1,000,000	948,104
"M2", Series 2019-DNA3, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.050%, 2.235%**, 7/25/2049	293,123	286,555
"M2", Series 2019-DNA2, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.450%, 2.635%**, 3/25/2049	415,322	409,360
"M2", Series 2019-DNA1, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.650%, 2.835%**, 1/25/2049	53,202	52,423
Government National Mortgage Association:		
"PI", Series 2015-40, Interest Only, 4.0%, 4/20/2044	138,952	7,432
"IN", Series 2009-69, Interest Only, 5.5%, 8/20/2039	130,821	13,495
"IV", Series 2009-69, Interest Only, 5.5%, 8/20/2039	125,568	12,423

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
"IJ", Series 2009-75, Interest Only, 6.0%, 8/16/2039	85,269	14,107
JPMorgan Mortgage Trust: "A11", Series 2020-2, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 0.800%, 0.968%**, 7/25/2050	455,957	450,854
"A11", Series 2019-9, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 0.900%, 1.068%**, 5/25/2050	252,540	250,647
"AM", Series 2016-3, 144A, 3.365%, 10/25/2046	539,497	556,876
"A3", Series 2019-INV3, 144A, 3.5%, 5/25/2050	1,037,527	1,058,603
"A3", Series 2020-INV1, 144A, 3.5%, 8/25/2050	472,022	490,113
New Residential Mortgage Loan: "A1", Series 2019-NQM3, 144A, 2.802%, 7/25/2049	379,067	384,607
"A1", Series 2019-NQM2, 144A, 3.6%, 4/25/2049	131,723	134,320
STACR Trust, "M2", Series 2018- DNA3, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.100%, 2.268%** , 9/25/2048	324,324	312,130
<b>Total Collateralized Mortgage Obligations</b> (Cost \$7,211,464)		<b>7,296,200</b>

## Government & Agency Obligations 2.5%

### Sovereign Bonds 0.9%

Abu Dhabi Government International Bond, 144A, 3.125%, 4/16/2030	207,000	227,558
Perusahaan Penerbit SBSN Indonesia III, 144A, 2.8%, 6/23/2030	200,000	200,250
Republic of Kazakhstan, 144A, 1.55%, 11/9/2023	EUR 270,000	306,152
Republic of Philippines, 2.457%, 5/5/2030	200,000	209,510
Uruguay Government International Bond, 4.375%, 1/23/2031	49,383	57,717
		<b>1,001,187</b>

### U.S. Treasury Obligation 1.6%

U.S. Treasury Note, 0.25%, 6/15/2023	1,900,000	<b>1,904,008</b>
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<b>Total Government &amp; Agency Obligations</b> (Cost \$2,897,693)		<b>2,905,195</b>
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A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2019	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2020	Value (\$) at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 1.2%</b>								
1,105,478	285,466 (j)	—	—	—	8,938	—	1,390,944	1,390,944
<b>Cash Equivalents 1.7%</b>								
1,544,128	40,202,618	39,791,688	—	—	14,268	—	1,955,058	1,955,058
<b>2,649,606</b>	<b>40,488,084</b>	<b>39,791,688</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>23,206</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,346,002</b>	<b>3,346,002</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
<b>Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations 2.6%</b>		
U.S. Treasury Bills:		
(0.021%***, 9/10/2020	250,000	249,933
0.215%***, 9/10/2020	250,000	249,933
0.391%***, 9/10/2020	100,000	99,973
1.131%***, 9/10/2020	100,000	99,973
1.484%***, 9/10/2020	140,000	139,963
1.511%***, 9/10/2020 (f)	400,000	399,894
1.806%***, 7/16/2020 (g)	1,723,000	1,722,909
<b>Total Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations</b> (Cost \$2,959,733)		<b>2,962,578</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Exchange-Traded Funds 3.4%</b>		
SPDR Bloomberg Barclays Convertible Securities ETF (Cost \$3,528,968)		
	66,160	<b>4,002,680</b>

## Securities Lending Collateral 1.2%

DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (h) (i) (Cost \$1,390,944)	1,390,944	<b>1,390,944</b>
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## Cash Equivalents 1.7%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (h) (Cost \$1,955,058)	1,955,058	<b>1,955,058</b>
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	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$110,876,990)	103.3	<b>119,914,593</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(3.3)	<b>(3,784,819)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>116,129,774</b>



- \* Non-income producing security.
- \*\* Variable or floating rate security. These securities are shown at their current rate as of June 30, 2020. For securities based on a published reference rate and spread, the reference rate and spread are indicated within the description above. Certain variable rate securities are not based on a published reference rate and spread but adjust periodically based on current market conditions, prepayment of underlying positions and/or other variables.
- \*\*\* Annualized yield at time of purchase; not a coupon rate.
- (a) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$1,348,280, which is 1.2% of net assets.
- (b) Investment was valued using significant unobservable inputs.
- (c) Principal amount stated in U.S. dollars unless otherwise noted.
- (d) When-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment securities included.
- (e) Perpetual, callable security with no stated maturity date.
- (f) At June 30, 2020, this security has been pledged, in whole or in part, to cover initial margin requirements for open centrally cleared swap contracts.
- (g) At June 30, 2020, this security has been pledged, in whole or in part, to cover initial margin requirements for open futures contracts.
- (h) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (i) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (j) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

144A: Security exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers.

ADR: American Depositary Receipt

ASX: Australian Securities Exchange

CLO: Collateralized Loan Obligation

GDR: Global Depositary Receipt

Interest Only: Interest Only (IO) bonds represent the "interest only" portion of payments on a pool of underlying mortgages or mortgage-backed securities. IO securities are subject to prepayment risk of the pool of underlying mortgages.

LIBOR: London Interbank Offered Rate

MSCI: Morgan Stanley Capital International

PJSC: Public Joint Stock Company

REIT: Real Estate Investment Trust

SBSN: Surat Berharga Syariah Negara (Islamic Based Government Securities)

S&P: Standard & Poor's

SPDR: Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipt

Included in the portfolio are investments in mortgage or asset-backed securities which are interests in separate pools of mortgages or assets. Effective maturities of these investments may be shorter than stated maturities due to prepayments.

At June 30, 2020, open futures contracts purchased were as follows:

<b>Futures</b>	<b>Currency</b>	<b>Expiration Date</b>	<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Notional Amount (\$)</b>	<b>Notional Value (\$)</b>	<b>Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)</b>
10 Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/21/2020	25	3,467,252	3,479,297	12,045
3 Month Euro Euribor Interest Rate	EUR	6/14/2021	2	564,108	564,530	422
3 Month Euro Swiss Franc (Euroswiss) Interest Rate	CHF	6/14/2021	2	531,630	531,532	(98)
3 Month Euroyen	JPY	6/14/2021	2	463,147	463,047	(100)
3 Month Sterling (Short Sterling) Interest Rate	GBP	6/16/2021	3	464,030	464,337	307
90 Day Eurodollar Time Deposit	USD	6/14/2021	2	498,906	499,100	194
ASX 90 Day Bank Accepted Bills	AUD	6/10/2021	3	2,069,083	2,069,331	248
MSCI Mini Emerging Market Index	USD	9/18/2020	86	4,124,674	4,238,510	113,836
U.S. Treasury Long Bond	USD	9/21/2020	5	887,005	892,814	5,809
Ultra 10 Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/21/2020	20	3,118,848	3,149,688	30,840
Ultra Long U.S. Treasury Bond	USD	9/21/2020	11	2,389,006	2,399,719	10,713
<b>Total net unrealized appreciation</b>						<b>174,216</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

At June 30, 2020, open futures contracts sold were as follows:

<b>Futures</b>	<b>Currency</b>	<b>Expiration Date</b>	<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Notional Amount (\$)</b>	<b>Notional Value (\$)</b>	<b>Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)</b>
5 Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/30/2020	21	2,632,987	2,640,586	(7,599)
Euro Stoxx 50 Index	EUR	9/18/2020	53	1,840,440	1,919,151	(78,711)
S&P 500 E-Mini Index	USD	9/18/2020	9	1,360,661	1,390,590	(29,929)
TOPIX Index	JPY	9/10/2020	13	1,963,271	1,876,407	86,864
<b>Total net unrealized depreciation</b>						<b>(29,375)</b>

At June 30, 2020, open interest rate swap contracts were as follows:

#### Centrally Cleared Swaps

<b>Cash Flows Paid by the Fund/ Frequency</b>	<b>Cash Flows Received by the Fund/ Frequency</b>	<b>Effective/ Expiration Date</b>	<b>Notional Amount (\$)</b>	<b>Currency</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>	<b>Upfront Payments Paid/ (Received) (\$)</b>	<b>Unrealized Depreciation (\$)</b>
Fixed — 1.741% Semi-Annually	Floating — 3-Month LIBOR Quarterly	1/23/2020 1/23/2030	2,200,000	USD	(246,211)	—	(246,211)
Fixed — 1.961% Semi-Annually	Floating — 3-Month LIBOR Quarterly	6/28/2019 6/28/2029	400,000	USD	(51,605)	—	(51,605)
Fixed — 2.00% Semi-Annually	Floating — 3-Month LIBOR Quarterly	1/21/2020 1/21/2030	2,600,000	USD	(357,384)	(61,654)	(295,730)
Fixed — 2.729% Semi-Annually	Floating — 3-Month LIBOR Quarterly	3/4/2019 3/5/2029	400,000	USD	(77,898)	—	(77,898)
<b>Total unrealized depreciation</b>							<b>(671,444)</b>

LIBOR: London Interbank Offered Rate; 3-month LIBOR rate as of June 30, 2020 is 0.302%.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had the following open forward foreign currency contracts:

<b>Contracts to Deliver</b>	<b>In Exchange For</b>	<b>Settlement Date</b>	<b>Unrealized Depreciation (\$)</b>	<b>Counterparty</b>
EUR 570,000	USD 617,085	8/18/2020	(23,965)	State Street Bank and Trust

#### Currency Abbreviations

AUD	Australian Dollar	GBP	British Pound
CHF	Swiss Franc	JPY	Japanese Yen
EUR	Euro	USD	United States Dollar

For information on the Fund's policy and additional disclosures regarding futures contracts, interest rate swap contracts and forward foreign currency contracts, please refer to the Derivatives section of Note B in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

<b>Assets</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
Common Stocks (k)				
Communication Services	\$ 3,920,012	\$ 2,847,438	\$ —	\$ 6,767,450
Consumer Discretionary	3,783,115	1,793,944	—	5,577,059
Consumer Staples	3,969,850	1,349,073	—	5,318,923
Energy	1,697,911	64,063	—	1,761,974
Financials	2,563,849	3,570,392	—	6,134,241
Health Care	5,265,719	3,182,417	—	8,448,136
Industrials	1,947,407	3,732,316	—	5,679,723
Information Technology	11,845,172	2,258,653	—	14,103,825
Materials	1,268,948	533,664	—	1,802,612
Real Estate	1,459,522	614,728	—	2,074,250
Utilities	2,214,519	1,818,789	—	4,033,308
Preferred Stocks (k)	5,056,798	—	—	5,056,798
Warrants	—	—	9,099	9,099
Fixed Income Investments (k)				
Corporate Bonds	—	15,959,250	—	15,959,250
Asset-Backed	—	7,325,130	—	7,325,130
Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs	—	3,349,697	—	3,349,697
Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities	—	6,000,463	—	6,000,463
Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	—	7,296,200	—	7,296,200
Government & Agency Obligations	—	2,905,195	—	2,905,195
Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations	—	2,962,578	—	2,962,578
Exchange-Traded Funds	4,002,680	—	—	4,002,680
Short-Term Investments (k)	3,346,002	—	—	3,346,002
Derivatives (l)				
Futures Contracts	261,278	—	—	261,278
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 52,602,782</b>	<b>\$ 67,563,990</b>	<b>\$ 9,099</b>	<b>\$ 120,175,871</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
Derivatives (l)				
Futures Contracts	\$ (116,437)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (116,437)
Interest Rate Swap Contracts	—	(671,444)	—	(671,444)
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	—	(23,965)	—	(23,965)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (116,437)</b>	<b>\$ (695,409)</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ (811,846)</b>

(k) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

(l) Derivatives include unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on open futures contracts, interest rate swap contracts and forward foreign currency contracts.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

## Assets

Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$107,530,988) — including \$1,348,280 of securities loaned	\$116,568,591
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$1,390,944)*	1,390,944
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$1,955,058)	1,955,058
Cash	10,993
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$527,887)	542,212
Receivable for investments sold	475,225
Receivable for investments sold — delayed delivery securities	3,258,561
Receivable for Fund shares sold	4,285
Dividends receivable	142,890
Interest receivable	225,554
Receivable for variation margin on centrally cleared swaps	13,320
Foreign taxes recoverable	102,023
Other assets	1,476
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>124,691,132</b>

## Liabilities

Payable upon return of securities loaned	1,390,944
Payable for investments purchased	58,166
Payable for investments purchased — when-issued/delayed delivery securities	6,704,967
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	160,512
Payable for variation margin on futures contracts	65,095
Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	23,965
Accrued management fee	35,289
Accrued Trustees' fees	2,250
Other accrued expenses and payables	120,170
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>8,561,358</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$116,129,774</b>

## Net Assets Consist of

Distributable earnings (loss)	8,865,620
Paid-in capital	107,264,154
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$116,129,774</b>

## Net Asset Value

### Class A

<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$116,119,173 ÷ 5,331,876 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 21.78</b>
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### Class B

<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$10,601 ÷ 486.9 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 21.77</b>
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\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

## Investment Income

Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$72,743)	\$ 1,310,402
Interest (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$69)	699,599
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	14,268
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	8,938
Total income	2,033,207
Expenses:	
Management fee	216,783
Administration fee	57,470
Services to Shareholders	374
Distribution service fees (Class B)	13
Custodian fee	13,190
Professional fees	51,634
Reports to shareholders	28,062
Trustees' fees and expenses	3,704
Other	19,994
Total expenses before expense reductions	391,224
Expense reductions	(12)
Total expenses after expense reductions	391,212
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>1,641,995</b>

## Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)

Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	(2,927,493)
Swap contracts	1,024,691
Futures	1,053,062
Forward foreign currency contracts	6,897
Foreign currency	7,867
	(834,976)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(8,188,666)
Swap contracts	(648,825)
Futures	198,835
Forward foreign currency contracts	(18,182)
Foreign currency	12,356
	(8,644,482)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>(9,479,458)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$(7,837,463)</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 1,641,995	\$ 3,775,658
Net realized gain (loss)	(834,976)	2,358,917
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(8,644,482)	17,107,421
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(7,837,463)	23,241,996
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(6,579,884)	(5,055,619)
Class B	(575)	(391)
Total distributions	(6,580,459)	(5,056,010)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,187,214	3,126,739
Reinvestment of distributions	6,579,883	5,055,619
Payments for shares redeemed	(7,068,251)	(16,140,970)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	698,846	(7,958,612)
<b>Class B</b>		
Reinvestment of distributions	575	391
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	575	391
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	(13,718,501)	10,227,765
Net assets at beginning of period	129,848,275	119,620,510
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 116,129,774</b>	<b>\$ 129,848,275</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	5,271,275	5,608,755
Shares sold	51,882	133,321
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	324,451	220,866
Shares redeemed	(315,732)	(691,667)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	60,601	(337,480)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>5,331,876</b>	<b>5,271,275</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	458.6	441.5
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	28.3	17.1
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	28.3	17.1
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>486.9</b>	<b>458.6</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	\$ 24.63	\$21.33	\$26.56	\$23.50	\$22.93	\$24.62
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.31	.69	.80	.71	.61	.68
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(1.87)	3.54	(2.67)	3.10	.91	(.97)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	(1.56)	4.23	(1.87)	3.81	1.52	(.29)
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.74)	(.90)	(.98)	(.75)	(.95)	(.76)
Net realized gains	(.55)	(.03)	(2.38)	—	—	(.64)
<b>Total distributions</b>	(1.29)	(.93)	(3.36)	(.75)	(.95)	(1.40)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	\$ 21.78	\$24.63	\$21.33	\$26.56	\$23.50	\$22.93
Total Return (%)	(5.93)**	20.16	(7.66) <sup>b</sup>	16.54	6.81	(1.44) <sup>b</sup>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	116	130	120	147	185	202
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.67*	.68	.69	.63	.62	.60
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.67*	.68	.68	.63	.62	.58
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	2.80*	2.96	3.34	2.85	2.66	2.85
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	65**	182	70	122	135	92
<p><sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.</p> <p><sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.</p> <p><sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.</p> <p>* Annualized</p> <p>** Not annualized</p>						

Class B	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Year Ended December 31, 2019		Period Ended 12/31/18 <sup>a</sup>
	<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>				
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	\$ 24.61	\$ 21.30	\$ 22.65		
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>					
Net investment income <sup>b</sup>	.29	.65	.50		
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(1.88)	3.55	(1.85)		
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	(1.59)	4.20	(1.35)		
<i>Less distributions from:</i>					
Net investment income	(.70)	(.86)	—		
Net realized gains	(.55)	(.03)	—		
<b>Total distributions</b>	(1.25)	(.89)	—		
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	\$ 21.77	\$ 24.61	\$ 21.30		
Total Return (%) <sup>c</sup>	(6.07)**	20.01	(5.96)**		
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>					
Net assets, end of period (\$ thousands)	11	11	9		
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	1.12*	1.10	1.15*		
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	.89*	.86	.86*		
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	2.58*	2.77	3.30*		
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	65**	182	70 <sup>e</sup>		
<p><sup>a</sup> For the period from May 1, 2018 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2018.</p> <p><sup>b</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.</p> <p><sup>c</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.</p> <p><sup>d</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.</p> <p><sup>e</sup> Represents the Fund's portfolio turnover rate for the year ended December 31, 2018.</p> <p>* Annualized</p> <p>** Not annualized</p>					

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

DWS Global Income Builder VIP (the “Fund”) is a diversified series of Deutsche DWS Variable Series II (the “Trust”), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust.

**Multiple Classes of Shares of Beneficial Interest.** The Fund offers two classes of shares (Class A shares and Class B shares). Sales of Class B shares are subject to recordkeeping fees up to 0.15% and Rule 12b-1 fees under the 1940 Act equal to an annual rate of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Class B shares of the Fund. Class A shares are not subject to such fees.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares, except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class (including the applicable Rule 12b-1 distribution fees). Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund’s financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”) which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund’s investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund’s own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities and Exchange-Traded Funds (“ETFs”) are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Equity securities or ETFs for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities and ETFs are generally categorized as Level 1. For certain international equity securities, in order to adjust for events which may occur between the close of the foreign exchanges and the close of the New York Stock Exchange, a fair valuation model may be used. This fair valuation model takes into account comparisons to the valuation of American Depository Receipts (ADRs), exchange-traded funds, futures contracts and certain indices and these securities are categorized as Level 2.

Debt securities are valued at prices supplied by independent pricing services approved by the Fund’s Board. Such services may use various pricing techniques which take into account appropriate factors such as yield, quality, coupon rate, maturity, type of issue, trading characteristics, prepayment speeds and other data, as well as broker quotes. If the pricing services are unable to provide valuations, debt securities are valued at the average of the most recent reliable bid quotations or evaluated prices, as applicable, obtained from broker-dealers. These securities are generally categorized as Level 2.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Futures contracts are generally valued at the settlement prices established each day on the exchange on which they are traded and are categorized as Level 1.

Forward currency contracts are valued at the prevailing forward exchange rate of the underlying currencies and are categorized as Level 2.

Swap contracts are valued daily based upon prices supplied by a Board approved pricing vendor, if available, and otherwise are valued at the price provided by the broker-dealer. Swap contracts are generally categorized as Level 2.



Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Board and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund's valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company's or issuer's financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**Securities Lending.** Deutsche Bank AG, as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. As of period end, any securities on loan were collateralized by cash. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as common stocks and corporate bonds in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end.

**Remaining Contractual Maturity of the Agreements** as of June 30, 2020

	Overnight and Continuous	<30 days	Between 30 & 90 days	>90 days	Total
<b>Securities Lending Transactions</b>					
Common Stocks	\$1,288,944	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$1,288,944
Corporate Bonds	102,000	—	—	—	102,000
<b>Total Borrowings</b>	<b>\$1,390,944</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$1,390,944</b>

Gross amount of recognized liabilities for securities lending transactions: \$1,390,944

**When-Issued/Delayed Delivery Securities.** The Fund may purchase or sell securities with delivery or payment to occur at a later date beyond the normal settlement period. At the time the Fund enters into a commitment to purchase or sell a security, the transaction is recorded and the value of the transaction is reflected in the net asset value. The price of such security and the date when the security will be delivered and paid for are fixed at the time the transaction is negotiated. The value of the security may vary with market fluctuations. At the time the Fund enters into a purchase transaction it is required to segregate cash or other liquid assets at least equal to the amount of the commitment. Additionally, the Fund may be required to post securities and/or cash collateral in accordance with the terms of the commitment.

Certain risks may arise upon entering into when-issued or delayed delivery transactions from the potential inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts or if the issuer does not issue the securities due to political, economic or other factors. Additionally, losses may arise due to changes in the value of the underlying securities.

**Taxes.** The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders.

Additionally, the Fund may be subject to taxes imposed by the governments of countries in which it invests and are generally based on income and/or capital gains earned or repatriated, a portion of which may be recoverable based upon the current interpretation of the tax rules and regulations. Estimated tax liabilities and recoveries on certain foreign securities are recorded on an accrual basis and are reflected as components of interest income or net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments. Tax liabilities realized as a result of security sales are reflected as a component of net realized gain/loss on investments.

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$111,318,530. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$8,596,063. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$13,571,964 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$4,975,901.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to investments in foreign denominated investments, forward currency contracts, futures contracts, swap contracts and certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific fund are allocated to that fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a fund are apportioned among the funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Certain dividends from foreign securities may be recorded subsequent to the ex-dividend date as soon as the Fund is informed of such dividends. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments. All discounts and premiums are accreted/amortized for both tax and financial reporting purposes, with the exception of securities in default of principal.

## B. Derivative Instruments

**Swaps.** A swap is a contract between two parties to exchange future cash flows at periodic intervals based on the notional amount of the swap. A bilateral swap is a transaction between the fund and a counterparty where cash flows are exchanged between the two parties. A centrally cleared swap is a transaction executed between the fund and a counterparty, then cleared by a clearing member through a central clearinghouse. The central clearinghouse serves as the counterparty, with whom the fund exchanges cash flows.

The value of a swap is adjusted daily, and the change in value, if any, is recorded as unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Gains or losses are realized when the swap expires or is closed. Certain risks may arise when entering into swap transactions including counterparty default; liquidity; or unfavorable changes in interest rates or the value of the underlying reference security, commodity or index. In connection with bilateral swaps, securities and/or cash may be identified as collateral in accordance with the terms of the swap agreement to provide assets of value and recourse in the event of default. The maximum counterparty credit risk is the net present value of the cash flows to be received from or paid to the counterparty over the term of the swap, to the extent that this amount is beneficial to the Fund, in addition to any related collateral posted to the counterparty by the Fund. This risk may be partially reduced by a master netting arrangement between the Fund and the counterparty. Upon entering into a centrally cleared swap, the Fund is required to deposit with a financial intermediary cash or securities ("initial margin") in an amount equal to a certain percentage of the notional amount of the swap. Subsequent payments ("variation margin") are made or received by the Fund dependent upon the daily fluctuations in the value of the swap. In a cleared swap transaction, counterparty risk is minimized as the central clearinghouse acts as the counterparty.

An upfront payment, if any, made by the Fund is recorded as an asset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. An upfront payment, if any, received by the Fund is recorded as a liability in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Payments received or made at the end of the measurement period are recorded as realized gain or loss in the Statement of Operations.

**Interest Rate Swaps.** Interest rate swaps are agreements in which the Fund agrees to pay to the counterparty a fixed rate payment in exchange for the counterparty agreeing to pay to the Fund a variable rate payment, or the Fund agrees to receive from the counterparty a fixed rate payment in exchange for the counterparty agreeing to receive from the Fund a variable rate payment. The payment obligations are based on the notional amount of the swap. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund entered into interest rate swap agreements to gain exposure to different parts of the yield curve while managing overall duration.

A summary of the open interest rate swap contracts as of June 30, 2020 is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the investment in interest rate swap contracts had a total notional amount generally indicative of a range from \$800,000 to \$5,600,000.

**Credit Default Swaps.** Credit default swaps are agreements between a buyer and a seller of protection against predefined credit events for the reference entity. The Fund may enter into credit default swaps to gain exposure to an underlying issuer's credit quality characteristics without directly investing in that issuer or

to hedge against the risk of a credit event on debt securities. As a seller of a credit default swap, the Fund is required to pay the par (or other agreed-upon) value of the referenced entity to the counterparty with the occurrence of a credit event by a third party, such as a U.S. or foreign corporate issuer, on the reference entity, which would likely result in a loss to the Fund. In return, the Fund receives from the counterparty a periodic stream of payments over the term of the swap provided that no credit event has occurred. If no credit event occurs, the Fund keeps the stream of payments with no payment obligations. The Fund may also buy credit default swaps, in which case the Fund functions as the counterparty referenced above. This involves the risk that the swap may expire worthless. It also involves counterparty risk that the seller may fail to satisfy its payment obligations to the Fund with the occurrence of a credit event. When the Fund sells a credit default swap, it will cover its commitment. This may be achieved by, among other methods, maintaining cash or liquid assets equal to the aggregate notional value of the reference entities for all outstanding credit default swaps sold by the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund entered into credit default swap agreements to gain exposure to the underlying issuer's credit quality characteristics and to hedge the risk of default or other specified credit events on portfolio assets.

Under the terms of a credit default swap, the Fund receives or makes periodic payments based on a specified interest rate on a fixed notional amount. These payments are recorded as a realized gain or loss in the Statement of Operations. Payments received or made as a result of a credit event or termination of the swap are recognized, net of a proportional amount of the upfront payment, as realized gains or losses in the Statement of Operations.

There were no open credit default swap contracts as of June 30, 2020. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the investment in credit default swap contracts sold had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from \$0 to \$500,000

**Futures Contracts.** A futures contract is an agreement between a buyer or seller and an established futures exchange or its clearinghouse in which the buyer or seller agrees to take or make a delivery of a specific amount of a financial instrument at a specified price on a specific date (settlement date). For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund entered into interest rate futures to gain exposure to different parts of the yield curve while managing overall duration. The Fund also entered into interest rate futures contracts for non-hedging purposes to seek to enhance potential gains. In addition, the Fund entered into equity index futures as a means of gaining exposure to the equity asset class without investing directly into such asset class and to manage the risk of stock market volatility.

Upon entering into a futures contract, the Fund is required to deposit with a financial intermediary cash or securities ("initial margin") in an amount equal to a certain percentage of the face value indicated in the futures contract. Subsequent payments ("variation margin") are made or received by the Fund dependent upon the daily fluctuations in the value and are recorded for financial reporting purposes as unrealized gains or losses by the Fund. Gains or losses are realized when the contract expires or is closed. Since all futures contracts are exchange-traded, counterparty risk is minimized as the exchange's clearinghouse acts as the counterparty, and guarantees the futures against default.

Certain risks may arise upon entering into futures contracts, including the risk that an illiquid market will limit the Fund's ability to close out a futures contract prior to the settlement date and the risk that the futures contract is not well correlated with the security, index or currency to which it relates. Risk of loss may exceed amounts disclosed in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

A summary of the open futures contracts as of June 30, 2020 is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the investment in futures contracts purchased had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$16,646,000 to \$42,318,000, and the investment in futures contracts sold had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$6,988,000 to \$12,281,000.

**Forward Foreign Currency Contracts.** A forward foreign currency contract ("forward currency contract") is a commitment to purchase or sell a foreign currency at the settlement date at a negotiated rate. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund entered into forward currency contracts in order to hedge its exposure to changes in foreign currency exchange rates on its foreign currency denominated portfolio holdings, to facilitate transactions in foreign currency denominated securities and for non-hedging purposes to seek to enhance potential gains.

Forward currency contracts are valued at the prevailing forward exchange rate of the underlying currencies and unrealized gain (loss) is recorded daily. On the settlement date of the forward currency contract, the Fund records a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the value of the contract at the time it

was opened and the value of the contract at the time it was closed. Certain risks may arise upon entering into forward currency contracts from the potential inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts. The maximum counterparty credit risk to the Fund is measured by the unrealized gain on appreciated contracts. Additionally, when utilizing forward currency contracts to hedge, the Fund gives up the opportunity to profit from favorable exchange rate movements during the term of the contract.

A summary of the open forward currency contracts as of June 30, 2020 is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the investment in forward currency contracts short vs. U.S. dollars had a total contract value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$617,000 to \$1,175,000, and the investment in forward currency contracts long vs. U.S. dollars had a total contract value generally indicative of a range from \$0 to approximately \$567,000.

The following tables summarize the value of the Fund's derivative instruments held as of June 30, 2020 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities, presented by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Asset Derivatives</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>
Equity Contracts (a)	\$ 200,700
Interest Rate Contracts (a)	60,578
	<b>\$ 261,278</b>

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Assets and Liabilities accounts:

(a) Includes cumulative appreciation of futures contracts as disclosed in the Investment Portfolio. Unsettled variation margin is disclosed separately within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

<b>Liability Derivatives</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>	<b>Swap Contracts</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Equity Contracts (b)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (108,640)	\$ (108,640)
Interest Rate Contracts (b)	—	(671,444)	(7,797)	(679,241)
Foreign Exchange Contracts (c)	(23,965)	—	—	(23,965)
	<b>\$ (23,965)</b>	<b>\$ (671,444)</b>	<b>\$ (116,437)</b>	<b>\$ (811,846)</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Assets and Liabilities accounts:

(b) Includes cumulative depreciation of futures and centrally cleared swap contracts as disclosed in the Investment Portfolio. Unsettled variation margin is disclosed separately within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

(c) Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts

Additionally, the amount of unrealized and realized gains and losses on derivative instruments recognized in Fund earnings during the six months ended June 30, 2020, and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Operations is summarized in the following tables by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Realized Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>	<b>Swap Contracts</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Equity Contracts (d)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (275,180)	\$ (275,180)
Credit Contracts (d)	—	1,022,280	1,328,242	2,350,522
Interest Rate Contracts (d)	—	2,411	—	2,411
Foreign Exchange Contracts (e)	6,897	—	—	6,897
	<b>\$ 6,897</b>	<b>\$ 1,024,691</b>	<b>\$ 1,053,062</b>	<b>\$ 2,084,650</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Operations accounts:

(d) Net realized gain (loss) from swap contracts and futures, respectively

(e) Net realized gain (loss) from forward foreign currency contracts

<b>Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>	<b>Swap Contracts</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Equity Contracts (f)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 40,057	\$ 40,057
Credit Contracts (f)	—	(13,370)	158,778	145,408
Interest Rate Contracts (f)	—	(635,455)	—	(635,455)
Foreign Exchange Contracts (g)	(18,182)	—	—	(18,182)
	<b>\$ (18,182)</b>	<b>\$ (648,825)</b>	<b>\$ 198,835</b>	<b>\$ (468,172)</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Operations accounts:

(f) Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on swap contracts and futures, respectively

(g) Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on forward foreign currency contracts

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund has transactions subject to enforceable master netting agreements which govern the terms of certain transactions, and reduce the counterparty risk associated with such transactions. Master netting agreements allow a Fund to close out and net total exposure to a counterparty in the event of a deterioration in the credit quality or contractual default with respect to all of the transactions with a counterparty. As defined by the master netting agreement, the Fund may have collateral agreements with certain counterparties to mitigate risk. For financial reporting purposes the Statement of Assets and Liabilities generally shows derivatives assets and liabilities on a gross basis, which reflects the full risks and exposures prior to netting. A reconciliation of the gross amounts on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities to the net amounts by a counterparty, including any collateral exposure, is included in the following tables:

Counterparty	Gross Amounts of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Financial Instruments and Derivatives Available for Offset	Collateral Pledged	Net Amount of Derivative Liabilities
State Street Bank and Trust	\$ 23,965	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 23,965

### C. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment transactions, excluding short-term investments, were as follows:

	Purchases	Sales
Non-U.S. Treasury Obligations	\$ 68,689,970	\$ 70,201,150
U.S. Treasury Obligations	\$ 5,644,185	\$ 3,825,904

### D. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund or delegates such responsibility to the Fund's subadvisor.

Under the Investment Management Agreement, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$250 million	.370%
Next \$750 million	.345%
Over \$1 billion	.310%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waiver/reimbursements) of 0.37% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 (and through April 30, 2020 for Class B shares), the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.71%
Class B	.86%

Effective May 1, 2020 through April 31, 2021, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) of Class B shares at 0.96%.

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for Class B are \$12.

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid DIMA an annual fee (“Administration Fee”) of 0.10% of the Fund’s average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund’s average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$57,470, of which \$9,252 is unpaid.

**Distribution Service Agreement.** DWS Distributors, Inc. (“DDI”), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the Fund’s distributor. In accordance with the Distribution Plan, DDI receives 12b-1 fees of up to 0.25% of average daily net assets of Class B shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Distribution Service Fee was as follows:

<b>Distribution Fee</b>	<b>Total Aggregated</b>	<b>Unpaid at June 30, 2020</b>
Class B	\$ 13	\$ 2

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company (“DSC”), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. (“DST”), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

<b>Services to Shareholders</b>	<b>Total Aggregated</b>	<b>Unpaid at June 30, 2020</b>
Class A	\$ 211	\$ 69
Class B	11	4
	<b>\$ 222</b>	<b>\$ 73</b>

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$6,522, of which \$3,915 unpaid.

**Trustees’ Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund’s assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

**Securities Lending Agent Fees.** Deutsche Bank AG serves as securities lending agent for the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$856.

## **E. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2020, one participating insurance company was owner of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, owning 69%.

## **F. Line of Credit**

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the “Participants”) share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

## **G. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund’s accounting and financial reporting.

## **G. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG (“DB”), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order (“Consent Order”), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the “DWS Service Providers”). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB’s 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.



# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, Class B limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 940.70	\$ 939.30
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.23	\$ 4.29

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,021.53	\$ 1,020.44
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.37	\$ 4.47

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratio</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS Global Income Builder VIP	.67%	.89%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](http://dws.com/calculators).

## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trust’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS Global Income Builder VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board

believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 4th quartile, 2nd quartile and 1st quartile, respectively, of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has outperformed its benchmark in the three-year period and has underperformed its benchmark in the one- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018. The Board noted the disappointing investment performance of the Fund in recent periods and continued to discuss with senior management of DIMA the factors contributing to such underperformance and actions being taken to improve performance. The Board noted a change in the Fund's portfolio management team, effective December 6, 2018, and that certain additional changes to the portfolio management team were made effective April 10, 2019 and May 17, 2019. The Board observed that the Fund had experienced improved relative performance during the first eight months of 2019. The Board recognized the efforts by DIMA in recent years to enhance its investment platform and improve long-term performance across the DWS fund complex.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were lower than the median (1st quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be equal to the median of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class's total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to a comparable DWS U.S. registered fund ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Fund. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or “fall-out” benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund’s management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA’s and the Fund’s chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.



VS2GIB-3 (R-028382-9 8/20)

June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I

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## DWS Global Small Cap VIP

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Stocks may decline in value. Smaller company stocks tend to be more volatile than medium-sized or large company stocks. Investing in foreign securities, particularly those of emerging markets, presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. Emerging markets tend to be more volatile and less liquid than the markets of more mature economies, and generally have less diverse and less mature economic structures and less stable political systems than those of developed countries. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT  
NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY



# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

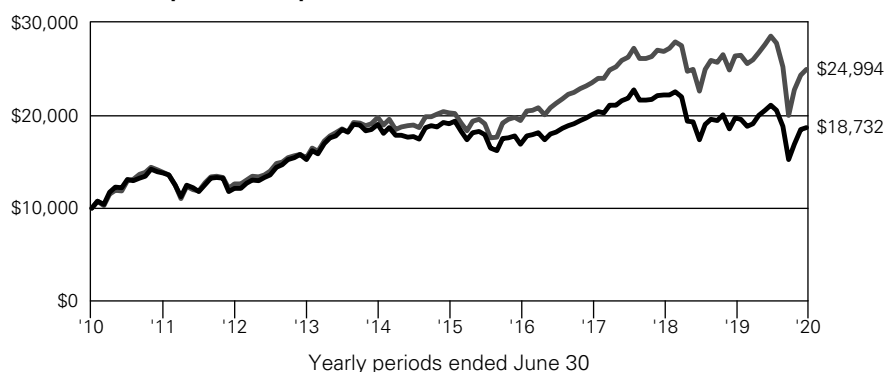
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns. While all share classes have the same underlying portfolio, their performance will differ.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020, are 1.11% and 1.40% for Class A and Class B shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

■ DWS Global Small Cap VIP — Class A  
 ■ S&P® Developed SmallCap Index



S&P Developed SmallCap Index comprises the stocks representing the lowest 15% of float-adjusted market cap in each developed country. It is a subset of the S&P Global BMI, a comprehensive, rules-based index measuring global stock market performance.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

## Comparative Results

DWS Global Small Cap VIP	6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
<b>Class A</b>	\$8,876	\$9,488	\$9,340	\$9,814	\$18,732
	-11.24%	-5.12%	-2.25%	-0.37%	6.48%
S&P Developed SmallCap Index	\$8,738	\$9,449	\$10,620	\$12,332	\$24,994
	-12.62%	-5.51%	2.02%	4.28%	9.59%
<b>DWS Global Small Cap VIP</b>	<b>6-Month<sup>‡</sup></b>	<b>1-Year</b>	<b>3-Year</b>	<b>5-Year</b>	<b>10-Year</b>
<b>Class B</b>	\$8,860	\$9,468	\$9,268	\$9,687	\$18,259
	-11.40%	-5.32%	-2.50%	-0.63%	6.21%
S&P Developed SmallCap Index	\$8,738	\$9,449	\$10,620	\$12,332	\$24,994
	-12.62%	-5.51%	2.02%	4.28%	9.59%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Common Stocks	92%	94%
Cash Equivalents	6%	5%
Exchange-Traded Funds	1%	1%
Convertible Preferred Stock	1%	0%
	100%	100%

## Geographical Diversification

(As of % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
United States	61%	59%
Japan	11%	10%
United Kingdom	5%	6%
Germany	4%	3%
Canada	3%	3%
Italy	3%	3%
Luxembourg	2%	2%
France	2%	3%
Austria	2%	2%
Others	7%	9%
	100%	100%

## Sector Diversification

(As of % of Investment Portfolio excluding Exchange-Traded Funds, Cash Equivalents and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Industrials	19%	20%
Health Care	18%	14%
Information Technology	17%	17%
Consumer Discretionary	12%	11%
Real Estate	11%	11%
Financials	10%	12%
Materials	5%	6%
Consumer Staples	3%	3%
Communication Services	3%	3%
Energy	1%	3%
Utilities	1%	—
	100%	100%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Manager

Peter Barsa, Director

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 91.7%</b>					
<b>Austria 1.5%</b>					
Lenzing AG*	3,467	161,402	UT Group Co., Ltd.*	25,024	575,812
Wienerberger AG TI	34,903	762,955	Zenkoku Hosho Co., Ltd.	22,400	842,492
(Cost \$1,341,795)		<b>924,357</b>	(Cost \$4,882,891)		<b>6,387,920</b>
<b>Bermuda 0.8%</b>			<b>Korea 0.6%</b>		
Lazard Ltd. "A" (a)			i-SENS, Inc. (Cost \$569,030)	18,843	<b>396,962</b>
(Cost \$354,232)	16,265	<b>465,667</b>	<b>Luxembourg 1.9%</b>		
<b>Canada 3.0%</b>			B&M European Value Retail SA		
First Quantum Minerals Ltd.	17,977	143,275	(Cost \$1,049,420)	233,639	<b>1,153,406</b>
Linamar Corp.	12,569	339,778	<b>Spain 1.2%</b>		
Pan American Silver Corp.	16,342	496,303	Talgo SA 144A* (Cost \$769,471)	154,313	<b>738,340</b>
Quebecor, Inc. "B"	39,795	855,053	<b>Sweden 1.3%</b>		
(Cost \$1,630,801)		<b>1,834,409</b>	Mips Ab	4,677	161,979
<b>France 1.5%</b>			Nobina AB 144A*	110,870	665,428
Alten SA*	3,084	267,019	(Cost \$644,796)		<b>827,407</b>
SMCP SA 144A* (b)	24,421	120,100	<b>Switzerland 0.4%</b>		
SPIE SA	37,270	557,751	Landis & Gyr Group AG*		
(Cost \$1,916,812)		<b>944,870</b>	(Cost \$366,154)	4,139	<b>269,617</b>
<b>Germany 3.7%</b>			<b>United Kingdom 4.9%</b>		
Deutz AG*	77,387	366,929	Arrow Global Group PLC	95,792	105,925
PATRIZIA AG	50,939	1,234,192	Clinigen Group PLC	36,498	367,305
United Internet AG (Registered)	16,617	708,320	Domino's Pizza Group PLC	106,754	411,241
(Cost \$1,234,450)		<b>2,309,441</b>	Electrocomponents PLC	132,047	1,102,594
<b>Hong Kong 0.8%</b>			Johnson Service Group PLC	265,435	382,311
Techtronic Industries Co., Ltd.			Scapa Group PLC	249,121	305,611
(Cost \$58,410)	48,041	<b>473,942</b>	Ultra Electronics Holdings PLC	13,329	332,034
<b>India 0.7%</b>			(Cost \$3,028,898)		<b>3,007,021</b>
WNS Holdings Ltd. (ADR)*			<b>United States 55.3%</b>		
(Cost \$209,098)	7,785	<b>428,019</b>	Advanced Disposal Services, Inc.*	17,600	530,992
<b>Ireland 1.4%</b>			Affiliated Managers Group, Inc.	4,203	313,376
Avadel Pharmaceuticals PLC			Agilysys, Inc.*	13,712	245,993
(ADR)* (b)	21,583	174,391	Americold Realty Trust (REIT)	23,601	856,716
Dalata Hotel Group PLC	129,550	418,120	Amicus Therapeutics, Inc.*	13,338	201,137
Ryanair Holdings PLC*	21,445	258,515	Arena Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	8,271	520,659
(Cost \$897,941)		<b>851,026</b>	AZEK Co., Inc.*	2,537	80,829
<b>Italy 2.4%</b>			Blucora, Inc.*	8,810	100,610
Buzzi Unicem SpA	40,866	884,996	Cabot Microelectronics Corp.	3,793	529,275
Cerved Group SpA*	23,914	172,169	Cardiovascular Systems, Inc.*	16,253	512,782
Moncler SpA*	10,749	408,851	Casey's General Stores, Inc.	6,638	992,514
(Cost \$1,414,344)		<b>1,466,016</b>	Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc. (b)	46,669	257,613
<b>Japan 10.3%</b>			Contango Oil & Gas Co.* (b)	121,885	279,119
Ai Holdings Corp.	34,117	491,936	Cornerstone OnDemand, Inc.*	11,453	441,628
Anicom Holdings, Inc.	23,200	982,566	Dril-Quip, Inc.*	6,783	202,066
BML, Inc.	27,700	721,587	Ducommun, Inc.*	26,024	907,457
Daikyonishikawa Corp.	39,500	176,685	EastGroup Properties, Inc. (REIT)	4,060	481,557
Kura Sushi, Inc.	4,800	234,704	Envestnet, Inc.*	9,277	682,231
Kusuri No Aoki Holdings Co., Ltd.	12,458	976,137	Essential Properties Realty Trust, Inc. (REIT)	26,858	398,573
Optex Group Co., Ltd.	17,000	193,098	Five9, Inc.*	14,096	1,560,004
Sawai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	12,600	647,139	Four Corners Property Trust, Inc. (REIT)	27,967	682,395
Syuppin Co., Ltd.	49,200	332,086	Fox Factory Holding Corp.*	12,182	1,006,355
Topcon Corp.	26,500	213,678	Green Dot Corp. "A"*	5,528	271,314
			H&E Equipment Services, Inc.	14,014	258,979
			Heron Therapeutics, Inc.* (b)	19,877	292,391
			Hillenbrand, Inc.	10,258	277,684
			Hudson Pacific Properties, Inc. (REIT)	21,914	551,356

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
Hyster-Yale Materials Handling, Inc.	10,133	391,742
Inphi Corp.*	12,756	1,498,830
iRhythm Technologies, Inc.*	4,424	512,697
Jack in the Box, Inc.	5,411	400,901
Jefferies Financial Group, Inc.	28,273	439,645
Lumentum Holdings, Inc.*	8,748	712,350
Masonite International Corp.*	7,831	609,095
Mistras Group, Inc.*	3,278	12,948
Molina Healthcare, Inc.*	4,652	827,963
National Storage Affiliates Trust (REIT)	26,139	749,144
Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc.*	11,283	1,376,526
Option Care Health, Inc.* (b)	29,553	410,196
Pacira BioSciences, Inc.*	12,803	671,773
Physicians Realty Trust (REIT)	38,643	677,025
PNM Resources, Inc.	10,996	422,686
Providence Service Corp.*	8,958	706,876
QAD, Inc. "A"	17,187	709,479
QTS Realty Trust, Inc. "A", (REIT) (b)	9,867	632,376
Quidel Corp.*	1,819	406,983
Retrophin, Inc.*	26,114	532,987
Rush Enterprises, Inc. "A"	34,541	1,432,070
SEACOR Marine Holdings, Inc.*	17,130	43,681
Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. "A" (b)	15,935	294,160
South State Corp.	12,960	617,674
Synovus Financial Corp.	22,074	453,179
Tandem Diabetes Care, Inc.*	3,297	326,139
Tenneco, Inc. "A"* (b)	14,372	108,652
Thermon Group Holdings, Inc.*	37,080	540,256
Titan Machinery, Inc.* (b)	33,491	363,712
TopBuild Corp.*	6,429	731,427
Trinseo SA	3,023	66,990
TriState Capital Holdings, Inc.*	27,098	425,710
Varonis Systems, Inc.*	10,791	954,788
Vroom, Inc.* (b)	1,119	58,345
WEX, Inc.*	2,214	365,332
YETI Holdings, Inc.* (b)	21,295	909,935

	Shares	Value (\$)
Zions Bancorp. NA	10,965	372,810
(Cost \$27,125,040)		<b>34,202,687</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$47,493,583)		<b>56,681,107</b>

### Convertible Preferred Stocks 0.6%

#### United States

Providence Service Corp. (c) (Cost \$196,900)	1,969	<b>389,603</b>
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### Exchange-Traded Funds 1.6%

#### United States

iShares Russell 2000 ETF (b) (Cost \$990,476)	6,798	<b>973,337</b>
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### Securities Lending Collateral 6.6%

DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (d) (e) (Cost \$4,099,962)	4,099,962	<b>4,099,962</b>
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### Cash Equivalents 6.1%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (d) (Cost \$3,794,947)	3,794,947	<b>3,794,947</b>
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	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$56,575,868)	106.6	<b>65,938,956</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(6.6)	<b>(4,068,514)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>61,870,442</b>

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2019	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/(Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2020	Value (\$) at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 6.6%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (d) (e)								
1,799,761	2,300,201 (f)	—	—	—	17,293	—	4,099,962	4,099,962
<b>Cash Equivalents 6.1%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (d)								
3,272,911	4,120,045	3,598,009	—	—	13,019	—	3,794,947	3,794,947
<b>5,072,672</b>	<b>6,420,246</b>	<b>3,598,009</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>30,312</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>7,894,909</b>	<b>7,894,909</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

(a) Listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc.

(b) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$4,214,132, which is 6.8% of net assets.

(c) Investment was valued using significant unobservable inputs.

(d) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

- (e) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates. In addition, the Fund held non-cash U.S. Treasury securities collateral having a value of \$215,516.
- (f) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

144A: Security exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers.

ADR: American Depositary Receipt

REIT: Real Estate Investment Trust

## Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

<b>Assets</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
Common Stocks				
Austria	\$ —	\$ 924,357	\$ —	\$ 924,357
Bermuda	465,667	—	—	465,667
Canada	1,834,409	—	—	1,834,409
France	—	944,870	—	944,870
Germany	—	2,309,441	—	2,309,441
Hong Kong	—	473,942	—	473,942
India	428,019	—	—	428,019
Ireland	174,391	676,635	—	851,026
Italy	—	1,466,016	—	1,466,016
Japan	—	6,387,920	—	6,387,920
Korea	—	396,962	—	396,962
Luxembourg	—	1,153,406	—	1,153,406
Spain	—	738,340	—	738,340
Sweden	—	827,407	—	827,407
Switzerland	—	269,617	—	269,617
United Kingdom	—	3,007,021	—	3,007,021
United States	34,202,687	—	—	34,202,687
Convertible Preferred Stocks	—	—	389,603	389,603
Exchange-Traded Funds	973,337	—	—	973,337
Short-Term Investments (g)	7,894,909	—	—	7,894,909
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$45,973,419</b>	<b>\$19,575,934</b>	<b>\$389,603</b>	<b>\$65,938,956</b>

- (g) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$48,680,959) including — \$4,214,132 of securities loaned	\$58,044,047
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$4,099,962)*	4,099,962
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$3,794,947)	3,794,947
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$124,007)	123,904
Receivable for Fund shares sold	1,261
Dividends receivable	44,668
Interest receivable	2,200
Foreign taxes recoverable	20,381
Other assets	1,001
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>66,132,371</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	4,099,962
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	71,187
Accrued management fee	31,609
Accrued Trustees' fees	1,477
Other accrued expenses and payables	57,694
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>4,261,929</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$61,870,442</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	7,572,815
Paid-in capital	54,297,627
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$61,870,442</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$59,811,087 ÷ 6,643,296 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 9.00</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$2,059,355 ÷ 238,599 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 8.63</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned. In addition, the Fund held non-cash collateral having a value of \$215,516.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$11,723)	\$ 365,328
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	13,019
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	17,293
<b>Total income</b>	<b>395,640</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	245,742
Administration fee	30,150
Services to shareholders	2,415
Recordkeeping fee (Class B)	302
Distribution service fee (Class B)	2,480
Custodian fee	3,132
Professional fees	32,458
Reports to shareholders	18,054
Trustees' fees and expenses	2,520
Other	9,158
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>346,411</b>
Expense reductions	(94,820)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>251,591</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>144,049</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized gain (loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	(828,539)
Foreign currency	(3,215)
	(831,754)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(7,488,632)
Foreign currency	(1,540)
	(7,490,172)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>(8,321,926)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$(8,177,877)</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 144,049	\$ 378,623
Net realized gain (loss)	(831,754)	(695,460)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(7,490,172)	13,801,763
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(8,177,877)	13,484,926
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(509,172)	(3,709,915)
Class B	(12,523)	(121,306)
Total distributions	(521,695)	(3,831,221)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,429,796	2,668,513
Reinvestment of distributions	509,172	3,709,915
Payments for shares redeemed	(4,465,175)	(8,101,927)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(2,526,207)	(1,723,499)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	80,774	254,888
Reinvestment of distributions	12,523	121,306
Payments for shares redeemed	(115,101)	(426,683)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	(21,804)	(50,489)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>(11,247,583)</b>	<b>7,879,717</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	73,118,025	65,238,308
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 61,870,442</b>	<b>\$ 73,118,025</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	6,910,961	7,090,435
Shares sold	167,953	278,893
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	66,298	383,652
Shares redeemed	(501,916)	(842,019)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(267,665)	(179,474)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>6,643,296</b>	<b>6,910,961</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	238,523	244,229
Shares sold	11,349	27,955
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	1,701	13,086
Shares redeemed	(12,974)	(46,747)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	76	(5,706)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>238,599</b>	<b>238,523</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$10.24</b>	<b>\$8.91</b>	<b>\$12.90</b>	<b>\$11.78</b>	<b>\$13.17</b>	<b>\$14.61</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.02	.05	.02	.00***	.03	.06
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(1.18)	1.82	(2.32)	2.21	.15	.21
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(1.16)</b>	<b>1.87</b>	<b>(2.30)</b>	<b>2.21</b>	<b>.18</b>	<b>.27</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.08)	—	(.04)	—	(.05)	(.14)
Net realized gains	—	(.54)	(1.65)	(1.09)	(1.52)	(1.57)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.08)</b>	<b>(.54)</b>	<b>(1.69)</b>	<b>(1.09)</b>	<b>(1.57)</b>	<b>(1.71)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$9.00</b>	<b>\$10.24</b>	<b>\$8.91</b>	<b>\$12.90</b>	<b>\$11.78</b>	<b>\$13.17</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(11.24)**	21.29	(20.51)	20.02	1.57	1.16
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	60	71	63	85	89	104
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.12*	1.11	1.10	1.15	1.17	1.12
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.81*	.82	.78	.94	1.02	.99
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	.48*	.54	.21	.03	.22	.41
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	3**	23	32	42	41	27

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

\*\*\* Amount is less than \$.005.

Class B	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$9.81</b>	<b>\$8.57</b>	<b>\$12.47</b>	<b>\$11.45</b>	<b>\$12.85</b>	<b>\$14.29</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.01	.03	(.01)	(.03)	(.03)	.02
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(1.14)	1.75	(2.24)	2.14	.17	.21
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(1.13)</b>	<b>1.78</b>	<b>(2.25)</b>	<b>2.11</b>	<b>.14</b>	<b>.23</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.05)	—	—	—	(.02)	(.10)
Net realized gains	—	(.54)	(1.65)	(1.09)	(1.52)	(1.57)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.05)</b>	<b>(.54)</b>	<b>(1.65)</b>	<b>(1.09)</b>	<b>(1.54)</b>	<b>(1.67)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$8.63</b>	<b>\$9.81</b>	<b>\$8.57</b>	<b>\$12.47</b>	<b>\$11.45</b>	<b>\$12.85</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(11.40)**	21.08	(20.74)	19.60	1.34	.86
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	2	2	2	3	3	3
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.41*	1.40	1.39	1.44	1.47	1.41
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.09*	1.09	1.06	1.22	1.30	1.24
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	.20*	.27	(.08)	(.26)	(.23)	.15
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	3**	23	32	42	41	27

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I (the "Trust") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust. The Trust consists of five diversified funds: DWS Bond VIP, DWS Capital Growth VIP, DWS Core Equity VIP, DWS CROCI® International VIP and DWS Global Small Cap VIP (individually or collectively hereinafter referred to as a "Fund" or the "Funds"). These financial statements report on DWS Global Small Cap VIP. The Trust is intended to be the underlying investment vehicle for variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies to be offered by the separate accounts of certain life insurance companies ("Participating Insurance Companies").

**Multiple Classes of Shares of Beneficial Interest.** The Fund offers two classes of shares (Class A shares and Class B shares). Class B shares are subject to Rule 12b-1 distribution fees under the 1940 Act and recordkeeping fees equal to an annual rate of 0.25% and up to 0.15%, respectively, of the average daily net assets of the Class B shares of the Fund. Class A shares are not subject to such fees.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares, except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class (including the applicable 12b-1 distribution fees). Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Securities for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities are generally categorized as Level 1 securities. For certain international equity securities, in order to adjust for events which may occur between the close of the foreign exchanges and the close of the New York Stock Exchange, a fair valuation model may be used. This fair valuation model takes into account comparisons to the valuation of American Depositary Receipts (ADRs), exchange-traded funds, futures contracts and certain indices and these securities are categorized as Level 2.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Trustees and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund's valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company's or issuer's financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is

purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Securities Lending.** Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash and/or U.S. Treasury Securities having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as common stock and Exchange-Traded Funds in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end.

**Remaining Contractual Maturity of the Agreements** as of June 30, 2020

	Overnight and Continuous	<30 days	Between 30 & 90 days	>90 days	Total
<b>Securities Lending Transactions</b>					
Common Stocks	\$3,134,643	\$ —	\$ —	\$215,516	\$3,350,159
Exchange-Traded Funds	\$ 965,319	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 965,319
<b>Total Borrowings</b>	<b>\$4,099,962</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$215,516</b>	<b>\$4,315,478</b>

Gross amount of recognized liabilities for securities lending transactions: \$4,315,478

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**Taxes.** The Fund is treated as a separate taxpayer as provided for in the Internal Revenue Code, as amended. It is the Fund's policy to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable income to the separate accounts of the Participating Insurance Companies which hold its shares.

Additionally, the Fund may be subject to taxes imposed by the governments of countries in which it invests and are generally based on income and/or capital gains earned or repatriated, a portion of which may be

recoverable. Based upon the current interpretation of the tax rules and regulations, estimated tax liabilities and recoveries on certain foreign securities are recorded on an accrual basis and are reflected as components of interest income or net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments. Tax liabilities realized as a result of security sales are reflected as a component of net realized gain/loss on investments.

At December 31, 2019, the Fund had a net tax basis short-term capital loss carryforward of approximately \$763,000 which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely.

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$56,896,484. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$9,042,472. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$17,670,259 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$8,627,787.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed, and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to income received from passive foreign investment companies and certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific Fund are allocated to that Fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a Fund are apportioned among the Funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis net of foreign withholding taxes. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Certain dividends from foreign securities may be recorded subsequent to the ex-dividend date as soon as the Fund is informed of such dividends. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

## **B. Purchases and Sales of Securities**

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$1,615,998 and \$4,992,940 respectively.

## **C. Related Parties**

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee based on its average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly at the annual rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.80%.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive all or a portion of its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest) of each class as follows:

Class A	.81%
Class B	1.09%

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$	91,688
Class B		3,132
	\$	<b>94,820</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid the Advisor an annual fee ("Administration Fee") of 0.10% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$30,150, of which \$4,963 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company ("DSC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. ("DST"), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2020
Class A	\$ 257	\$ 83
Class B	80	26
	\$ <b>337</b>	\$ <b>109</b>

**Distribution Service Agreement.** DWS Distributors, Inc. ("DDI"), also an affiliate of the Advisor, is the Trust's Distributor. In accordance with the Master Distribution Plan, DDI receives 12b-1 fees of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of Class B shares. Pursuant to the Master Distribution Plan, DDI remits these fees to the Participating Insurance Companies for various costs incurred or paid by these companies in connection with marketing and distribution of Class B shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$2,480, of which \$424 is unpaid.

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$4,884, of which \$2,278 is unpaid.

**Trustees' Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent

that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund's assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

#### **D. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2020, three participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 33%, 26% and 14%, respectively. Two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, each owning 74% and 16%, respectively.

#### **E. Line of Credit**

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the "Participants") share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund's accounting and financial reporting.

#### **G. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG ("DB"), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order ("Consent Order"), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the "DWS Service Providers"). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB's 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees, distribution and service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 887.60	\$ 886.00
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.80	\$ 5.11

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,020.84	\$ 1,019.44
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.07	\$ 5.47

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series I — DWS Global Small Cap VIP	.81%	1.09%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](https://dws.com/calculators).

## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trust’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS Global Small Cap VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board



believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 4th quartile of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has underperformed its benchmark in the one-, three-, and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018. The Board noted the disappointing investment performance of the Fund in recent periods and continued to discuss with senior management of DIMA the factors contributing to such underperformance and actions being taken to improve performance. The Board noted changes in the portfolio management team, effective April 19, 2018. The Board recognized the efforts by DIMA in recent years to enhance its investment platform and improve long-term performance across the DWS fund complex.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were higher than the median (4th quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that, effective October 1, 2017, in connection with the 2017 contract renewal process, DIMA agreed to reduce the Fund's contractual management fee rate to an annual rate of 0.80%. The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be lower than the median (2nd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class's total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to a comparable DWS U.S. registered fund ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Fund. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group manages an institutional account comparable to the Fund, but that DWS Group does not manage any comparable DWS Europe Funds. The Board took note of the differences in services provided to DWS Funds as compared to institutional accounts and that such differences made comparison difficult.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. In this regard, the Board observed that while the Fund's current investment management fee schedule does not include breakpoints, the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or “fall-out” benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund’s management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA’s and the Fund’s chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.

# Notes

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# Notes



VS1glosc-3 (R-028377-9 8/20)

June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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## **DWS Government Money Market VIP**

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

**You could lose money by investing in the Fund. Although the Fund seeks to preserve the value of your investment at \$1.00 per share, it cannot guarantee it will do so. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. The Fund's sponsor has no legal obligation to provide financial support to the Fund, and you should not expect that the sponsor will provide financial support to the Fund at any time.** The credit quality of the Fund's holdings can change rapidly in certain markets, and the default of a single holding could have an adverse impact on the Fund's share price. The Fund's share price can also be negatively affected during periods of high redemption pressures and/or illiquid markets. The actions of a few large investors in the Fund may have a significant adverse effect on the share price of the Fund. Please read the prospectus for specific details regarding the Fund's risk profile.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

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NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY



# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

## Asset Allocation (As a % of Investment Portfolio)

	6/30/20	12/31/19
Government & Agency Obligations	72%	79%
Repurchase Agreements	28%	21%
	100%	100%

## Weighted Average Maturity

	6/30/20	12/31/19
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS Government Money Market VIP	26 days	29 days
iMoneyNet Money Fund Average™ — Gov't & Agency Retail*	36 days	29 days

\* The Fund is compared to its respective iMoneyNet Money Fund Average category: Gov't & Agency Retail — Category includes the most broadly based of the government retail funds. These funds may invest in U.S. Treasury securities, securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or its agencies or instrumentalities.

Weighted average maturity, also known as effective maturity, is the weighted average of the maturity date of bonds held by the Fund taking into consideration any available maturity shortening features.

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 4.

Each month, information about the Fund and its portfolio holdings is filed with the SEC on Form N-MFP. The SEC delays the public availability of the information filed on Form N-MFP for 60 days after the end of the reporting period included in the filing. These forms will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) as of each month-end. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

A group of investment professionals is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. These investment professionals have a broad range of experience managing money market funds.

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Principal Amount (\$)	Value (\$)
<b>Government &amp; Agency Obligations 72.1%</b>		
<b>U.S. Government Sponsored Agencies 50.8%</b>		
Federal Farm Credit Bank:		
1-month LIBOR minus 0.055%, 0.123%*, 2/3/2021	1,000,000	999,943
1-month LIBOR minus 0.035%, 0.155%*, 8/20/2020	1,500,000	1,500,000
0.35%***, 5/7/2021	1,250,000	1,249,420
Federal Home Loan Bank:		
SOFR plus 0.030%, 0.11%*, 9/4/2020	2,000,000	2,000,000
SOFR plus 0.030%, 0.11%*, 11/6/2020	1,750,000	1,750,000
SOFR plus 0.040%, 0.12%*, 2/9/2021	1,000,000	1,000,000
0.122%***, 7/22/2020	1,200,000	1,199,916
SOFR plus 0.045%, 0.125%*, 8/14/2020	1,000,000	1,000,000
0.128%***, 7/29/2020	1,000,000	999,902
SOFR plus 0.050%, 0.13%*, 1/22/2021	300,000	300,000
SOFR plus 0.050%, 0.13%*, 1/28/2021	2,500,000	2,500,000
0.132%***, 9/17/2020	3,000,000	2,999,155
1-month LIBOR minus 0.050%, 0.134%*, 1/27/2021	1,000,000	1,000,000
0.142%***, 7/31/2020	1,000,000	999,883
0.142%***, 8/3/2020	1,500,000	1,499,808
0.142%***, 10/30/2020	2,000,000	1,999,059
SOFR plus 0.065%, 0.145%*, 2/26/2021	1,500,000	1,500,000
SOFR plus 0.080%, 0.16%*, 9/25/2020	5,000,000	5,000,000
1-month LIBOR minus 0.010%, 0.161%*, 9/1/2020	650,000	650,000
1-month LIBOR minus 0.010%, 0.168%*, 5/3/2021	750,000	749,935
0.173%***, 9/30/2020	1,994,000	1,993,143
SOFR plus 0.100%, 0.18%*, 9/15/2020	500,000	500,000
SOFR plus 0.100%, 0.18%*, 10/8/2020	1,000,000	1,000,000
SOFR plus 0.105%, 0.185%*, 10/1/2020	500,000	500,000
SOFR plus 0.120%, 0.2%*, 12/11/2020	1,000,000	1,000,000
SOFR plus 0.120%, 0.2%*, 2/28/2022	1,000,000	1,000,000
0.203%***, 10/13/2020	1,350,000	1,349,220
0.295%***, 9/25/2020	1,000,000	999,307
0.305%***, 11/17/2020	1,000,000	998,842
3-month LIBOR minus 0.155%, 0.401%*, 1/29/2021	1,000,000	1,000,000
0.458%***, 3/8/2021	2,500,000	2,492,188
0.528%***, 8/13/2020	5,000,000	4,996,894
0.53%***, 3/9/2021	1,000,000	996,374
0.691%***, 7/17/2020	2,000,000	1,999,396
3-month LIBOR minus 0.175%, 0.712%*, 10/28/2020	1,000,000	1,000,000

	Principal Amount (\$)	Value (\$)
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.:		
SOFR plus 0.010%, 0.09%*, 8/5/2020	1,000,000	1,000,000
SOFR plus 0.010%, 0.09%*, 8/25/2020	2,250,000	2,250,000
SOFR plus 0.030%, 0.11%*, 8/21/2020	2,250,000	2,250,000
SOFR plus 0.030%, 0.11%*, 1/22/2021	1,200,000	1,200,000
SOFR plus 0.030%, 0.11%*, 2/24/2021	1,500,000	1,500,000
SOFR plus 0.040%, 0.12%*, 9/10/2020	1,000,000	1,000,000
SOFR plus 0.040%, 0.12%*, 12/4/2020	2,000,000	2,000,000
SOFR plus 0.150%, 0.23%*, 3/4/2022	1,750,000	1,745,977
SOFR plus 0.400%, 0.48%*, 10/21/2021	800,000	800,000
Federal National Mortgage Association:		
SOFR plus 0.040%, 0.12%*, 1/29/2021	1,500,000	1,500,000
SOFR plus 0.050%, 0.13%*, 3/4/2021	3,500,000	3,500,000
SOFR plus 0.060%, 0.14%*, 7/30/2020	400,000	400,000
SOFR plus 0.075%, 0.155%*, 10/30/2020	750,000	750,000
SOFR plus 0.075%, 0.155%*, 6/4/2021	2,000,000	2,000,000
SOFR plus 0.300%, 0.38%*, 1/7/2022	1,500,000	1,500,000
SOFR plus 0.310%, 0.39%*, 10/25/2021	1,500,000	1,500,000
0.691%***, 7/15/2020	2,000,000	1,999,471
		<b>79,617,833</b>

## U.S. Treasury Obligations 21.3%

U.S. Treasury Bills:		
0.112%***, 8/6/2020	1,500,000	1,499,835
0.129%***, 8/25/2020	5,000,000	4,999,026
0.152%***, 9/8/2020	2,250,000	2,249,353
0.158%***, 12/1/2020	2,500,000	2,498,343
0.162%***, 10/20/2020	2,000,000	1,999,013
0.203%***, 7/21/2020	2,000,000	1,999,778
U.S. Treasury Floating Rate Notes:		
3-month U.S. Treasury Bill Money Market Yield minus 0.043%, 0.193%*, 7/31/2020	3,750,000	3,749,994
3-month U.S. Treasury Bill Money Market Yield minus 0.045%, 0.195%*, 10/31/2020	8,500,000	8,499,709
3-month U.S. Treasury Bill Money Market Yield plus 0.115%, 0.265%*, 1/31/2021	5,000,000	5,002,904
3-month U.S. Treasury Bill Money Market Yield plus 0.139%, 0.289%*, 4/30/2021	1,000,000	1,001,085
		<b>33,499,040</b>

## Total Government & Agency Obligations

(Cost \$113,116,873)

**113,116,873**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount (\$)	Value (\$)
<b>Repurchase Agreements 27.9%</b>		
Citigroup Global Markets, Inc., 0.07%, dated 6/30/2020, to be repurchased at \$21,680,042 on 7/1/2020 (a)	21,680,000	21,680,000
Wells Fargo Bank, 0.07%, dated 6/30/2020, to be repurchased at \$22,100,055 on 7/1/2020 (b)	22,100,000	22,100,000
<b>Total Repurchase Agreements</b> (Cost \$43,780,000)		<b>43,780,000</b>

	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$156,896,873)	100.0	<b>156,896,873</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	0.0	<b>(62,705)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>156,834,168</b>

\* Floating rate security. These securities are shown at their current rate as of June 30, 2020.

\*\* Annualized yield at time of purchase; not a coupon rate.

(a) Collateralized by:

Principal Amount (\$)	Security	Rate (%)	Maturity Date	Collateral Value (\$)
434,400	U.S. Treasury Bills	Zero Coupon	12/31/2020 – 06/17/2021	433,722
21,696,900	U.S. Treasury Note	0.125	06/30/2022	21,679,976
<b>Total Collateral Value</b>				<b>22,113,698</b>

(b) Collateralized by:

Principal Amount (\$)	Security	Rate (%)	Maturity Date	Collateral Value (\$)
203,381	Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	3.5 – 4.5	9/1/2042 – 08/1/2048	222,463
20,401,955	Federal National Mortgage Association	2.5 – 7.00	10/1/2022 – 9/1/2049	22,319,538
<b>Total Collateral Value</b>				<b>22,542,001</b>

LIBOR: London Interbank Offered Rate

SOFR: SOFR: Secured Overnight Financing Rate

## Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities. Securities held by the Fund are reflected as Level 2 because the securities are valued at amortized cost (which approximates fair value) and, accordingly, the inputs used to determine value are not quoted prices in an active market.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Investments in Securities (c)	\$ —	\$113,116,873	\$ —	\$113,116,873
Repurchase Agreements	—	43,780,000	—	43,780,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$156,896,873</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$156,896,873</b>

(c) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in securities, valued at amortized cost	\$ 113,116,873
Repurchase Agreements, valued at amortized cost	43,780,000
Cash	34,163
Receivable for Fund shares sold	276,511
Interest receivable	18,401
Other assets	1,317
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>157,227,265</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	299,314
Distributions payable	1,959
Accrued management fee	197
Accrued Trustees' fees	1,042
Other accrued expenses and payables	90,585
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>393,097</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 156,834,168</b>

## Net Assets Consist of

Distributable earnings (loss)	14,969
Paid-in capital	156,819,199
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 156,834,168</b>

## Class A Net Asset Value

**Net asset value**, offering and redemption price per share (\$156,834,168 ÷ 156,902,915 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)

**\$ 1.00**

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Interest	\$ 554,131
Expenses:	
Management fee	180,900
Administration fee	75,268
Services to Shareholders	1,315
Custodian fee	3,032
Professional fees	26,114
Reports to shareholders	38,675
Trustees' fees and expenses	3,337
Other	4,546
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>333,187</b>
Expense reductions	(80,910)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>252,277</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>301,854</b>
<b>Net realized gain (loss) from investments</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ 301,954</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 301,854	\$ 1,929,658
Net realized gain (loss)	100	42
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	301,954	1,929,700
Distributions to shareholders :		
Class A	(301,851)	(1,929,596)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	124,549,537	121,681,165
Reinvestment of distributions	358,987	1,949,598
Payments for shares redeemed	(90,344,041)	(108,541,061)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	34,564,483	15,089,702
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	34,564,586	15,089,806
Net assets at beginning of period	122,269,582	107,179,776
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 156,834,168</b>	<b>\$ 122,269,582</b>
<b>Other Information:</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	122,338,432	107,248,730
Shares sold	124,549,537	121,681,165
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	358,987	1,949,598
Shares redeemed	(90,344,041)	(108,541,061)
Net increase (decrease) in Fund shares	34,564,483	15,089,702
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>156,902,915</b>	<b>122,338,432</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months	Years Ended December 31,				
	Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>
<i>Income from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income	.002	.018	.014	.005	.001 <sup>b</sup>	.000 <sup>***</sup>
Net realized gain (loss)	.000 <sup>***</sup>	.000 <sup>***</sup>	(.000) <sup>***</sup>	.000 <sup>***</sup>	.000 <sup>***</sup>	(.000) <sup>***</sup>
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	.002	.018	.014	.005	.001	.000 <sup>***</sup>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.002)	(.018)	(.014)	(.005)	(.001)	(.000) <sup>***</sup>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>
Total Return (%)	.23 <sup>a**</sup>	1.77 <sup>a</sup>	1.39 <sup>a</sup>	.45	.05 <sup>a,b</sup>	.01 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	157	122	107	111	122	134
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.43 <sup>*</sup>	.47	.50	.48	.51	.49
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.33 <sup>*</sup>	.47	.50	.48	.44	.25
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.39 <sup>*</sup>	1.74	1.37	.45	.05 <sup>b</sup>	.01

<sup>a</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>b</sup> Includes a non-recurring payment for overbilling of prior years' custodian out-of-pocket fees. Excluding this payment, net investment income per share, total return, and ratio of net investment income to average net assets would have been reduced by \$0.0004, 0.04%, and 0.04%, respectively.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

\*\*\* Amount is less than \$.0005.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

DWS Government Money Market VIP (the "Fund") is a diversified series of Deutsche DWS Variable Series II (the "Trust"), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust.

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The Fund values all securities utilizing the amortized cost method permitted in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act and certain conditions therein. Under this method, which does not take into account unrealized capital gains or losses on securities, an instrument is initially valued at its cost and thereafter assumes a constant accretion/amortization rate to maturity of any discount or premium. Securities held by the Fund are reflected as Level 2 because the securities are valued at amortized cost (which approximates fair value) and, accordingly, the inputs used to determine value are not quoted prices in an active market.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Repurchase Agreements.** The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements, under the terms of a Master Repurchase Agreement, with certain banks and broker/dealers whereby the Fund, through its custodian or a sub-custodian bank, receives delivery of the underlying securities, the amount of which at the time of purchase and each subsequent business day is required to be maintained at such a level that the value is equal to at least the principal amount of the repurchase price plus accrued interest. The custodian bank or another designated sub-custodian holds the collateral in a separate account until the agreement matures. If the value of the securities falls below the principal amount of the repurchase agreement plus accrued interest, the financial institution deposits additional collateral by the following business day. If the financial institution either fails to deposit the required additional collateral or fails to repurchase the securities as agreed, the Fund has the right to sell the securities and recover any resulting loss from the financial institution. If the financial institution enters into bankruptcy, the Fund's claim on the collateral may be subject to legal proceedings.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund held repurchase agreements with a gross value of \$43,780,000. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the repurchase agreements at period end. The detail of the related collateral is included in the footnotes following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Federal Income Taxes.** The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders.

At December 31, 2019, the Fund had \$99 of short-term tax basis capital loss carryforwards, which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely.

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$156,896,873.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Net investment income of the Fund is declared as a daily dividend and is distributed to shareholders monthly. The Fund may take into account capital gains and losses in its daily dividend declarations. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

Permanent book and tax differences relating to shareholder distributions will result in reclassifications to paid-in capital. Temporary book and tax differences will reverse in a subsequent period. There were no significant book to tax differences for the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific fund are allocated to that fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a fund are apportioned among the funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. All discounts and premiums are accreted/amortized for both tax and financial reporting purposes.

## B. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays the Advisor a monthly management fee based on its average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$500 million	.235%
Next \$500 million	.220%
Next \$1.0 billion	.205%
Over \$2.0 billion	.190%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.235% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fee and/or reimburse certain operating expenses to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) at 0.51%.

In addition, the Advisor has agreed to voluntarily waive additional expenses. This voluntary waiver may be changed or terminated at any time without notice. Under these arrangements, the Advisor waived certain expenses of the Fund.

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed amounted to \$80,910.

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid DIMA an annual fee ("Administration Fee") of 0.10% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$75,268, of which \$12,379 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company ("DSC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. ("DST"), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC aggregated \$1,130, of which \$435 is unpaid.



**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$3,961, of which \$1,664 is unpaid.

**Trustees’ Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

### **C. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2020, three participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 53%, 17% and 11%.

### **D. Line of Credit**

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the “Participants”) share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate, plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

### **E. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund’s accounting and financial reporting.

### **F. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG (“DB”), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order (“Consent Order”), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the “DWS Service Providers”). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB’s 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,002.30
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 1.64

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,023.22
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 1.66

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratio</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS Government Money Market VIP	.33%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](https://dws.com/calculators).

## Proxy Voting

The Trust's policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC's Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust's policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS Government Money Market VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including a peer universe compiled using information supplied by iMoneyNet, an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-

and three-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's gross performance (Class A shares) was in the 1st quartile of the applicable iMoneyNet universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers).

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were lower than the median (2nd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). Based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, the Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total operating expenses were higher than the median (4th quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (less any applicable 12b-1 fees). The Board noted the expense limitation agreed to by DIMA. The Board also noted the voluntary fee waivers implemented by DIMA prior to December 31, 2017 to ensure the Fund maintained a positive yield. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to comparable DWS U.S. registered funds ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Funds. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.

# Notes

# Notes



# Notes



VS2GMM-3 (R-028387-9 8/20)

June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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## DWS High Income VIP

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Bond investments are subject to interest-rate, credit, liquidity and market risks to varying degrees. When interest rates rise, bond prices generally fall. Credit risk refers to the ability of an issuer to make timely payments of principal and interest. Investments in lower-quality ("junk bonds") and non-rated securities present greater risk of loss than investments in higher-quality securities. Investing in foreign securities presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. Investing in derivatives entails special risks relating to liquidity, leverage and credit that may reduce returns and/or increase volatility. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT  
NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

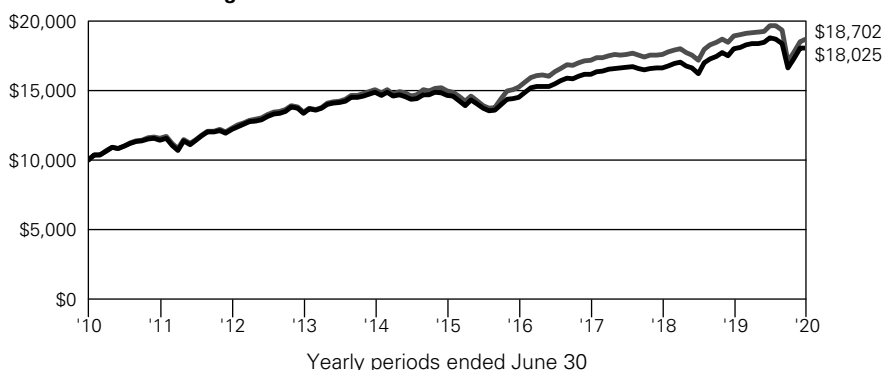
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns. While all share classes have the same underlying portfolio, their performance will differ.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 are 0.96% and 1.40% for Class A and Class B shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

- DWS High Income VIP — Class A
- ICE BofAML US High Yield Index



ICE BofAML US High Yield Index tracks the performance of US dollar denominated below investment grade corporate debt publicly issued in the US domestic market.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

## Comparative Results

DWS High Income VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,601	\$10,019	\$11,143	\$12,327	\$18,025
	Average annual total return	-3.99%	0.19%	3.67%	4.27%	6.07%
ICE BofAML US High Yield Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,516	\$9,883	\$10,902	\$12,505	\$18,702
	Average annual total return	-4.84%	-1.17%	2.92%	4.57%	6.46%
DWS High Income VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,594	\$9,994	\$11,072	\$12,158	\$17,528
	Average annual total return	-4.06%	-0.06%	3.45%	3.99%	5.77%
ICE BofAML US High Yield Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,516	\$9,883	\$10,902	\$12,505	\$18,702
	Average annual total return	-4.84%	-1.17%	2.92%	4.57%	6.46%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Corporate Bonds	98%	96%
Convertible Bonds	1%	0%
Loan Participations and Assignments	1%	0%
Cash Equivalents	0%	4%
Warrants	0%	0%
Common Stocks	0%	0%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Communication Services	21%	24%
Consumer Discretionary	18%	14%
Energy	14%	13%
Materials	11%	12%
Health Care	9%	9%
Industrials	8%	9%
Real Estate	5%	3%
Utilities	5%	6%
Consumer Staples	4%	4%
Information Technology	3%	3%
Financials	2%	3%
	100%	100%

<b>Quality</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalent and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
BBB	6%	5%
BB	58%	61%
B	32%	32%
CCC	3%	2%
Not Rated	1%	0%
	100%	100%

The quality ratings represent the higher of Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's"), Fitch Ratings, Inc. ("Fitch") or S&P Global Ratings ("S&P") credit ratings. The ratings of Moody's, Fitch and S&P represent their opinions as to the quality of the securities they rate. Credit quality measures a bond issuer's ability to repay interest and principal in a timely manner. Ratings are relative and subjective and are not absolute standards of quality. Credit quality does not remove market risk and is subject to change.

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at sec.gov. The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on dws.com from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Gary Russell, CFA, Managing Director

Thomas R. Bouchard, Director

Lonnie Fox, Director

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Principal Amount (\$)(a)	Value (\$)
<b>Corporate Bonds 97.9%</b>		
<b>Communication Services 21.3%</b>		
Altice Financing SA, 144A, 5.0%, 1/15/2028	310,000	307,942
Altice France Holding SA, 144A, 10.5%, 5/15/2027	200,000	220,310
Altice France SA:		
144A, 5.5%, 1/15/2028	200,000	202,000
144A, 7.375%, 5/1/2026	710,000	740,388
144A, 8.125%, 2/1/2027	200,000	218,750
CCO Holdings LLC:		
144A, 4.5%, 8/15/2030	40,000	40,800
144A, 4.5%, 5/1/2032	35,000	35,438
144A, 4.75%, 3/1/2030	140,000	143,247
144A, 5.0%, 2/1/2028	150,000	154,875
144A, 5.125%, 5/1/2027	125,000	129,325
144A, 5.5%, 5/1/2026	210,000	217,415
144A, 5.75%, 2/15/2026	530,000	548,200
144A, 5.875%, 5/1/2027	200,000	208,690
CenturyLink, Inc.:		
5.625%, 4/1/2025	50,000	51,700
Series W, 6.75%, 12/1/2023	45,000	48,366
Clear Channel Worldwide Holdings, Inc.:		
144A, 5.125%, 8/15/2027	320,000	307,200
9.25%, 2/15/2024	217,000	201,289
CommScope, Inc.:		
144A, 5.5%, 3/1/2024	130,000	131,300
144A, 5.5%, 6/15/2024	110,000	112,016
144A, 7.125%, 7/1/2028 (b)	75,000	74,820
144A, 8.25%, 3/1/2027 (c)	130,000	133,601
CSC Holdings LLC:		
144A, 4.125%, 12/1/2030	200,000	198,250
144A, 5.5%, 4/15/2027	345,000	358,972
144A, 5.75%, 1/15/2030	200,000	208,300
144A, 6.5%, 2/1/2029	200,000	218,750
144A, 7.5%, 4/1/2028	200,000	218,250
Diamond Sports Group LLC, 144A, 5.375%, 8/15/2026	90,000	65,138
DISH DBS Corp.:		
5.875%, 11/15/2024	96,000	95,520
144A, 7.375%, 7/1/2028 (b)	50,000	49,688
7.75%, 7/1/2026	90,000	95,400
Frontier Communications Corp., 144A, 8.0%, 4/1/2027	240,000	243,394
Lamar Media Corp., 144A, 4.875%, 1/15/2029	80,000	80,400
LCPR Senior Secured Financing DAC, 144A, 6.75%, 10/15/2027	210,000	214,200
Level 3 Financing, Inc.:		
144A, 4.625%, 9/15/2027	239,000	240,792
5.25%, 3/15/2026	110,000	113,025
Netflix, Inc.:		
REG S, 3.625%, 6/15/2030	EUR 100,000	115,440
4.625%, 5/15/2029	EUR 230,000	286,387
5.875%, 11/15/2028	71,000	80,851
Outfront Media Capital LLC, 144A, 5.0%, 8/15/2027	140,000	126,000
Sable International Finance Ltd., 144A, 5.75%, 9/7/2027	200,000	203,576
Sprint Capital Corp., 6.875%, 11/15/2028	395,000	480,912

	Principal Amount (\$)(a)	Value (\$)
Sprint Corp.:		
7.125%, 6/15/2024	165,000	186,308
7.625%, 3/1/2026	230,000	271,485
T-Mobile U.S.A., Inc., 4.75%, 2/1/2028	215,000	227,126
Telecom Italia Capital SA, 6.375%, 11/15/2033	155,000	174,762
Telefonica Europe BV, REG S, 5.875%, Perpetual (d)	EUR 100,000	121,066
ViaSat, Inc.:		
144A, 5.625%, 9/15/2025	135,000	129,262
144A, 5.625%, 4/15/2027 (c)	120,000	122,850
144A, 6.5%, 7/15/2028	105,000	105,022
Virgin Media Secured Finance PLC:		
144A, 5.5%, 8/15/2026	215,000	219,932
144A, 5.5%, 5/15/2029	345,000	360,525
Vodafone Group PLC, 7.0%, 4/4/2079	185,000	216,738
Ziggo Bond Co. BV, 144A, 3.375%, 2/28/2030	EUR 370,000	390,753
Ziggo BV, 144A, 4.875%, 1/15/2030	290,000	291,572
		<b>10,738,318</b>

## Consumer Discretionary 17.6%

Adient U.S. LLC, 144A, 9.0%, 4/15/2025	30,000	32,316
Ahern Rentals, Inc., 144A, 7.375%, 5/15/2023	35,000	16,800
American Axle & Manufacturing, Inc.:		
6.25%, 4/1/2025 (c)	135,000	132,637
6.25%, 3/15/2026	75,000	72,188
Beazer Homes U.S.A., Inc., 5.875%, 10/15/2027	35,000	33,425
Boyd Gaming Corp.:		
144A, 4.75%, 12/1/2027	60,000	51,600
6.375%, 4/1/2026	100,000	95,000
144A, 8.625%, 6/1/2025	120,000	125,400
Carnival Corp., 144A, 11.5%, 4/1/2023	145,000	157,325
Clarios Global LP:		
REG S, 4.375%, 5/15/2026	EUR 200,000	221,435
144A, 4.375%, 5/15/2026	EUR 100,000	110,718
144A, 6.25%, 5/15/2026	55,000	56,719
144A, 6.75%, 5/15/2025	80,000	83,200
144A, 8.5%, 5/15/2027	55,000	55,272
Colt Merger Sub, Inc.:		
144A, 5.75%, 7/1/2025 (b)	20,000	20,114
144A, 6.25%, 7/1/2025 (b)	220,000	218,625
144A, 8.125%, 7/1/2027 (b)	110,000	106,287
Dana Financing Luxembourg Sarl:		
144A, 5.75%, 4/15/2025	80,000	81,200
144A, 6.5%, 6/1/2026	110,000	113,850
Dana, Inc.:		
5.375%, 11/15/2027	55,000	54,896
5.625%, 6/15/2028	25,000	24,818
Eldorado Resorts, Inc., 6.0%, 9/15/2026	91,000	98,309
FCE Bank PLC, REG S, 1.528%, 11/9/2020	EUR 220,000	244,718

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>		<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Ford Motor Co.:			Stars Group Holdings BV, 144A, 7.0%, 7/15/2026	105,000	110,683
8.5%, 4/21/2023	90,000	95,175	Suburban Propane Partners LP, 5.75%, 3/1/2025	105,000	105,000
9.0%, 4/22/2025	285,000	308,427	Taylor Morrison Communities, Inc., 144A, 5.75%, 1/15/2028	170,000	175,100
9.625%, 4/22/2030 (c)	40,000	47,372	Tesla, Inc., 144A, 5.3%, 8/15/2025	270,000	270,000
Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC:			TRI Pointe Group, Inc.: 5.25%, 6/1/2027	55,000	54,725
1.514%, 2/17/2023	EUR 110,000	115,687	5.7%, 6/15/2028	80,000	81,200
3.219%, 1/9/2022	200,000	194,542	United Rentals North America, Inc.: 4.625%, 10/15/2025	200,000	201,000
4.14%, 2/15/2023	200,000	195,690	5.25%, 1/15/2030	80,000	82,600
5.113%, 5/3/2029	200,000	194,366	6.5%, 12/15/2026	220,000	231,000
5.125%, 6/16/2025	230,000	230,092	Univar Solutions U.S.A., Inc., 144A, 5.125%, 12/1/2027	160,000	161,859
HD Supply, Inc., 144A, 5.375%, 10/15/2026	100,000	102,125	Vail Resorts, Inc., 144A, 6.25%, 5/15/2025	100,000	104,625
Hilton Domestic Operating Co., Inc.:			Viking Cruises Ltd., 144A, 5.875%, 9/15/2027	205,000	122,051
4.875%, 1/15/2030	139,000	136,915	William Carter Co, 144A, 5.5%, 5/15/2025	60,000	61,875
144A, 5.375%, 5/1/2025	30,000	30,000	Wolverine World Wide, Inc., 144A, 6.375%, 5/15/2025	150,000	157,125
IAA, Inc., 144A, 5.5%, 6/15/2027	75,000	77,372	Wynn Las Vegas LLC, 144A, 5.5%, 3/1/2025	145,000	132,675
IRB Holding Corp, 144A, 7.0%, 6/15/2025	50,000	51,535	Wynn Resorts Finance LLC, 144A, 7.75%, 4/15/2025	20,000	20,144
L Brands, Inc.:			Yum! Brands, Inc., 144A, 7.75%, 4/1/2025	15,000	16,181
5.625%, 2/15/2022	55,000	53,763			<b>8,878,827</b>
6.625%, 4/1/2021	50,000	51,500	<b>Consumer Staples 3.8%</b>		
144A, 6.875%, 7/1/2025	110,000	113,575	Albertsons Companies, Inc.: 144A, 4.625%, 1/15/2027	200,000	200,000
144A, 9.375%, 7/1/2025	60,000	60,072	144A, 5.875%, 2/15/2028	60,000	61,906
Lennar Corp., 5.0%, 6/15/2027	50,000	54,000	Edgewell Personal Care Co., 144A, 5.5%, 6/1/2028	70,000	71,925
Lithia Motors, Inc., 144A, 4.625%, 12/15/2027	140,000	138,600	JBS U.S.A. LUX SA: 144A, 5.5%, 1/15/2030	60,000	61,500
M/I Homes, Inc., 4.95%, 2/1/2028	130,000	129,187	144A, 5.75%, 6/15/2025	210,000	212,625
Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., 144A, 6.125%, 9/15/2025	150,000	153,375	144A, 6.5%, 4/15/2029	132,000	140,085
Mattel, Inc., 144A, 6.75%, 12/31/2025	145,000	150,437	144A, 6.75%, 2/15/2028	235,000	248,221
Meritor, Inc.:			Kraft Heinz Foods Co.: 144A, 4.25%, 3/1/2031	260,000	275,676
6.25%, 2/15/2024	75,000	75,563	4.625%, 1/30/2029	70,000	75,460
144A, 6.25%, 6/1/2025	40,000	40,400	Lamb Weston Holdings, Inc., 144A, 4.875%, 5/15/2028	30,000	31,786
Navistar International Corp., 144A, 9.5%, 5/1/2025 (c)	100,000	107,155	Pilgrim's Pride Corp.: 144A, 5.75%, 3/15/2025	50,000	49,854
NCL Corp., Ltd., 144A, 3.625%, 12/15/2024	200,000	122,250	144A, 5.875%, 9/30/2027	230,000	230,046
Newell Brands, Inc., 4.7%, 4/1/2026	440,000	461,740	Post Holdings, Inc.: 144A, 5.0%, 8/15/2026	165,000	165,619
PetSmart, Inc.:			144A, 5.5%, 12/15/2029	110,000	113,753
144A, 7.125%, 3/15/2023	103,000	101,546			<b>1,938,456</b>
144A, 8.875%, 6/1/2025	90,000	90,221	<b>Energy 13.4%</b>		
Picasso Finance Sub, Inc., 144A, 6.125%, 6/15/2025	120,000	122,700	Antero Midstream Partners LP: 5.375%, 9/15/2024	95,000	80,939
Prestige Brands, Inc., 144A, 5.125%, 1/15/2028	60,000	59,100	144A, 5.75%, 3/1/2027	80,000	63,200
Prime Security Services Borrower LLC, 144A, 6.25%, 1/15/2028	145,000	136,662	144A, 5.75%, 1/15/2028	90,000	71,100
PulteGroup, Inc., 6.375%, 5/15/2033	100,000	117,000	Archrock Partners LP: 144A, 6.25%, 4/1/2028	160,000	145,600
Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.:			144A, 6.875%, 4/1/2027	110,000	103,620
144A, 10.875%, 6/1/2023	50,000	51,378			
144A, 11.5%, 6/1/2025	50,000	52,173			
Sabre GLBL, Inc., 144A, 9.25%, 4/15/2025	10,000	10,538			
Scientific Games International, Inc., 144A, 8.625%, 7/1/2025 (b)	110,000	102,817			
Sonic Automotive, Inc., 6.125%, 3/15/2027	55,000	54,450			
Spectrum Brands, Inc., 144A, 5.0%, 10/1/2029	30,000	29,625			
Staples, Inc., 144A, 7.5%, 4/15/2026	210,000	165,007			

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	<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>		<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Ascent Resources Utica Holdings LLC, 144A, 10.0%, 4/1/2022	80,000	68,200	Sunoco LP:		
Buckeye Partners LP, 144A, 4.5%, 3/1/2028	80,000	74,800	5.5%, 2/15/2026	65,000	63,050
Cheniere Energy Partners LP, 5.625%, 10/1/2026	80,000	79,600	5.875%, 3/15/2028	35,000	34,743
Crestwood Midstream Partners LP, 144A, 5.625%, 5/1/2027	150,000	125,053	6.0%, 4/15/2027	52,000	51,480
DCP Midstream Operating LP:			Targa Resources Partners LP:		
5.125%, 5/15/2029	80,000	76,750	5.0%, 1/15/2028	215,000	202,182
5.375%, 7/15/2025	367,000	364,247	5.375%, 2/1/2027	235,000	226,775
5.625%, 7/15/2027	50,000	50,313	144A, 5.5%, 3/1/2030	90,000	86,906
Endeavor Energy Resources LP:			TerraForm Power Operating LLC, 144A, 4.75%, 1/15/2030	135,000	137,025
144A, 5.5%, 1/30/2026	155,000	148,412	Transocean Poseidon Ltd., 144A, 6.875%, 2/1/2027	160,000	136,000
144A, 5.75%, 1/30/2028	35,000	33,600	USA Compression Partners LP:		
144A, 6.625%, 7/15/2025	35,000	35,274	6.875%, 4/1/2026	142,000	137,207
EnLink Midstream Partners LP, 4.4%, 4/1/2024	280,000	232,540	6.875%, 9/1/2027	100,000	96,000
EQM Midstream Partners LP:			Western Midstream Operating LP, 4.05%, 2/1/2030	60,000	57,755
144A, 6.0%, 7/1/2025	140,000	141,809	WPX Energy, Inc.:		
144A, 6.5%, 7/1/2027	80,000	81,938	4.5%, 1/15/2030	130,000	114,400
EQT Corp.:			5.25%, 9/15/2024	145,000	142,825
6.125%, 2/1/2025 (c)	105,000	104,635	5.25%, 10/15/2027	105,000	98,090
7.0%, 2/1/2030	135,000	139,054	5.875%, 6/15/2028	25,000	24,024
Genesis Energy LP:			<b>6,731,393</b>		
6.25%, 5/15/2026	115,000	98,656	<b>Financials 1.6%</b>		
6.5%, 10/1/2025	85,000	72,675	AG Issuer LLC, 144A, 6.25%, 3/1/2028	95,000	88,350
Hilcorp Energy I LP:			AmWINS Group, Inc., 144A, 7.75%, 7/1/2026	70,000	73,500
144A, 5.0%, 12/1/2024	155,000	133,300	Intesa Sanpaolo SpA, 144A, 5.71%, 1/15/2026	200,000	210,751
144A, 5.75%, 10/1/2025	60,000	51,000	Lions Gate Capital Holdings LLC, 144A, 6.375%, 2/1/2024	80,000	78,000
Matador Resources Co., 5.875%, 9/15/2026	134,000	99,160	LPL Holdings, Inc., 144A, 4.625%, 11/15/2027	30,000	29,625
MEG Energy Corp.:			Navient Corp., 6.5%, 6/15/2022	100,000	98,250
144A, 6.5%, 1/15/2025	195,000	181,958	Springleaf Finance Corp.:		
144A, 7.125%, 2/1/2027	95,000	78,969	5.375%, 11/15/2029	160,000	149,600
Murphy Oil U.S.A., Inc.:			6.625%, 1/15/2028	35,000	34,650
4.75%, 9/15/2029	115,000	117,588	8.875%, 6/1/2025	50,000	53,453
5.625%, 5/1/2027	65,000	67,113	<b>816,179</b>		
Occidental Petroleum Corp.:			<b>Health Care 8.4%</b>		
2.6%, 4/15/2022	170,000	161,976	Bausch Health Americas, Inc.:		
2.7%, 8/15/2022	195,000	181,535	144A, 8.5%, 1/31/2027	385,000	408,581
2.7%, 2/15/2023	460,000	419,175	144A, 9.25%, 4/1/2026	85,000	92,216
3.125%, 2/15/2022	35,000	33,520	Bausch Health Companies, Inc.:		
5.55%, 3/15/2026	105,000	95,835	144A, 5.0%, 1/30/2028	110,000	103,564
8.0%, 7/15/2025 (b)	175,000	175,656	144A, 5.25%, 1/30/2030	80,000	75,900
8.875%, 7/15/2030 (b)	75,000	74,906	144A, 5.75%, 8/15/2027	115,000	121,900
Parkland Corp., 144A, 5.875%, 7/15/2027	80,000	83,000	144A, 5.875%, 5/15/2023	9,000	8,978
Parsley Energy LLC:			144A, 6.125%, 4/15/2025	150,000	152,140
144A, 4.125%, 2/15/2028	50,000	45,250	144A, 6.25%, 2/15/2029	130,000	130,650
144A, 5.25%, 8/15/2025	55,000	52,819	144A, 7.0%, 1/15/2028	40,000	41,200
144A, 5.375%, 1/15/2025	185,000	179,968	144A, 7.25%, 5/30/2029	20,000	21,000
PBF Holding Co. LLC:			Catalent Pharma Solutions, Inc., 144A, 5.0%, 7/15/2027	125,000	129,766
144A, 6.0%, 2/15/2028	65,000	53,950	Centene Corp.:		
144A, 9.25%, 5/15/2025	35,000	37,363	3.375%, 2/15/2030	143,000	144,389
Range Resources Corp., 5.0%, 8/15/2022 (c)	185,000	168,350	4.625%, 12/15/2029	205,000	216,275
Shelf Drilling Holdings Ltd., 144A, 8.25%, 2/15/2025	75,000	33,750	144A, 5.375%, 8/15/2026	130,000	135,227
SM Energy Co., 6.625%, 1/15/2027	120,000	58,800	Charles River Laboratories International, Inc., 144A, 4.25%, 5/1/2028	100,000	99,949
Southwestern Energy Co.:					
6.2%, 1/23/2025 (c)	140,000	119,875			
7.75%, 10/1/2027	30,000	26,100			

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	<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>		<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Community Health Systems, Inc.:			Jaguar Holding Co. II:		
6.25%, 3/31/2023	415,000	390,619	144A, 4.625%, 6/15/2025	55,000	55,974
144A, 8.125%, 6/30/2024 (c)	120,000	80,400	144A, 5.0%, 6/15/2028	45,000	46,069
Encompass Health Corp.:			JELD-WEN, Inc., 144A,		
4.5%, 2/1/2028	45,000	43,160	6.25%, 5/15/2025	25,000	25,938
4.75%, 2/1/2030	37,000	35,335	Korn Ferry, 144A,		
HCA, Inc.:			4.625%, 12/15/2027	30,000	29,100
5.625%, 9/1/2028	50,000	55,813	Masonite International Corp.,		
5.875%, 2/1/2029	90,000	101,843	144A, 5.375%, 2/1/2028	74,000	75,665
Hill-Rom Holdings, Inc.,			Mileage Plus Holdings LLC, 144A,		
144A, 4.375%, 9/15/2027	85,000	87,019	6.5%, 6/20/2027 (b)	75,000	75,188
LifePoint Health, Inc.,			Moog, Inc., 144A,		
144A, 6.75%, 4/15/2025	135,000	139,387	4.25%, 12/15/2027	160,000	155,200
Molina Healthcare, Inc.,			Prime Security Services Borrower		
4.375%, 6/15/2028	100,000	99,875	LLC, 144A, 5.75%, 4/15/2026	135,000	139,995
Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Inc.,			Signature Aviation U.S. Holdings,		
144A, 7.25%, 2/1/2028	135,000	137,225	Inc., 144A, 4.0%, 3/1/2028	155,000	140,081
RegionalCare Hospital Partners			Spirit AeroSystems, Inc., 144A,		
Holdings, Inc.,			7.5%, 4/15/2025	50,000	49,313
144A, 9.75%, 12/1/2026	60,000	61,800	Summit Materials LLC,		
Select Medical Corp.,			6.125%, 7/15/2023	200,000	199,110
144A, 6.25%, 8/15/2026	275,000	278,011	Tennant Co., 5.625%, 5/1/2025	30,000	30,300
Tenet Healthcare Corp.:			TransDigm, Inc.:		
144A, 4.625%, 6/15/2028	65,000	63,323	5.5%, 11/15/2027	335,000	292,354
144A, 4.875%, 1/1/2026	190,000	185,012	144A, 6.25%, 3/15/2026	335,000	334,169
144A, 5.125%, 11/1/2027	220,000	217,074	144A, 8.0%, 12/15/2025	60,000	63,059
144A, 7.5%, 4/1/2025	50,000	53,188	Triumph Group, Inc., 144A,		
Teva Pharmaceutical Finance			6.25%, 9/15/2024	64,000	54,400
Netherlands II BV,			Vertical U.S. Newco Inc., 144A,		
4.5%, 3/1/2025	EUR 100,000	111,492	4.977%, 07/15/2027 (b)	200,000	200,000
Teva Pharmaceutical Finance			WESCO Distribution, Inc.:		
Netherlands III BV, 144A,			7.125%, 6/15/2025	40,000	42,125
7.125%, 1/31/2025	200,000	212,898	7.25%, 6/15/2028	105,000	111,037
		<b>4,235,209</b>	XPO Logistics, Inc., 144A,		
			6.25%, 5/1/2025	65,000	68,088
<b>Industrials 8%</b>				<b>4,025,059</b>	
Bombardier, Inc.:			<b>Information Technology 3.1%</b>		
144A, 5.75%, 3/15/2022	159,000	117,350	Boxer Parent Co., Inc., 144A,		
144A, 6.0%, 10/15/2022	143,000	100,100	7.125%, 10/2/2025	60,000	62,910
BWX Technologies, Inc.,			Camelot Finance SA, 144A,		
144A, 5.375%, 7/15/2026	30,000	30,911	4.5%, 11/1/2026	55,000	55,000
Cargo Aircraft Management, Inc.,			Cardtronics, Inc., 144A,		
144A, 4.75%, 2/1/2028	100,000	99,125	5.5%, 5/1/2025	95,000	92,150
Cimpress PLC,			CDW LLC, 4.125%, 5/1/2025	120,000	120,150
144A, 7.0%, 6/15/2026	150,000	138,375	Change Healthcare Holdings LLC,		
Clark Equipment Co.,			144A, 5.75%, 3/1/2025	210,000	207,375
144A, 5.875%, 6/1/2025	55,000	56,238	Fair Isaac Corp., 144A,		
Clean Harbors, Inc.,			5.25%, 5/15/2026	130,000	141,700
144A, 5.125%, 7/15/2029	30,000	31,115	IQVIA, Inc., 144A,		
Colfax Corp.,			5.0%, 5/15/2027	220,000	225,431
144A, 6.375%, 2/15/2026	95,000	99,275	Microchip Technology, Inc., 144A,		
Delta Air Lines, Inc.,			4.25%, 9/1/2025	140,000	140,891
144A, 7.0%, 5/1/2025	120,000	123,872	MTS Systems Corp., 144A,		
Energizer Holdings, Inc.:			5.75%, 8/15/2027	32,000	29,360
144A, 4.75%, 6/15/2028 (b)	60,000	58,858	Presidio Holdings, Inc.:		
144A, 6.375%, 7/15/2026	120,000	124,075	144A, 4.875%, 2/1/2027	20,000	19,550
144A, 7.75%, 1/15/2027	105,000	111,958	144A, 8.25%, 2/1/2028	30,000	30,000
EnerSys, 144A,			Science Applications International		
4.375%, 12/15/2027	90,000	89,100	Corp., 144A, 4.875%, 4/1/2028	30,000	29,822
GFL Environmental, Inc.:			SS&C Technologies, Inc., 144A,		
144A, 4.25%, 6/1/2025	40,000	40,350	5.5%, 9/30/2027	85,000	86,244
144A, 5.125%, 12/15/2026	50,000	51,750	TTM Technologies, Inc., 144A,		
Hillenbrand, Inc.,			5.625%, 10/1/2025	155,000	153,742
5.75%, 6/15/2025	160,000	165,600	Uber Technologies, Inc.:		
Howmet Aerospace, Inc.,			144A, 7.5%, 5/15/2025	120,000	120,900
6.875%, 5/1/2025	240,000	260,367	144A, 7.5%, 9/15/2027	50,000	50,125
Itron, Inc., 144A, 5.0%, 1/15/2026	140,000	139,475			<b>1,565,350</b>

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	<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
<b>Materials 10.8%</b>		
Arconic Corp.:		
144A, 6.0%, 5/15/2025	20,000	20,675
144A, 6.125%, 2/15/2028	215,000	214,946
Axalta Coating Systems LLC, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2024	175,000	177,188
Berry Global, Inc.:		
144A, 4.875%, 7/15/2026	105,000	106,575
144A, 5.625%, 7/15/2027	15,000	15,375
Cascades, Inc.:		
144A, 5.125%, 1/15/2026	10,000	10,150
144A, 5.375%, 1/15/2028	15,000	15,225
CF Industries, Inc., 5.15%, 3/15/2034	55,000	58,812
Chemours Co.:		
5.375%, 5/15/2027	35,000	31,629
7.0%, 5/15/2025 (c)	80,000	76,474
Clearwater Paper Corp., 144A, 5.375%, 2/1/2025	110,000	110,825
Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc., 144A, 6.75%, 3/15/2026	20,000	19,300
Constellium SE:		
144A, 4.625%, 5/15/2021	EUR100,000	112,327
144A, 5.75%, 5/15/2024	250,000	250,000
144A, 6.625%, 3/1/2025	250,000	252,818
Element Solutions, Inc., 144A, 5.875%, 12/1/2025	85,000	85,823
First Quantum Minerals Ltd.:		
144A, 6.5%, 3/1/2024	245,000	231,219
144A, 6.875%, 3/1/2026	200,000	189,500
144A, 7.25%, 4/1/2023	200,000	191,000
144A, 7.5%, 4/1/2025	200,000	191,500
Freeport-McMoRan, Inc.:		
4.125%, 3/1/2028	270,000	261,900
4.25%, 3/1/2030	150,000	145,500
5.0%, 9/1/2027	105,000	105,492
Hudbay Minerals, Inc.:		
144A, 7.25%, 1/15/2023	95,000	93,575
144A, 7.625%, 1/15/2025	220,000	209,000
Illuminate Buyer LLC, 144A, 9.0%, 7/1/2028	20,000	20,850
Kaiser Aluminum Corp., 144A, 4.625%, 3/1/2028	70,000	66,942
LABL Escrow Issuer LLC, 144A, 6.75%, 7/15/2026	100,000	104,031
Mauser Packaging Solutions Holding Co.:		
144A, 5.5%, 4/15/2024	175,000	171,883
144A, 7.25%, 4/15/2025	205,000	185,888
Mercer International, Inc., 7.375%, 1/15/2025	175,000	174,125
Novelis Corp.:		
144A, 4.75%, 1/30/2030	330,000	315,150
144A, 5.875%, 9/30/2026	230,000	229,713
Reynolds Group Issuer, Inc.:		
144A, 5.125%, 7/15/2023	290,000	292,201
144A, 7.0%, 7/15/2024	35,000	35,098
Starfruit Finco BV, 144A, 8.0%, 10/1/2026	150,000	153,554
Tronox Finance PLC, 144A, 5.75%, 10/1/2025	266,000	246,050
Tronox, Inc.:		
144A, 6.5%, 5/1/2025	30,000	30,300
144A, 6.5%, 4/15/2026 (c)	192,000	179,520

	<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
United States Steel Corp., 144A, 12.0%, 6/1/2025	40,000	41,000
		<b>5,423,133</b>
<b>Real Estate 5.2%</b>		
Cushman & Wakefield U.S. Borrower LLC, 144A, 6.75%, 5/15/2028	120,000	125,100
Iron Mountain, Inc.:		
144A, (REIT), 4.875%, 9/15/2029	60,000	58,350
144A, 5.0%, 7/15/2028	75,000	73,478
144A, 5.25%, 7/15/2030	265,000	261,025
144A, 5.625%, 7/15/2032 (REIT), 5.75%, 8/15/2024	70,000 320,000	69,853 323,072
iStar, Inc.:		
(REIT), 4.25%, 8/1/2025	100,000	90,500
(REIT), 4.75%, 10/1/2024	170,000	158,737
(REIT), 5.25%, 9/15/2022	55,000	53,350
MGM Growth Properties Operating Partnership LP: 144A, 4.625%, 6/15/2025	233,000	227,846
(REIT), 5.75%, 2/1/2027	310,000	317,750
MPT Operating Partnership LP, (REIT), 4.625%, 8/1/2029	140,000	140,700
Park Intermediate Holdings LLC, 144A, 7.5%, 6/1/2025	120,000	122,700
Realogy Group LLC, 144A, 7.625%, 6/15/2025	185,000	185,037
Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc., 144A, (REIT), 4.75%, 10/15/2027	5,000	4,450
Service Properties Trust, 7.5%, 9/15/2025	160,000	168,565
Uniti Group LP: 144A, 6.0%, 4/15/2023	60,000	58,500
144A, (REIT), 7.875%, 2/15/2025	110,000	111,460
VICI Properties LP: 144A, (REIT), 3.5%, 2/15/2025	10,000	9,400
144A, (REIT), 3.75%, 2/15/2027	30,000	28,200
144A, (REIT), 4.125%, 8/15/2030	20,000	19,075
144A (REIT), 4.625%, 12/1/2029	16,000	15,600
		<b>2,622,748</b>
<b>Utilities 4.7%</b>		
AmeriGas Partners LP: 5.5%, 5/20/2025	205,000	211,150
5.75%, 5/20/2027	110,000	116,325
Calpine Corp.:		
144A, 4.5%, 2/15/2028	155,000	151,125
144A, 5.25%, 6/1/2026	260,000	262,525
Clearway Energy Operating LLC, 144A, 4.75%, 3/15/2028	165,000	168,290
NextEra Energy Operating Partners LP, 144A, 4.25%, 7/15/2024	210,000	212,362
NRG Energy, Inc.:		
144A, 5.25%, 6/15/2029	157,000	164,850
5.75%, 1/15/2028	200,000	211,000
7.25%, 5/15/2026	75,000	79,125
PG&E Corp., 5.0%, 7/1/2028	125,000	124,963
Talen Energy Supply LLC: 144A, 7.25%, 5/15/2027	190,000	189,050
144A, 7.625%, 6/1/2028	60,000	60,000

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
Vistra Operations Co. LLC:		
144A, 5.0%, 7/31/2027	220,000	222,475
144A, 5.5%, 9/1/2026	150,000	153,066
144A, 5.625%, 2/15/2027	55,000	56,449
		<b>2,382,755</b>

**Total Corporate Bonds**  
(Cost \$49,838,954) **49,357,427**

### Loan Participations and Assignments 0.5%

#### Senior Loans \*\*

Endo Luxembourg Finance Company I S.a r.l., Term Loan B, 1-month USD LIBOR + 4.250%, 5.0%, 4/29/2024	178,619	169,492
Flex Acquisition Company, Inc., Frist Lien Term Loan, 3-month USD LIBOR + 3.000%, 4.433%, 12/29/2023	85,000	81,463

**Total Loan Participations and Assignments**  
(Cost \$251,443) **250,955**

### Convertible Bonds 0.6%

#### Consumer Discretionary 0.1%

Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. 144A, 4.25%, 6/15/2023 (Cost \$60,000)	60,000	55,800
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#### Energy 0.5%

Cheniere Energy, Inc., 144A, 4.875%, 5/28/2021 (PIK) (Cost \$277,269)	272,000	274,638
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**Total Convertible Bonds**  
(Cost \$337,269) **330,438**

### Common Stocks 0.0%

#### Industrials

Quad Graphics, Inc. (Cost \$0)	287	933
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### Warrants 0.1%

#### Materials

Hercules Trust II, Expiration Date 3/31/2029* (e) (Cost \$244,286)	1,100	58,876
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### Securities Lending Collateral 1.8%

DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (f) (g) (Cost \$934,830)	934,830	934,830
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### Cash Equivalents 0.3%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (f) (Cost \$128,762)	128,762	128,762
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% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
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#### Total Investment Portfolio

(Cost \$51,735,544)	101.2	51,062,221
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<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(1.2)	<b>(626,426)</b>
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<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>50,435,795</b>
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A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$)	Purchases	Sales	Net	Net Change in	Capital Gain	Number	Value (\$)
at	Cost (\$)	Proceeds (\$)	Realized	Unrealized	Distributions (\$)	of Shares	at
12/31/2019			Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)		at	6/30/2020
						6/30/2020	6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 1.8%</b>							
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (f) (g)							
361,289	573,541 (h)	—	—	—	1,339	—	934,830
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.3%</b>							
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (f)							
2,187,480	14,894,935	16,953,653	—	—	6,484	—	128,762
<b>2,548,769</b>	<b>15,468,476</b>	<b>16,953,653</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>7,823</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,063,592</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

\*\* Variable or floating rate security. These securities are shown at their current rate as of June 30, 2020. For securities based on a published reference rate and spread, the reference rate and spread are indicated within the description above. Certain variable rate securities are not based on a published reference rate and spread but adjust periodically based on current market conditions, prepayment of underlying positions and/or other variables.

(a) Principal amount stated in U.S. dollars unless otherwise noted.

(b) When-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment securities included.

(c) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$894,178, which is 1.8% of net assets.

(d) Perpetual, callable security with no stated maturity date.

(e) Investment was valued using significant unobservable inputs.

(f) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.

(g) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

(h) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

144A: Security exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers.

LIBOR: London Interbank Offered Rate

PIK: Denotes that all or a portion of the income paid in-kind in the form of additional principal.

REG S: Securities sold under Regulation S may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons, except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933.

REIT: Real Estate Investment Trust

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had the following open forward foreign currency contracts:

Contracts to Deliver		In Exchange For		Settlement Date	Unrealized Depreciation (\$)	Counterparty
EUR	1,663,412	USD	1,866,338	7/31/2020	(3,802)	State Street Bank and Trust

### Currency Abbreviations

EUR	Euro
USD	United States Dollar

For information on the Fund's policy and additional disclosures regarding forward foreign currency contracts, please refer to the Derivatives section of Note B in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

### Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Fixed Income Investments				
Corporate Bonds (i)	\$ —	\$ 49,357,427	\$ —	\$ 49,357,427
Loan Participations and Assignments	—	250,955	—	250,955
Convertible Bonds (i)	—	330,438	—	330,438
Common Stocks	933	—	—	933
Warrants	—	—	58,876	58,876
Short-Term Investments (i)	1,063,592	—	—	1,063,592
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,064,525</b>	<b>\$ 49,938,820</b>	<b>\$ 58,876</b>	<b>\$ 51,062,221</b>
Liabilities	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Derivatives (j)				
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ (3,802)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (3,802)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (3,802)</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ (3,802)</b>

(i) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

(j) Derivatives include unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on open forward foreign currency contracts.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$50,671,952) — including \$894,178 of securities loaned	\$ 49,998,629
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$934,830)*	934,830
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$128,762)	128,762
Cash	11,600
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$12,498)	12,498
Receivable for investments sold	1,313,654
Receivable for investments sold — when-issued/delayed delivery securities	236,038
Receivable for Fund shares sold	46,353
Interest receivable	775,068
Other assets	670
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>53,458,102</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	934,830
Payable for investments purchased	560,658
Payable for investments purchased — when-issued/delayed delivery securities	1,404,063
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	12,574
Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	3,802
Accrued management fee	15,434
Accrued Trustees' fees	1,234
Other accrued expenses and payables	89,712
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,022,307</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 50,435,795</b>

<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	(7,303,821)
Paid-in capital	57,739,616
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 50,435,795</b>

## Net Asset Value

### Class A

<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$50,283,339 ÷ 8,923,659 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 5.63</b>
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### Class B

<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$152,456 ÷ 26,918 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 5.66</b>
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\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Interest	\$ 1,456,711
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	6,484
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	1,339
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,464,534</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	127,667
Administration fee	25,042
Services to Shareholders	465
Record keeping fee (Class B)	110
Distribution service fees (Class B)	187
Custodian fee	8,700
Professional fees	51,247
Reports to shareholders	19,510
Trustees' fees and expenses	2,216
Other	7,123
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>242,267</b>
Expense reductions	(65,866)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>176,401</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>1,288,133</b>

## Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)

Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	(1,122,881)
Forward foreign currency contracts	(61,860)
Foreign currency	36,307
	(1,148,434)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(2,383,616)
Forward foreign currency contracts	5,825
Foreign currency	212
	(2,377,579)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>(3,526,013)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ (2,237,880)</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 1,288,133	\$ 2,819,135
Net realized gain (loss)	(1,148,434)	(118,561)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(2,377,579)	5,181,906
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(2,237,880)	7,882,480
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(2,873,076)	(3,177,995)
Class B	(8,104)	(7,539)
Total distributions	(2,881,180)	(3,185,534)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	4,025,148	5,665,153
Reinvestment of distributions	2,873,076	3,177,995
Payments for shares redeemed	(7,386,719)	(9,540,349)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(488,495)	(697,201)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,140	16,476
Reinvestment of distributions	8,104	7,539
Payments for shares redeemed	(1,440)	(11,195)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	7,804	12,820
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	(5,599,751)	4,012,565
Net assets at beginning of period	56,035,546	52,022,981
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 50,435,795</b>	<b>\$ 56,035,546</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	8,976,023	9,081,584
Shares sold	685,954	944,540
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	536,022	543,247
Shares redeemed	(1,274,340)	(1,593,348)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(52,364)	(105,561)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>8,923,659</b>	<b>8,976,023</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	25,470	23,418
Shares sold	201	2,669
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	1,501	1,282
Shares redeemed	(254)	(1,899)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	1,448	2,052
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>26,918</b>	<b>25,470</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$6.23</b>	<b>\$5.71</b>	<b>\$6.36</b>	<b>\$6.28</b>	<b>\$5.93</b>	<b>\$6.60</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.15	.31	.33	.31	.32	.32
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(.42)	.56	(.48)	.15	.41	(.58)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(.27)</b>	<b>.87</b>	<b>(.15)</b>	<b>.46</b>	<b>.73</b>	<b>(.26)</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.33)	(.35)	(.50)	(.38)	(.38)	(.41)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$5.63</b>	<b>\$6.23</b>	<b>\$5.71</b>	<b>\$6.36</b>	<b>\$6.28</b>	<b>\$5.93</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(3.99)**	15.69	(2.52)	7.51	12.87	(4.44)
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	50	56	52	61	100	101
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.95*	.96	.94	.78	.80	.75
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.69*	.68	.69	.72	.72	.72
Ratio of net investment income (%)	5.05*	5.09	5.41	4.98	5.38	5.09
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	51**	82	62	71	77	47

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

Class B	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$6.25</b>	<b>\$5.73</b>	<b>\$6.38</b>	<b>\$6.30</b>	<b>\$5.94</b>	<b>\$6.63</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.14	.29	.31	.31	.31	.32
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(.41)	.57	(.48)	.13	.41	(.61)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(.27)</b>	<b>.86</b>	<b>(.17)</b>	<b>.44</b>	<b>.72</b>	<b>(.29)</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.32)	(.34)	(.48)	(.36)	(.36)	(.40)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$5.66</b>	<b>\$6.25</b>	<b>\$5.73</b>	<b>\$6.38</b>	<b>\$6.30</b>	<b>\$5.94</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(4.06)**	15.33	(2.76)	7.21	12.67	(4.95)
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	.2	.2	.1	.1	2	3
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.38*	1.40	1.34	1.15	1.21	1.14
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.99*	.94	.96	.98	.98	1.02
Ratio of net investment income (%)	4.75*	4.82	5.14	4.88	5.15	4.86
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	51**	82	62	71	77	47

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



# Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

DWS High Income VIP (the "Fund") is a diversified series of Deutsche DWS Variable Series II (the "Trust"), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust.

**Multiple Classes of Shares of Beneficial Interest.** The Fund offers two classes of shares (Class A shares and Class B shares). Sales of Class B shares are subject to recordkeeping fees up to 0.15% and Rule 12b-1 fees under the 1940 Act equal to an annual rate of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Class B shares of the Fund. Class A shares are not subject to such fees.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class (including the applicable Rule 12b-1 fee and recordkeeping fees). Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Debt securities and loan participations and assignments are valued at prices supplied by independent pricing services approved by the Fund's Board. Such services may use various pricing techniques which take into account appropriate factors such as yield, quality, coupon rate, maturity, type of issue, trading characteristics, prepayment speeds and other data, as well as broker quotes. If the pricing services are unable to provide valuations, debt securities are valued at the average of the most recent reliable bid quotations or evaluated prices, as applicable, obtained from broker-dealers and loan participations and assignments are valued at the mean of the most recent bid and ask quotations or evaluated prices, as applicable, obtained from broker-dealers. Certain securities may be valued on the basis of a price provided by a single source or broker-dealer. No active trading market may exist for some senior loans and they may be subject to restrictions on resale. The inability to dispose of senior loans in a timely fashion could result in losses. These securities are generally categorized as Level 2.

Equity securities are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Securities for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities are generally categorized as Level 1 securities.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Forward currency contracts are valued at the prevailing forward exchange rate of the underlying currencies and are categorized as Level 2.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Board and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund's valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition; the price

and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company's or issuer's financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. That portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**Securities Lending.** Deutsche Bank AG, as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. As of period end, any securities on loan were collateralized by cash. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as corporate bonds in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end. As of period end, the remaining contractual maturity of the collateral agreements were overnight and continuous.

**Taxes.** The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders.

At December 31, 2019, the Fund had a net tax basis capital loss carryforward of approximately \$6,728,000, which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely, including short-term losses (\$531,000) and long-term losses (\$6,197,000).

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$51,754,896. The net unrealized depreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$692,675. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$1,045,199 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$1,737,874.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific fund are allocated to that fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a fund are apportioned among the funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on ex-dividend date. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments. All discounts and premiums are accreted/amortized for both tax and financial reporting purposes for the Fund, with the exception of securities in default of principal.

## **B. Derivative Instruments**

**Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts.** A forward foreign currency exchange contract ("forward currency contract") is a commitment to purchase or sell a foreign currency at the settlement date at a negotiated rate. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund entered into forward currency contracts in order to hedge its exposure to changes in foreign currency exchange rates on its foreign currency denominated portfolio holdings and to facilitate transactions in foreign currency denominated securities.

Forward currency contracts are valued at the prevailing forward exchange rate of the underlying currencies and unrealized gain (loss) is recorded daily. On the settlement date of the forward currency contract, the Fund records a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the value of the contract at the time it was opened and the value of the contract at the time it was closed. Certain risks may arise upon entering into forward currency contracts from the potential inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts. The maximum counterparty credit risk to the Fund is measured by the unrealized gain on appreciated contracts. Additionally, when utilizing forward currency contracts to hedge, the Fund gives up the opportunity to profit from favorable exchange rate movements during the term of the contract.

A summary of the open forward currency contracts as of June 30, 2020 is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the investment in forward currency contracts short vs. U.S. dollars had a total contract value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$880,000 to \$1,866,000.

The following table summarizes the value of the Fund's derivative instruments held as of June 30, 2020 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities, presented by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Liability Derivative</b>	<b>Forward Contract</b>
Foreign Exchange contracts (a)	\$ (3,802)

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Assets and Liabilities account:

(a) Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts.

Additionally, the amount of unrealized and realized gains and losses on derivative instruments recognized in Fund earnings during the six months ended June 30, 2020 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Operations is summarized in the following tables by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Realized Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>Forward Contract</b>
Foreign Exchange Contracts (b)	\$ (61,860)

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Operations accounts:

(b) Net realized gain (loss) from forward foreign currency contracts

<b>Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>Forward Contract</b>
Foreign Exchange contracts (c)	\$ 5,825

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Operations accounts:

(c) Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on forward foreign currency contracts

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund has transactions subject to enforceable master netting agreements which govern the terms of certain transactions, and reduce the counterparty risk associated with such transactions. Master netting agreements allow a Fund to close out and net total exposure to a counterparty in the event of a deterioration in the credit quality or contractual default with respect to all of the transactions with a counterparty. As defined by the master netting agreement, the Fund may have collateral agreements with certain counterparties to mitigate risk. For financial reporting purposes the Statement of Assets and Liabilities generally shows derivatives assets and liabilities on a gross basis, which reflects the full risks and exposures prior to netting. A reconciliation of the gross amounts on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities to the net amounts by a counterparty, including any collateral exposure, is included in the following table:

<b>Counterparty</b>	<b>Gross Amounts of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities</b>	<b>Financial Instruments and Derivatives Available for Offset</b>	<b>Collateral Pledged</b>	<b>Net Amount of Derivative Liabilities</b>
State Street Bank and Trust	\$ 3,802	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 3,802

### C. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment transactions (excluding short-term investments and U.S. Treasury securities) aggregated \$25,470,443 and \$25,392,846, respectively.

### D. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$250 million	.500%
Next \$750 million	.470%
Next \$1.5 billion	.450%
Next \$2.5 billion	.430%
Next \$2.5 billion	.400%
Next \$2.5 billion	.380%
Next \$2.5 billion	.360%
Over \$12.5 billion	.340%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.50% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2020, the Advisor had contractually agreed to waive all or a portion of its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.68%
Class B	.94%

Effective May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive all or a portion of its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.71%
Class B	1.10%

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class were as follows:

Class A	\$	65,578
Class B		288
	<b>\$</b>	<b>65,866</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid DIMA an annual fee ("Administration Fee") of 0.10% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$25,042, of which \$4,113 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company ("DSC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. ("DST"), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2020
Class A	\$ 126	\$ 41
Class B	25	9
	<b>\$ 151</b>	<b>\$ 50</b>

**Distribution Service Agreement.** Under the Fund's Class B 12b-1 plan, DWS Distributors, Inc. ("DDI") received a fee ("Distribution Service Fee") of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of Class B shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Distribution Service Fee was \$187, of which \$31 is unpaid.

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$5,402, of which \$3,591 is unpaid.

**Trustees' Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund's assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

**Security Lending Fees.** Deutsche Bank AG serves as lending agent for the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund incurred lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG for the amount of \$101.

## **E. Investing in High-Yield Debt Securities**

High-yield debt securities or junk bonds are generally regarded as speculative with respect to the issuer's continuing ability to meet principal and interest payments. The Fund's performance could be hurt if an issuer of a debt security suffers an adverse change in financial condition that results in the issuer not making timely payments of interest or principal, a security downgrade or an inability to meet a financial obligation. High-yield debt securities' total return and yield may generally be expected to fluctuate more than the total return and yield of investment-grade debt securities. A real or perceived economic downturn or an increase in market interest rates could cause a decline in the value of high-yield debt securities, result in increased redemptions and/or result in increased portfolio turnover, which could result in a decline in net asset value of the fund, reduce liquidity for certain investments and/or increase costs. High-yield debt securities are often thinly traded and can be more difficult to sell and value accurately than investment-grade debt securities as there may be no established secondary market. Investments in high yield debt securities could increase liquidity risk for the fund. In addition, the market for high-yield debt securities can experience sudden and sharp volatility which is generally associated more with investments in stocks.

## **F. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2020, two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 70% and 20%. One participating insurance company was owner of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, owning 87%.

## **G. Line of Credit**

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the "Participants") share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

## **H. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund's accounting and financial reporting.

## **I. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG ("DB"), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order ("Consent Order"), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the "DWS Service Providers"). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB's 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees, distribution and service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 960.10	\$ 959.40
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.36	\$ 4.82

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,021.43	\$ 1,019.94
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.47	\$ 4.97

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS High Income VIP	.69%	.99%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](https://dws.com/calculators).



## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trust’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS High Income VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board

believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 2nd quartile, 3rd quartile and 4th quartile, respectively, of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has underperformed its benchmark in the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were lower than the median (1st quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be higher than the median (3rd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class's total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to comparable DWS U.S. registered funds ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Funds. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA

products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.

# Notes



VS2HI-3 (R-028385-9 8/20)

June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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## DWS International Growth VIP

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Investing in foreign securities, particularly those of emerging markets, presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. Emerging markets tend to be more volatile and less liquid than the markets of more mature economies, and generally have less diverse and less mature economic structures and less stable political systems than those of developed countries. Stocks may decline in value. Smaller company stocks tend to be more volatile than medium-sized or large company stocks. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT  
NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY



# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

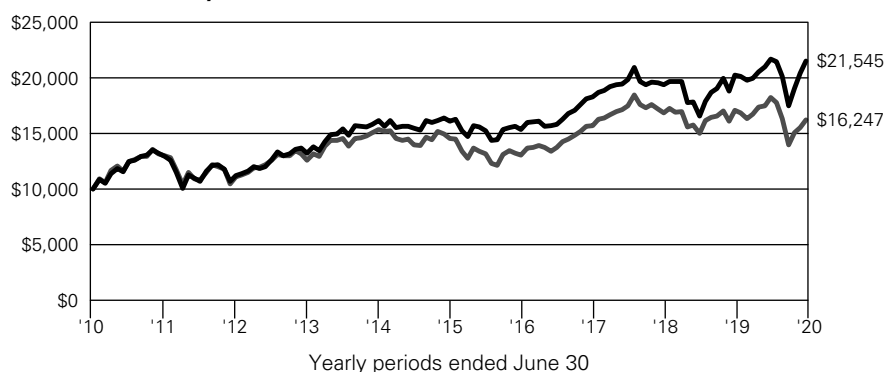
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns. While all share classes have the same underlying portfolio, their performance will differ.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 are 1.64% and 1.95% for Class A and Class B shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

■ DWS International Growth VIP — Class A  
■ MSCI All Country World ex-USA Index



MSCI All Country World ex-USA Index is an unmanaged equity index which captures large and mid-capitalization representation across 22 of 23 developed markets countries excluding the U.S. and 26 emerging markets countries. It covers approximately 85% of the global equity opportunity set outside of the U.S.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

Prior to October 1, 2017, the fund was named Deutsche Global Growth VIP and operated with a different investment strategy. Performance would have been different if the fund's current investment strategy had been in effect.

## Comparative Results

DWS International Growth VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,919	\$10,623	\$11,767	\$13,393	\$21,545
	Average annual total return	-0.81%	6.23%	5.57%	6.02%	7.98%
MSCI All Country World ex-USA Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$8,900	\$9,520	\$10,344	\$11,183	\$16,247
	Average annual total return	-11.00%	-4.80%	1.13%	2.26%	4.97%
DWS International Growth VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,910	\$10,597	\$11,669	\$13,217	\$20,894
	Average annual total return	-0.90%	5.97%	5.28%	5.74%	7.65%
MSCI All Country World ex-USA Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$8,900	\$9,520	\$10,344	\$11,183	\$16,247
	Average annual total return	-11.00%	-4.80%	1.13%	2.26%	4.97%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Common Stocks	98%	97%
Preferred Stocks	1%	—
Exchange-Traded Funds	1%	2%
Cash Equivalents	0%	1%
Convertible Preferred Stocks	0%	0%
	100%	100%

## Sector Diversification

(As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents, Securities Lending Collateral and Exchange-Traded Funds)

	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Information Technology	20%	18%
Health Care	19%	15%
Financials	15%	19%
Industrials	14%	15%
Consumer Discretionary	12%	14%
Consumer Staples	8%	7%
Communication Services	6%	5%
Materials	4%	5%
Energy	2%	2%
	100%	100%

## Geographical Diversification

(As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents and Securities Lending Collateral)

	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Germany	15%	13%
France	12%	13%
Switzerland	11%	9%
Japan	11%	10%
China	8%	8%
Canada	8%	9%
United States	7%	8%
Netherlands	5%	4%
Ireland	4%	4%
Sweden	3%	3%
United Kingdom	3%	4%
Singapore	2%	2%
Argentina	2%	2%
Korea	2%	2%
Brazil	1%	2%
Other	6%	7%
	100%	100%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Sebastian P. Werner, PhD, Director

Julia A. Merz, PhD, Assistant Vice President

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 97.0%</b>					
<b>Argentina 1.8%</b>					
Globant SA* (a) (Cost \$99,841)	1,920	<b>287,712</b>	SAP SE	1,681	236,246
<b>Brazil 1.4%</b>			TeamViewer AG*	6,852	377,155
Magazine Luiza SA	5,529	72,848	(Cost \$2,020,726)		<b>2,309,591</b>
Pageseguro Digital Ltd. "A"* (a)	4,379	154,754	<b>Hong Kong 1.0%</b>		
(Cost \$176,085)		<b>227,602</b>	Techtronic Industries Co., Ltd.	16,097	<b>158,803</b>
<b>Canada 7.5%</b>			(Cost \$38,072)		
Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.	4,121	263,876	<b>Ireland 3.7%</b>		
Alimentation Couche-Tard, Inc. "B"	5,515	172,933	Experian PLC	9,703	341,802
Brookfield Asset Management, Inc. "A"	14,484	476,683	Kerry Group PLC1 "A"	2,012	250,311
Canada Goose Holdings, Inc.*	2,570	59,669	(Cost \$338,293)		<b>592,113</b>
Canadian National Railway Co.	2,580	228,259	<b>Japan 9.9%</b>		
(Cost \$691,513)		<b>1,201,420</b>	Daikin Industries Ltd.	2,500	402,475
<b>China 8.3%</b>			Fast Retailing Co., Ltd.	300	171,852
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. (ADR)*	1,542	332,609	Hoya Corp.	2,600	247,604
Dada Nexus Ltd. (ADR)* (b)	544	12,131	Kao Corp.	1,100	87,132
Minth Group Ltd.	16,870	48,203	Keyence Corp.	800	334,498
Momo, Inc. (ADR)	3,293	57,562	MISUMI Group, Inc.	3,911	97,910
New Oriental Education & Technology Group, Inc. (ADR)*	939	122,286	Pigeon Corp.	3,900	150,785
Ping An Healthcare and Technology Co., Ltd. 144A*	2,100	32,361	Shimadzu Corp.	3,500	93,288
Ping An Insurance (Group) Co. of China Ltd. "H"	32,500	326,271	(Cost \$1,154,299)		<b>1,585,544</b>
Tencent Holdings Ltd.	6,300	406,234	<b>Korea 1.6%</b>		
(Cost \$862,424)		<b>1,337,657</b>	Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.	5,733	<b>254,324</b>
<b>Finland 0.3%</b>			(Cost \$244,788)		
Sampo Oyj "A" (Cost \$59,448)	1,248	<b>43,162</b>	<b>Luxembourg 0.9%</b>		
<b>France 11.5%</b>			Eurofins Scientific* (Cost \$52,647)	242	<b>152,714</b>
Airbus SE*	1,055	75,582	<b>Macau 0.8%</b>		
BNP Paribas SA*	1,836	73,405	Sands China Ltd. (Cost \$166,938)	31,600	<b>124,712</b>
Capgemini SE	1,314	151,644	<b>Malaysia 0.5%</b>		
Cie de Saint-Gobain*	2,669	96,847	IHH Healthcare Bhd.	59,600	<b>76,594</b>
LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE	804	357,533	(Cost \$80,714)		
Orpea	1,070	124,148	<b>Netherlands 4.5%</b>		
Schneider Electric SE	475	53,162	Adyen NV 144A*	59	86,274
SMCP SA 144A*	8,128	39,973	ASML Holding NV	543	200,636
Teleperformance	1,001	255,256	ING Groep NV	16,200	113,338
TOTAL SA (b)	5,934	229,318	Koninklijke Philips NV*	4,919	230,747
VINCI SA	2,705	249,790	Prosus NV*	1,035	96,533
Vivendi SA	5,360	138,005	(Cost \$650,608)		<b>727,528</b>
(Cost \$1,885,409)		<b>1,844,663</b>	<b>Norway 0.5%</b>		
<b>Germany 14.4%</b>			Mowi ASA (Cost \$49,692)	4,181	<b>79,563</b>
adidas AG*	327	86,407	<b>Singapore 1.8%</b>		
Allianz SE (Registered)	1,392	285,971	DBS Group Holdings Ltd.	19,200	<b>287,877</b>
BASF SE	1,978	111,360	(Cost \$306,584)		
Deutsche Boerse AG	2,770	503,339	<b>South Africa 1.2%</b>		
Evonik Industries AG	6,335	161,997	Naspers Ltd. "N" (Cost \$235,856)	1,035	<b>189,658</b>
Evotec SE*	3,869	105,835	<b>Sweden 3.1%</b>		
Fresenius Medical Care AG & Co. KGaA	3,755	323,970	Assa Abloy AB "B"	2,965	60,802
LANXESS AG	2,210	117,311	Hexagon AB "B"*	1,068	62,833
			Nobina AB 144A*	22,904	137,467
			Spotify Technology SA* (a)	926	239,084
			(Cost \$377,067)		<b>500,186</b>
			<b>Switzerland 10.9%</b>		
			Alcon, Inc.*	632	36,591
			Julius Baer Group Ltd.	1,388	58,745

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
Lonza Group AG (Registered)	1,271	673,636
Nestle SA (Registered)	3,490	387,051
Novartis AG (Registered)	2,685	235,044
Roche Holding AG (Genusschein)	806	280,746
Zur Rose Group AG* (b)	312	85,492
(Cost \$958,731)		<b>1,757,305</b>

#### Taiwan 1.4%

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (Cost \$127,111)	21,000	<b>223,655</b>
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#### United Kingdom 3.0%

Clinigen Group PLC	9,352	94,116
Compass Group PLC	6,985	96,741
Farfetch Ltd. "A"* (a)	3,982	68,769
Halma PLC	4,887	139,743
Prudential PLC	5,535	83,981
(Cost \$459,606)		<b>483,350</b>

#### United States 7.0%

Activision Blizzard, Inc.	2,076	157,568
EPAM Systems, Inc.*	1,101	277,463
Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.	1,677	180,060
MasterCard, Inc. "A"	624	184,517
NVIDIA Corp.	329	124,990
Schlumberger Ltd.	2,572	47,299
Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc.	440	159,430
(Cost \$530,321)		<b>1,131,327</b>

**Total Common Stocks** (Cost \$11,566,773) **15,577,060**

#### Convertible Preferred Stocks 0.2%

##### United States

Providence Service Corp. (c) (Cost \$13,600)	136	<b>26,910</b>
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A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2019	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/(Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Capital Gain Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2020	Value (\$) at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 1.6%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (d) (e)								
290,624	—	36,556 (f)	—	—	1,182	—	254,068	254,068
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.2%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (d)								
241,211	1,990,338	2,194,943	—	—	1,094	—	36,606	36,606
<b>531,835</b>	<b>1,990,338</b>	<b>2,231,499</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,276</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>290,674</b>	<b>290,674</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

(a) Listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

(b) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$326,881, which is 2.0% of net assets.

(c) Investment was valued using significant unobservable inputs.

(d) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.

(e) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates. In addition, the Fund held non-cash U.S. Treasury securities collateral having a value of \$89,042.

(f) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

144A: Security exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers.

ADR: American Depositary Receipt

MSCI: Morgan Stanley Capital International

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

#### Preferred Stocks 0.6%

##### Germany

Sartorius AG (Cost \$72,596)	322	<b>106,584</b>
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#### Exchange-Traded Funds 0.5%

##### United States

iShares MSCI Japan ETF (Cost \$84,057)	1,408	<b>77,327</b>
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#### Securities Lending Collateral 1.6%

DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (d) (e) (Cost \$254,068)	254,068	<b>254,068</b>
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#### Cash Equivalents 0.2%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (d) (Cost \$36,606)	36,606	<b>36,606</b>
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	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$12,027,700)	100.1	<b>16,078,555</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(0.1)	<b>(18,603)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>16,059,952</b>

## Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

<b>Assets</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
Common Stocks				
Argentina	\$ 287,712	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 287,712
Brazil	227,602	—	—	227,602
Canada	1,201,420	—	—	1,201,420
China	524,588	813,069	—	1,337,657
Finland	—	43,162	—	43,162
France	—	1,844,663	—	1,844,663
Germany	—	2,309,591	—	2,309,591
Hong Kong	—	158,803	—	158,803
Ireland	—	592,113	—	592,113
Japan	—	1,585,544	—	1,585,544
Korea	—	254,324	—	254,324
Luxembourg	—	152,714	—	152,714
Macau	—	124,712	—	124,712
Malaysia	—	76,594	—	76,594
Netherlands	—	727,528	—	727,528
Norway	—	79,563	—	79,563
Singapore	—	287,877	—	287,877
South Africa	—	189,658	—	189,658
Sweden	239,084	261,102	—	500,186
Switzerland	—	1,757,305	—	1,757,305
Taiwan	—	223,655	—	223,655
United Kingdom	68,769	414,581	—	483,350
United States	1,131,327	—	—	1,131,327
Convertible Preferred Stocks	—	—	26,910	26,910
Preferred Stocks	—	106,584	—	106,584
Exchange-Traded Funds	77,327	—	—	77,327
Short-Term Investments (g)	290,674	—	—	290,674
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,048,503</b>	<b>\$ 12,003,142</b>	<b>\$ 26,910</b>	<b>\$ 16,078,555</b>

(g) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$11,737,026) — including \$326,881 of securities loaned	\$15,787,881
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$254,068)*	254,068
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$36,606)	36,606
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$146,527)	142,353
Receivable for investments sold	134,440
Receivable for Fund shares sold	174
Dividends receivable	17,717
Interest receivable	148
Foreign taxes recoverable	13,526
Other assets	229
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>16,387,142</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	254,068
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	10,339
Accrued Management fee	7,922
Accrued Trustees' fees	594
Other accrued expenses and payables	54,267
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>327,190</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$16,059,952</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	3,939,356
Paid-in capital	12,120,596
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$16,059,952</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$15,972,352 ÷ 1,119,224 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 14.27</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$87,600 ÷ 6,120 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 14.31</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned. In addition, the Fund held non-cash collateral having a value of \$89,042.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$\$19,636)	\$ 157,736
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	1,094
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	1,182
<b>Total income</b>	<b>160,012</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	49,008
Administration fee	7,755
Services to Shareholders	435
Distribution service fee (Class B)	125
Custodian fee	5,318
Professional fees	40,350
Reports to shareholders	13,896
Trustees' fees and expenses	1,396
Other	6,532
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>124,815</b>
Expense reductions	(55,893)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>68,922</b>
<b>Net investment income (loss)</b>	<b>91,090</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	(123,644)
Foreign currency	(3,584)
	(127,228)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(212,833)
Foreign currency	(3,943)
	(216,776)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>(344,004)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$(252,914)</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 91,090	\$ 265,032
Net realized gain (loss)	(127,228)	(38,995)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(216,776)	4,100,804
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(252,914)	4,326,841
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(248,933)	(445,123)
Class B	(1,082)	(3,307)
Total distributions	(250,015)	(448,430)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	816,843	1,652,668
Reinvestment of distributions	248,933	445,123
Payments for shares redeemed	(2,105,035)	(2,520,782)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(1,039,259)	(422,991)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,242	16,855
Reinvestment of distributions	1,082	3,307
Payments for shares redeemed	(71,281)	(112,320)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	(68,957)	(92,158)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	(1,611,145)	3,363,262
Net assets at beginning of period	17,671,097	14,307,835
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$16,059,952</b>	<b>\$ 17,671,097</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	1,196,084	1,228,635
Shares sold	60,302	122,990
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	20,388	33,594
Shares redeemed	(157,550)	(189,135)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(76,860)	(32,551)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>1,119,224</b>	<b>1,196,084</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	10,737	19,045
Shares sold	104	1,204
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	88	249
Shares redeemed	(4,809)	(9,761)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	(4,617)	(8,308)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>6,120</b>	<b>10,737</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	\$ 14.64	\$11.47	\$13.90	\$11.12	\$10.81	\$11.04
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.08	.22	.16	.08	.06	.07
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(.23)	3.32	(2.46)	2.75	.34	(.21)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	(.15)	3.54	(2.30)	2.83	.40	(.14)
<i>Less distribution from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.22)	(.17)	(.13)	(.05)	(.09)	(.09)
Net realized gain	—	(.20)	—	—	—	—
<b>Total distributions</b>	(.22)	(.37)	(.13)	(.05)	(.09)	(.09)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	\$ 14.27	\$14.64	\$11.47	\$13.90	\$11.12	\$10.81
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(.81)**	31.22	(16.69)	25.47	3.72	(1.32)
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	16	18	14	19	27	34
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.58*	1.64	1.72	1.56	1.66	1.44
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.87*	.86	.81	.92	.95	.90
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.16*	1.63	1.21	.61	.51	.65
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	4**	16	38	62	70	64

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

Class B	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	\$ 14.66	\$11.49	\$13.93	\$11.13	\$10.82	\$11.05
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.05	.18	.12	.02	.02	.05
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(.22)	3.33	(2.46)	2.79	.35	(.23)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	(.17)	3.51	(2.34)	2.81	.37	(.18)
<i>Less distribution from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.18)	(.14)	(.10)	(.01)	(.06)	(.05)
Net realized gain	—	(.20)	—	—	—	—
<b>Total distributions</b>	(.18)	(.34)	(.10)	(.01)	(.06)	(.05)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	\$ 14.31	\$14.66	\$11.49	\$13.93	\$11.13	\$10.82
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(.90)**	30.84	(16.92)	25.26	3.38	(1.64)
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	.1	.2	.2	.2	.07	.1
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.88*	1.95	2.07	1.90	1.98	1.76
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.18*	1.16	1.06	1.15	1.24	1.22
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.68*	1.31	.92	.12	.17	.40
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	4**	16	38	62	70	64

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



# Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

DWS International Growth VIP (the "Fund") is a diversified series of Deutsche DWS Variable Series II (the "Trust"), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust.

**Multiple Classes of Shares of Beneficial Interest.** The Fund offers two classes of shares (Class A shares and Class B shares). Sales of Class B shares are subject to recordkeeping fees up to 0.15% and Rule 12b-1 fees under the 1940 Act equal to an annual rate of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets for Class B shares of the Fund. Class A shares are not subject to such fees.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class (including the applicable Rule 12b-1 fee and recordkeeping fees). Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities and Exchange-Traded Funds ("ETFs") are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Equity securities or ETFs for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities and ETFs are generally categorized as Level 1. For certain international equity securities, in order to adjust for events which may occur between the close of the foreign exchanges and the close of the New York Stock Exchange, a fair valuation model may be used. This fair valuation model takes into account comparisons to the valuation of American Depository Receipts (ADRs), exchange-traded funds, futures contracts and certain indices and these securities are categorized as Level 2.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Board and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund's valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company's or issuer's financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**Securities Lending.** Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash and/or U.S. Treasury Securities having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as common stock in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end.

**Remaining Contractual Maturity of the Agreements** as of June 30, 2020

	Overnight and Continuous	<30 days	Between 30 & 90 days	>90 days	Total
<b>Securities Lending Transactions</b>					
Common Stocks	\$254,068	\$ —	\$ —	\$89,042	\$343,110

Gross amount of recognized liabilities for securities lending transactions: \$343,110

**Taxes.** The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders.

Additionally, the Fund may be subject to taxes imposed by the governments of countries in which it invests and are generally based on income and/or capital gains earned or repatriated, a portion of which may be recoverable. Based upon the current interpretation of the tax rules and regulations, estimated tax liabilities and recoveries on certain foreign securities are recorded on an accrual basis and are reflected as components of interest income or net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments. Tax liabilities realized as a result of security sales are reflected as a component of net realized gain/loss on investments.

At December 31, 2019, the Fund had a net tax basis capital loss carryforward of approximately \$30,000 of long-term losses, which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely.

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$12,064,972. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$4,013,583. This consisted of aggregate

gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$5,159,977 aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$1,146,394.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to investments in foreign denominated investments and certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific fund are allocated to that fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a fund are apportioned among the funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

## B. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment transactions (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$638,624 and \$1,875,916, respectively.

## C. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee based on its average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly at the annual rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.62%.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.87%
Class B	1.19%

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$ 55,540
Class B	353
	<b>\$ 55,893</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid DIMA an annual fee (“Administration Fee”) of 0.10% of the Fund’s average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund’s average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$7,755, of which \$1,277 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company (“DSC”), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. (“DST”), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2020
Class A	\$ 106	\$ 33
Class B	25	9
	<b>\$ 131</b>	<b>\$ 42</b>

**Distribution Service Agreement.** Under the Fund’s Class B 12b-1 plan, DWS Distributors, Inc. (“DDI”) received a fee (“Distribution Service Fee”) of up to 0.25% of average daily net assets of Class B shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$125, of which \$18 is unpaid.

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$4,610, of which \$1,735 is unpaid.

**Trustees’ Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund’s assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

## D. Ownership of the Fund

At June 30, 2020, one participating insurance company was owner of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, owning 85%. Two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, owning 84% and 16%.

## E. Line of Credit

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the “Participants”) share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including

the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund's accounting and financial reporting.

#### **G. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG ("DB"), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order ("Consent Order"), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the "DWS Service Providers"). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB's 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees, distribution and service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 991.90	\$ 991.00
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.31	\$ 5.84

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,020.54	\$ 1,019
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.37	\$ 5.92

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS International Growth VIP	.87%	1.18%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](http://dws.com/calculators).

## Liquidity Risk Management

(Unaudited)

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trust’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS International Growth VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board



believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 4th quartile of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has outperformed its benchmark in the five-year period and underperformed its benchmark in the one- and three-year periods ended December 31, 2018. The Board noted the disappointing investment performance of the Fund in recent periods and continued to discuss with senior management of DIMA the factors contributing to such underperformance and actions being taken to improve performance. The Board considered that, effective October 3, 2016, the Fund's investment strategy and certain members of the portfolio management team were changed, and that, effective October 1, 2017, the Fund further changed its investment strategy. The Board observed that the Fund had experienced improved relative performance during the first eight months of 2019. The Board recognized the efforts by DIMA in recent years to enhance its investment platform and improve long-term performance across the DWS fund complex.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were lower than the median (1st quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that, effective October 1, 2017, DIMA agreed to reduce the Fund's contractual management fee rate to an annual rate of 0.62% in connection with changes to the Fund's investment strategy. The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be lower than the median (2nd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class's total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to a comparable DWS U.S. registered fund ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Fund. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. In this regard, the Board observed that while the Fund's current investment management fee schedule does not include breakpoints, the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or “fall-out” benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund’s management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA’s and the Fund’s chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.

# Notes

# Notes

# Notes



VS2IG-3 (R-028383-9 8/20)

June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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## DWS Small Mid Cap Growth VIP

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Stocks may decline in value. Smaller and medium company stocks tend to be more volatile than large company stocks. Any fund that focuses in a particular segment of the market or region of the world will generally be more volatile than a fund that invests more broadly. Investing in foreign securities presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

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NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY



# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

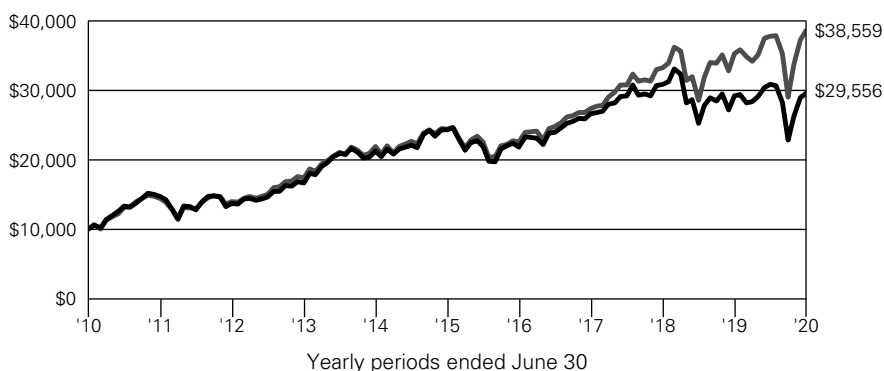
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns.

The gross expense ratio of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 is 0.82% for Class A shares and may differ from the expense ratio disclosed in the Financial Highlights table in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

■ DWS Small Mid Cap Growth VIP — Class A  
 ■ Russell 2500™ Growth Index



The Russell 2500™ Growth Index is an unmanaged index that measures the performance of the small to mid-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 2500 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

## Comparative Results

DWS Small Mid Cap Growth VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,575	\$10,131	\$11,127	\$12,143	\$29,556
	Average annual total return	-4.25%	1.31%	3.62%	3.96%	11.45%
Russell 2500 Growth Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,202	\$10,921	\$14,087	\$15,791	\$38,559
	Average annual total return	2.02%	9.21%	12.10%	9.57%	14.45%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Common Stocks	97%	98%
Cash Equivalents	1%	1%
Convertible Preferred Stock	1%	1%
Exchange-Traded Funds	1%	—
	100%	100%

## Sector Diversification

(As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents, Exchange-Traded Funds and Securities Lending Collateral)

	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Health Care	30%	24%
Information Technology	27%	24%
Industrials	15%	20%
Consumer Discretionary	14%	15%
Financials	4%	6%
Real Estate	4%	4%
Materials	3%	3%
Consumer Staples	2%	2%
Communication Services	1%	1%
Energy	0%	1%
	100%	100%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Peter Barsa, Director

Michael A. Sesser, CFA, Director  
Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 97.0%</b>					
<b>Communication Services 0.8%</b>					
<b>Entertainment</b>					
Cinemark Holdings, Inc.	12,290	141,950	SVB Financial Group*	2,455	529,126
Take-Two Interactive Software, Inc.*	2,174	303,425	Synovus Financial Corp.	14,926	306,431
		<b>445,375</b>			<b>1,524,676</b>
<b>Consumer Discretionary 13.9%</b>			<b>Capital Markets 1.2%</b>		
<b>Auto Components 0.8%</b>			Lazard Ltd. "A"	13,717	392,717
Gentherm, Inc.*	7,364	286,459	Moelis & Co. "A"	9,136	284,678
Tenneco, Inc. "A"*	18,953	143,285			<b>677,395</b>
		<b>429,744</b>	<b>Consumer Finance 0.5%</b>		
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 1.8%</b>			Green Dot Corp. "A"*	6,162	<b>302,431</b>
Bright Horizons Family Solutions, Inc.*	5,898	691,246	<b>Health Care 28.4%</b>		
ServiceMaster Global Holdings, Inc.*	9,448	337,199	<b>Biotechnology 12.7%</b>		
		<b>1,028,445</b>	Accelaron Pharma, Inc.*	3,899	371,458
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 1.5%</b>			Amicus Therapeutics, Inc.*	17,294	260,794
Hilton Grand Vacations, Inc.*	12,491	244,199	Apellis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	7,424	242,468
Jack in the Box, Inc.	7,892	584,718	Arena Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	7,158	450,596
		<b>828,917</b>	Biohaven Pharmaceutical Holding Co., Ltd.*	7,887	576,619
<b>Household Durables 3.8%</b>			Bluebird Bio, Inc.*	2,317	141,430
Helen of Troy Ltd.*	3,800	716,528	Blueprint Medicines Corp.*	4,684	365,352
iRobot Corp.* (a)	7,651	641,919	ChemoCentryx, Inc.*	2,371	136,427
TopBuild Corp.*	7,103	808,108	Emergent BioSolutions, Inc.*	11,619	918,831
		<b>2,166,555</b>	Global Blood Therapeutics, Inc.*	3,700	233,581
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 0.5%</b>			Heron Therapeutics, Inc.*	22,719	334,196
Grubhub, Inc.*	3,663	<b>257,509</b>	Immunomedics, Inc.*	3,351	118,759
<b>Leisure Products 1.2%</b>			lovance Biotherapeutics, Inc.*	5,250	144,112
YETI Holdings, Inc.* (a)	16,312	<b>697,012</b>	Ligand Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	3,112	348,077
<b>Specialty Retail 4.0%</b>			Mirati Therapeutics, Inc.*	2,878	328,581
Burlington Stores, Inc.*	4,412	868,855	Momenta Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	6,333	210,699
Camping World Holdings, Inc. "A" (a)	39,100	1,061,956	Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc.*	10,195	1,243,790
The Children's Place, Inc. (a)	6,488	242,781	Retrophin, Inc.*	23,478	479,186
Vroom, Inc.*	999	52,088	Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical, Inc.*	3,057	239,119
		<b>2,225,680</b>			<b>7,144,075</b>
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 0.3%</b>			<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 6.3%</b>		
Carter's, Inc.	2,269	<b>183,108</b>	Cardiovascular Systems, Inc.*	11,951	377,054
<b>Consumer Staples 1.8%</b>			Globus Medical, Inc. "A"*	4,024	191,985
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 1.2%</b>			Haemonetics Corp.*	1,353	121,175
Casey's General Stores, Inc.	4,552	<b>680,615</b>	iRhythm Technologies, Inc.*	3,858	447,104
<b>Household Products 0.6%</b>			Masimo Corp.*	5,052	1,151,805
Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc.	6,982	<b>320,474</b>	Natus Medical, Inc.*	12,922	281,958
<b>Energy 0.2%</b>			Nevro Corp.*	1,413	168,811
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels</b>			Quidel Corp.*	1,635	365,815
Contango Oil & Gas Co.* (a)	39,242	<b>89,864</b>	Tandem Diabetes Care, Inc.*	4,219	417,343
<b>Financials 4.4%</b>					<b>3,523,050</b>
<b>Banks 2.7%</b>			<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 6.3%</b>		
Pinnacle Financial Partners, Inc.	7,304	306,695	AMN Healthcare Services, Inc.*	15,169	686,246
South State Corp.	8,024	382,424	HealthEquity, Inc.*	1,929	113,175
			Molina Healthcare, Inc.*	5,092	906,274
			Option Care Health, Inc.*	27,764	385,364
			Providence Service Corp.*	6,946	548,109
			RadNet, Inc.*	55,477	880,420
			Tivity Health, Inc.*	4,464	50,577
					<b>3,570,165</b>
			<b>Health Care Technology 1.2%</b>		
			HMS Holdings Corp.*	21,178	<b>685,955</b>
			<b>Pharmaceuticals 1.9%</b>		
			ANI Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	8,521	275,569

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
Avadel Pharmaceuticals PLC (ADR)* (a)	18,916	152,841
Pacira BioSciences, Inc.*	11,807	619,514
		<b>1,047,924</b>
<b>Industrials 14.3%</b>		
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 0.9%</b>		
HEICO Corp.	5,006	<b>498,848</b>
<b>Building Products 4.1%</b>		
A.O. Smith Corp. (a)	9,887	465,875
Alliegeon PLC	7,499	766,548
AZEK Co., Inc.*	2,261	72,035
Fortune Brands Home & Security, Inc.	7,235	462,534
Masonite International Corp.*	6,705	521,515
		<b>2,288,507</b>
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 1.8%</b>		
MSA Safety, Inc.	3,599	411,870
The Brink's Co.	12,428	565,598
		<b>977,468</b>
<b>Construction &amp; Engineering 0.7%</b>		
MasTec, Inc.*	8,966	<b>402,304</b>
<b>Electrical Equipment 1.1%</b>		
Generac Holdings, Inc.*	1,478	180,213
Thermon Group Holdings, Inc.*	31,558	459,800
		<b>640,013</b>
<b>Machinery 1.1%</b>		
Hillenbrand, Inc.	8,406	227,550
IDEX Corp.	2,502	395,416
		<b>622,966</b>
<b>Professional Services 1.2%</b>		
Kforce, Inc.	22,466	657,131
Mistras Group, Inc.*	2,353	9,294
		<b>666,425</b>
<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors 3.4%</b>		
H&E Equipment Services, Inc.	22,784	421,048
Rush Enterprises, Inc. "A"	27,435	1,137,455
Titan Machinery, Inc.*	33,344	362,116
		<b>1,920,619</b>
<b>Information Technology 26.6%</b>		
<b>Communications Equipment 1.2%</b>		
Lumentum Holdings, Inc.*	8,417	<b>685,396</b>
<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components 1.4%</b>		
Cognex Corp.	7,873	470,176
IPG Photonics Corp.*	1,883	302,014
		<b>772,190</b>
<b>IT Services 4.1%</b>		
Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.	6,371	803,957
MAXIMUS, Inc.	8,556	602,770
WEX, Inc.*	2,932	483,809
WNS Holdings Ltd. (ADR)*	7,095	390,083
		<b>2,280,619</b>
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 4.4%</b>		
Advanced Energy Industries, Inc.*	12,629	856,120
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*	11,189	588,653
Cabot Microelectronics Corp.	3,131	436,900

	Shares	Value (\$)
Entegris, Inc.	8,229	485,922
Semtech Corp.*	2,154	112,482
		<b>2,480,077</b>
<b>Software 15.5%</b>		
Aspen Technology, Inc.*	9,895	1,025,221
Cornerstone OnDemand, Inc.*	11,656	449,455
DocuSign, Inc.*	2,091	360,091
Envestnet, Inc.*	9,852	724,516
Five9, Inc.*	16,541	1,830,593
Proofpoint, Inc.*	7,005	778,396
QAD, Inc. "A"	15,977	659,531
Tyler Technologies, Inc.*	4,758	1,650,455
Varonis Systems, Inc.*	13,732	1,215,007
		<b>8,693,265</b>
<b>Materials 2.9%</b>		
<b>Chemicals 0.2%</b>		
Trinseo SA	5,309	<b>117,647</b>
<b>Construction Materials 1.2%</b>		
Eagle Materials, Inc.	9,476	<b>665,405</b>
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging 0.6%</b>		
Berry Global Group, Inc.*	7,728	<b>342,505</b>
<b>Metals &amp; Mining 0.9%</b>		
Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc. (a)	67,277	371,369
First Quantum Minerals Ltd.	17,207	137,139
		<b>508,508</b>
<b>Real Estate 3.7%</b>		
<b>Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)</b>		
Americold Realty Trust	12,475	452,842
EastGroup Properties, Inc.	2,708	321,196
Essential Properties Realty Trust, Inc.	23,274	345,386
Four Corners Property Trust, Inc.	13,954	340,478
National Storage Affiliates Trust	5,162	147,943
QTS Realty Trust, Inc. "A" (a)	7,598	486,956
		<b>2,094,801</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks (Cost \$38,313,243)</b>		<b>54,486,532</b>
<b>Exchange-Traded Funds 0.5%</b>		
SPDR S&P Biotech ETF (a) (Cost \$247,239)	2,719	<b>304,392</b>
<b>Convertible Preferred Stocks 1.0%</b>		
<b>Health Care</b>		
Providence Service Corp., 5.5% (b) (Cost \$283,300)	2,833	<b>560,562</b>
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 7.8%</b>		
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (c) (d) (Cost \$4,413,350)	4,413,350	<b>4,413,350</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Cash Equivalents 1.5%</b>		
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (c) (Cost \$846,766)	846,766	<b>846,766</b>
	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$44,103,898)	107.8	<b>60,611,602</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(7.8)	<b>(4,387,311)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>56,224,291</b>

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$)	Purchases	Sales	Net Realized	Net Change in	Income (\$)	Capital Gain	Number	Value (\$)
at 12/31/2019	Cost (\$)	Proceeds (\$)	Gain/(Loss) (\$)	Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)		Distributions (\$)	of Shares at 6/30/2020	at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 7.8%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (c) (d)								
2,086,238	2,327,112 (e)	—	—	—	21,291	—	4,413,350	4,413,350
<b>Cash Equivalents 1.5%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (c)								
955,515	4,128,153	4,236,902	—	—	4,492	—	846,766	846,766
<b>3,041,753</b>	<b>6,455,265</b>	<b>4,236,902</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>25,783</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5,260,116</b>	<b>5,260,116</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

- (a) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$4,309,907, which is 7.7% of net assets.
- (b) Investment was valued using significant unobservable inputs.
- (c) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (d) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (e) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

ADR: American Depositary Receipt

S&P: Standard & Poor's

SPDR: Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipt

## Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common Stocks (f)	\$54,486,532	\$ —	\$ —	\$54,486,532
Exchange-Traded Funds	304,392	—	—	304,392
Convertible Preferred Stocks	—	—	560,562	560,562
Short-Term Investments (f)	5,260,116	—	—	5,260,116
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$60,051,040</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$560,562</b>	<b>\$60,611,602</b>

- (f) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$38,843,782) — including \$4,309,907 of securities loaned	\$55,351,486
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$4,413,350)*	4,413,350
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$846,766)	846,766
Cash	10,000
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$52)	54
Receivable for investments sold	420,965
Receivable for Fund shares sold	10,363
Dividends receivable	30,039
Interest receivable	1,922
Other assets	491
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>61,085,436</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	4,413,350
Payable for investments purchased	342,318
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	32,318
Accrued management fee	24,238
Accrued Trustees' fees	1,062
Other accrued expenses and payables	47,859
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>4,861,145</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$56,224,291</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	17,600,481
Paid-in capital	38,623,810
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$56,224,291</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$56,224,291 ÷ 4,385,720 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 12.82</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$328)	\$ 226,299
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	4,492
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	21,291
<b>Total income</b>	<b>252,082</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	152,553
Administration fee	27,223
Services to Shareholders	376
Custodian fee	764
Professional fees	30,610
Reports to shareholders	16,680
Trustees' fees and expenses	2,610
Other	3,094
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>233,910</b>
Expense reductions	(9,241)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>224,669</b>
<b>Net investment income (loss)</b>	<b>27,413</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from investments	1,184,189
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(4,621,719)
Foreign currency	2
	(4,621,717)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>(3,437,528)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$(3,410,115)</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 27,413	\$ 71,165
Net realized gain (loss)	1,184,189	1,092,162
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(4,621,717)	12,312,200
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(3,410,115)	13,475,527
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(959,731)	(8,788,523)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,891,615	2,374,360
Reinvestment of distributions	959,731	8,788,523
Payments for shares redeemed	(6,458,067)	(16,023,146)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(3,606,721)	(4,860,263)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	(7,976,567)	(173,259)
Net assets at beginning of period	64,200,858	64,374,117
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 56,224,291</b>	<b>\$ 64,200,858</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	4,698,629	5,077,014
Shares sold	149,317	179,399
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	90,115	680,753
Shares redeemed	(552,341)	(1,238,537)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(312,909)	(378,385)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>4,385,720</b>	<b>4,698,629</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months	Years Ended December 31,				
	Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$13.66</b>	<b>\$12.68</b>	<b>\$21.94</b>	<b>\$18.96</b>	<b>\$20.90</b>	<b>\$22.83</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.01	.01	(.01)	(.02)	.02	(.04)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(.63)	2.73	(1.92)	4.08	1.64	(.00)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(.62)</b>	<b>2.74</b>	<b>(1.93)</b>	<b>4.06</b>	<b>1.66</b>	<b>(.04)</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.01)	—	—	(.02)	—	—
Net realized gains	(.21)	(1.76)	(7.33)	(1.06)	(3.60)	(1.89)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.22)</b>	<b>(1.76)</b>	<b>(7.33)</b>	<b>(1.08)</b>	<b>(3.60)</b>	<b>(1.89)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$12.82</b>	<b>\$13.66</b>	<b>\$12.68</b>	<b>\$21.94</b>	<b>\$18.96</b>	<b>\$20.90</b>
Total Return (%)	(4.25) <sup>b**</sup>	22.41 <sup>b</sup>	(13.59) <sup>b</sup>	22.12	9.08	(.90)
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	56	64	64	77	118	135
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.84*	.82	.81	.75	.75	.72
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.81*	.81	.80	.75	.75	.72
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	.10*	.11	(.06)	(.08)	.11	(.19)
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	5**	10	32	32	28	42

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



# Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

DWS Small Mid Cap Growth VIP (the “Fund”) is a diversified series of Deutsche DWS Variable Series II (the “Trust”), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust.

The Fund’s financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”) which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund’s investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund’s own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities and exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Equity securities or ETFs for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities or ETFs are generally categorized as Level 1.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Board and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund’s valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security’s disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company’s or issuer’s financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund’s Investment Portfolio.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**Securities Lending.** Deutsche Bank AG, as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund

continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. As of period end, any securities on loan were collateralized by cash. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as common stocks and exchange-traded funds in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end.

**Remaining Contractual Maturity of the Agreements** as of June 30, 2020

	Overnight and Continuous	<30 Days	Between 30 & 90 Days	>90 Days	Total
<b>Securities Lending Transactions</b>					
Common Stocks	\$4,108,925	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$4,108,925
Exchange-Traded Funds	304,425	—	—	—	304,425
<b>Total Borrowings</b>	<b>\$4,413,350</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$4,413,350</b>

Gross amount of recognized liabilities for securities lending transactions: \$4,413,350

**Federal Income Taxes.** The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders.

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$44,215,985. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$16,395,617. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$21,546,978 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$5,151,361.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific fund are allocated to that fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a fund are apportioned among the funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

## B. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment transactions (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$2,746,667 and \$7,235,861, respectively.

## C. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$250 million	.550%
Next \$750 million	.525%
Over \$1 billion	.500%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.55% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) of Class A at 0.81%.

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed were \$9,241.

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid DIMA an annual fee ("Administration Fee") of 0.10% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$27,223, of which \$4,453 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company ("DSC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. ("DST"), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC aggregated \$194, of which \$66 is unpaid.

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$4,278, of which \$1,825 is unpaid.

**Trustees’ Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund’s assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

**Securities Lending Agent Fees.** Deutsche Bank AG serves as securities lending agent for the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$1,603.

#### **D. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2020, one participating insurance company was owner of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, owning 91%.

#### **E. Line of Credit**

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the “Participants”) share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund’s accounting and financial reporting.

#### **G. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG (“DB”), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order (“Consent Order”), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the “DWS Service Providers”). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB’s 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 957.50
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.94

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,020.84
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.07

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratio</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS Small Mid Cap Growth VIP	.81%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](https://dws.com/calculators).

## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trust’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS Small Mid Cap Growth VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board



believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 4th quartile of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has underperformed its benchmark in the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018. The Board noted the disappointing investment performance of the Fund in recent periods and continued to discuss with senior management of DIMA the factors contributing to such underperformance and actions being taken to improve performance. The Board noted changes in the portfolio management team, effective April 19, 2018. The Board recognized the efforts by DIMA in recent years to enhance its investment platform and improve long-term performance across the DWS fund complex.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were lower than the median (1st quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be lower than the median (2nd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board noted that the expense limitation agreed to by DIMA was expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to comparable DWS U.S. registered funds ("DWS Funds"), noting that DIMA indicated that it does not provide services to any other comparable DWS Funds. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the

executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.

# Notes

# Notes

# Notes



VS2SMCG-3 (R-028388-9 8/20)

June 30, 2020

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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## DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not be receiving paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from your insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a Web site, and your insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a Web site link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from your insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from your insurance company. If your insurance company informs you that future reports will be delivered via Web access, you can inform your insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by your insurance company.



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**This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain an additional prospectus or summary prospectus, if available, call (800) 728-3337 or your financial representative. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

Stocks may decline in value. Smaller and medium company stocks tend to be more volatile than large company stocks. Any fund that focuses in a particular segment of the market or region of the world will generally be more volatile than a fund that invests more broadly. Investing in foreign securities presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. The impact of the use of quantitative models and the analysis of specific metrics on a stock's performance can be difficult to predict, and stocks that previously possessed certain desirable quantitative characteristics may not continue to demonstrate those same characteristics in the future. Quantitative models also entail the risk that the models themselves may be limited or incorrect. Investing in foreign securities presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

DWS Distributors, Inc., 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 621-1148

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT  
NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY



# Performance Summary

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

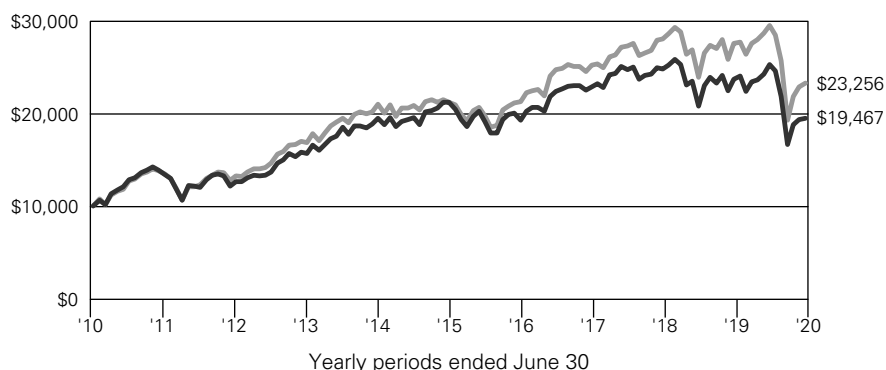
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please contact your participating insurance company for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance does not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option. These charges and fees will reduce returns. While all share classes have the same underlying portfolio, their performance will differ.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2020 are 0.88% and 1.25% for Class A and Class B shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

## Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

■ DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP — Class A  
 ■ Russell 2500™ Value Index



Russell 2500™ Value Index is an unmanaged index measuring the small to mid-cap U.S. equity value market.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

## Comparative Results

DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
<b>Class A</b>	Growth of \$10,000	\$7,713	\$8,230	\$8,519	\$9,175	\$19,467
	Average annual total return	-22.87%	-17.70%	-5.20%	-1.71%	6.89%
Russell 2500 Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$7,882	\$8,450	\$9,240	\$10,960	\$23,256
	Average annual total return	-21.18%	-15.50%	-2.60%	1.85%	8.81%
DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
<b>Class B</b>	Growth of \$10,000	\$7,712	\$8,210	\$8,436	\$9,019	\$18,808
	Average annual total return	-22.88%	-17.90%	-5.51%	-2.04%	6.52%
Russell 2500 Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$7,882	\$8,450	\$9,240	\$10,960	\$23,256
	Average annual total return	-21.18%	-15.50%	-2.60%	1.85%	8.81%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

<sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Common Stocks	98%	99%
Cash Equivalents	2%	1%
	100%	100%

## **Sector Diversification**

(As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents and Securities Lending Collateral)	<b>6/30/20</b>	<b>12/31/19</b>
Financials	21%	23%
Real Estate	15%	14%
Industrials	14%	14%
Consumer Discretionary	10%	10%
Information Technology	10%	9%
Health Care	8%	6%
Utilities	6%	6%
Materials	6%	7%
Consumer Staples	4%	3%
Communication Services	3%	3%
Energy	3%	5%
	100%	100%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 5.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please read the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## **Portfolio Management Team**

Pankaj Bhatnagar, PhD, Managing Director

Arno V. Puskar, Director  
Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 98.5%</b>		
<b>Communication Services 3.2%</b>		
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services 0.3%</b>		
GCI Liberty, Inc. "A"*	3,121	221,965
<b>Entertainment 0.4%</b>		
Lions Gate Entertainment Corp. "A"*	45,119	334,332
<b>Media 1.9%</b>		
Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.	78,123	1,340,591
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 0.6%</b>		
Telephone & Data Systems, Inc.	21,583	429,070
<b>Consumer Discretionary 10.1%</b>		
<b>Automobiles 1.5%</b>		
Winnebago Industries, Inc.	16,677	1,111,022
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 1.6%</b>		
Regis Corp.* (a)	74,377	608,404
WW International, Inc.*	21,998	558,309
		<b>1,166,713</b>
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 1.3%</b>		
Aramark	42,196	952,364
<b>Household Durables 1.2%</b>		
PulteGroup, Inc.	24,524	834,552
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 1.2%</b>		
Qurate Retail, Inc. "A"*	91,337	867,701
<b>Leisure Products 1.3%</b>		
Brunswick Corp.	14,307	915,791
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 2.0%</b>		
Columbia Sportswear Co.	17,354	1,398,385
<b>Consumer Staples 3.8%</b>		
<b>Food Products 1.2%</b>		
Conagra Brands, Inc.	17,736	623,775
Darling Ingredients, Inc.*	11,282	277,763
		<b>901,538</b>
<b>Household Products 2.1%</b>		
Central Garden & Pet Co.*	35,631	1,282,360
Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc.	4,499	206,504
		<b>1,488,864</b>
<b>Tobacco 0.5%</b>		
Vector Group Ltd.	35,608	358,216
<b>Energy 2.7%</b>		
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels</b>		
Equitrans Midstream Corp.	85,903	713,854
Peabody Energy Corp.	141,966	408,862
Renewable Energy Group, Inc.*	14,002	346,969
Targa Resources Corp.	22,695	455,489
		<b>1,925,174</b>
<b>Financials 21.0%</b>		
<b>Banks 8.3%</b>		
BankUnited, Inc.	43,125	873,281
Eagle Bancorp., Inc.	23,396	766,219
Flushing Financial Corp.	31,150	358,848
Hancock Whitney Corp.	21,607	458,068

	Shares	Value (\$)
Hilltop Holdings, Inc.	18,694	344,904
Pacific Premier Bancorp., Inc.	47,264	1,024,684
Simmons First National Corp. "A"	32,511	556,263
UMB Financial Corp.	18,452	951,201
Valley National Bancorp.	78,627	614,863
		<b>5,948,331</b>
<b>Capital Markets 0.5%</b>		
Donnelley Financial Solutions, Inc.*	44,097	370,415
<b>Consumer Finance 1.9%</b>		
Credit Acceptance Corp.*	2,029	850,171
EZCORP, Inc. "A"*	84,871	534,688
		<b>1,384,859</b>
<b>Insurance 6.1%</b>		
American Equity Investment Life Holding Co.	15,529	383,722
American Financial Group, Inc.	5,290	335,703
Assurant, Inc.	11,251	1,162,116
Brown & Brown, Inc.	38,507	1,569,545
Everest Re Group Ltd.	3,509	723,556
Globe Life, Inc.	2,844	211,110
		<b>4,385,752</b>
<b>Mortgage Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) 2.3%</b>		
Blackstone Mortgage Trust, Inc., "A"	24,538	591,120
Ellington Financial, Inc.	25,520	300,626
PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust	41,713	731,229
		<b>1,622,975</b>
<b>Thriffs &amp; Mortgage Finance 1.9%</b>		
Walker & Dunlop, Inc.	26,373	1,340,012
<b>Health Care 7.3%</b>		
<b>Biotechnology 0.8%</b>		
Myriad Genetics, Inc.*	22,504	255,195
Novavax, Inc.*	3,423	285,307
		<b>540,502</b>
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 1.8%</b>		
ICU Medical, Inc.*	1,607	296,186
Invacare Corp.	156,715	998,275
		<b>1,294,461</b>
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services 3.9%</b>		
Bruker Corp.	26,564	1,080,624
PerkinElmer, Inc.	14,247	1,397,488
Syneos Health, Inc.*	5,638	328,413
		<b>2,806,525</b>
<b>Pharmaceuticals 0.8%</b>		
Endo International PLC*	57,658	197,767
Mallinckrodt PLC* (a)	152,940	409,879
		<b>607,646</b>
<b>Industrials 13.9%</b>		
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 2.2%</b>		
Teledyne Technologies, Inc.*	5,099	1,585,534
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics 0.7%</b>		
Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings, Inc.*	11,578	498,201

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Building Products 1.3%</b>		
Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. (a)	10,773	908,810
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 1.4%</b>		
IAA, Inc.*	13,027	502,451
Interface, Inc.	65,603	534,009
		<b>1,036,460</b>
<b>Construction &amp; Engineering 2.0%</b>		
Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Corp.*	52,901	489,863
Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.	10,840	919,232
		<b>1,409,095</b>
<b>Electrical Equipment 1.9%</b>		
EnerSys	20,622	1,327,645
<b>Industrial Conglomerates 0.6%</b>		
Carlisle Companies, Inc.	3,720	445,173
<b>Machinery 3.8%</b>		
Federal Signal Corp.	46,249	1,374,983
Hillenbrand, Inc.	34,641	937,732
Manitowoc Co Inc/The*	39,796	432,980
		<b>2,745,695</b>
<b>Information Technology 10.1%</b>		
<b>Communications Equipment 1.4%</b>		
Ciena Corp.*	3,898	211,116
CommScope Holding Co., Inc.*	93,804	781,387
		<b>992,503</b>
<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components 2.0%</b>		
Avnet, Inc.	21,836	608,897
Insight Enterprises, Inc.*	16,961	834,481
		<b>1,443,378</b>
<b>IT Services 2.3%</b>		
Alliance Data Systems Corp.	6,708	302,665
Leidos Holdings, Inc.	14,265	1,336,203
		<b>1,638,868</b>
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 2.5%</b>		
Cirrus Logic, Inc.*	10,772	665,494
Marvell Technology Group Ltd.	26,388	925,163
ON Semiconductor Corp.*	10,647	211,024
		<b>1,801,681</b>
<b>Software 1.9%</b>		
Avaya Holdings Corp.*	29,998	370,775
Verint Systems, Inc.* (a)	21,871	988,132
		<b>1,358,907</b>
<b>Materials 6.0%</b>		
<b>Chemicals 2.2%</b>		
H.B. Fuller Co.	6,577	293,334
Kraton Corp.* (a)	37,554	648,933
PolyOne Corp.	11,594	304,111
PQ Group Holdings, Inc.*	22,332	295,676
		<b>1,542,054</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Metals &amp; Mining 3.8%</b>		
Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc. (a)	57,702	318,515
Coeur Mining, Inc.*	119,548	607,304
Steel Dynamics, Inc.	53,326	1,391,275
SunCoke Energy, Inc.	87,242	258,236
Warrior Met Coal, Inc.	9,877	152,007
		<b>2,727,337</b>
<b>Real Estate 14.2%</b>		
<b>Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)</b>		
Agree Realty Corp.	18,341	1,205,187
Alexander & Baldwin, Inc.	19,251	234,670
Duke Realty Corp.	35,999	1,274,005
Easterly Government Properties, Inc.	32,619	754,151
Gaming and Leisure Properties, Inc.	28,409	982,951
Highwoods Properties, Inc.	28,870	1,077,717
Iron Mountain, Inc.	8,536	222,790
Lexington Realty Trust	87,674	924,961
SITE Centers Corp.	71,120	576,072
STAG Industrial, Inc.	43,423	1,273,162
Urban Edge Properties	49,877	592,040
WP Carey, Inc.	15,846	1,071,982
		<b>10,189,688</b>
<b>Utilities 6.2%</b>		
<b>Electric Utilities 3.5%</b>		
IDACORP, Inc.	16,313	1,425,267
NRG Energy, Inc.	5,796	188,718
Pinnacle West Capital Corp.	12,092	886,222
		<b>2,500,207</b>
<b>Gas Utilities 2.7%</b>		
ONE Gas, Inc.	18,958	1,460,714
UGI Corp.	15,072	479,290
		<b>1,940,004</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks (Cost \$77,631,301)</b>		<b>70,638,996</b>
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 2.7%</b>		
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (b) (c) (Cost \$1,971,464)	1,971,464	1,971,464
<b>Cash Equivalents 1.5%</b>		
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (b) (Cost \$1,090,683)	1,090,683	1,090,683
	<b>% of Net Assets</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
<b>Total Investment Portfolio (Cost \$80,693,448)</b>	102.7	<b>73,701,143</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(2.7)	<b>(1,953,096)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>71,748,047</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2019	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2020	Value (\$) at 6/30/2020
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 2.7%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.05% (b) (c)								
1,984,280	—	12,816 (d)	—	—	81,182	—	1,971,464	1,971,464
<b>Cash Equivalents 1.5%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.12% (b)								
487,000	5,741,027	5,137,344	—	—	4,237	—	1,090,683	1,090,683
<b>2,471,280</b>	<b>5,741,027</b>	<b>5,150,160</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>85,419</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,062,147</b>	<b>3,062,147</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

- (a) All or a portion of these securities were on loan. In addition, "Other Assets and Liabilities, Net" may include pending sales that are also on loan. The value of securities loaned at June 30, 2020 amounted to \$2,825,738, which is 3.9% of net assets.
- (b) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (c) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates. In addition, the Fund held non-cash U.S. Treasury securities collateral having a value of \$938,985.
- (d) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2020.

### Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common Stocks (e)	\$ 70,638,996	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 70,638,996
Short-Term Investments (e)	3,062,147	—	—	3,062,147
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 73,701,143</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 73,701,143</b>

(e) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$77,631,301) — including \$2,825,738 of securities loaned	\$ 70,638,996
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$1,971,464)*	1,971,464
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$1,090,683)	1,090,683
Cash	10,000
Receivable for investments sold	643,416
Receivable for Fund shares sold	18,161
Dividends receivable	103,674
Interest receivable	9,725
Other assets	1,021
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>74,487,140</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	1,971,464
Payable for investments purchased	646,657
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	21,095
Accrued management fee	35,703
Accrued Trustees' fees	1,908
Other accrued expenses and payables	62,266
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>2,739,093</b>

**Net assets, at value** **\$ 71,748,047**

## Net Assets Consist of

Distributable earnings (loss)	(12,907,858)
Paid-in capital	84,655,905
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 71,748,047</b>

## Net Asset Value

### Class A

**Net Asset Value**, offering and redemption price per share (\$57,748,984 ÷ 6,186,786 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized) **\$ 9.33**

### Class B

**Net Asset Value**, offering and redemption price per share (\$13,999,063 ÷ 1,498,069 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized) **\$ 9.34**

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned. In addition, the Fund held non-cash collateral having a value of \$938,985.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends	\$ 872,985
Income distributions — DWS Cash Management Government Fund	4,237
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	81,182
<b>Total income</b>	<b>958,404</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	246,701
Administration fee	37,275
Services to Shareholders	1,200
Record keeping fee (Class B)	8,835
Distribution service fees (Class B)	18,013
Custodian fee	1,838
Professional fees	27,856
Reports to shareholders	18,110
Trustees' fees and expenses	3,006
Other	3,869
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>366,703</b>
Expense reductions	(28,821)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>337,882</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>620,522</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized gain (loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from investments	(6,419,951)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	(16,572,371)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>(22,992,322)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ (22,371,800)</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 620,522	\$ 1,188,003
Net realized gain (loss)	(6,419,951)	6,244,068
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(16,572,371)	11,215,454
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(22,371,800)	18,647,525
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(6,015,690)	(6,073,443)
Class B	(1,399,898)	(1,252,920)
Total distributions	(7,415,588)	(7,326,363)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	2,952,995	3,385,798
Reinvestment of distributions	6,015,690	6,073,443
Payments for shares redeemed	(5,315,544)	(10,531,345)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	3,653,141	(1,072,104)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	2,764,357	1,581,613
Reinvestment of distributions	1,399,898	1,252,920
Payments for shares redeemed	(1,449,775)	(3,209,519)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	2,714,480	(374,986)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	(23,419,767)	9,874,072
Net assets at beginning of period	95,167,814	85,293,742
Net assets at end of period	<b>\$ 71,748,047</b>	<b>\$ 95,167,814</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	5,666,170	5,742,711
Shares sold	299,632	261,390
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	725,656	468,268
Shares redeemed	(504,672)	(806,199)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	520,616	(76,541)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>6,186,786</b>	<b>5,666,170</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	1,216,620	1,243,269
Shares sold	249,770	121,577
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	168,662	96,453
Shares redeemed	(136,983)	(244,679)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	281,449	(26,649)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>1,498,069</b>	<b>1,216,620</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

Class A	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$13.83</b>	<b>\$12.21</b>	<b>\$17.88</b>	<b>\$16.65</b>	<b>\$15.97</b>	<b>\$17.79</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.09	.18	.10	.17	.15	.09
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(3.50)	2.53 <sup>d</sup>	(2.47)	1.55	2.34	(.31)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(3.41)</b>	<b>2.71</b>	<b>(2.37)</b>	<b>1.72</b>	<b>2.49</b>	<b>(.22)</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.16)	(.10)	(.24)	(.12)	(.10)	(.05)
Net realized gains	(.93)	(.99)	(3.06)	(.37)	(1.71)	(1.55)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(1.09)</b>	<b>(1.09)</b>	<b>(3.30)</b>	<b>(.49)</b>	<b>(1.81)</b>	<b>(1.60)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$9.33</b>	<b>\$13.83</b>	<b>\$12.21</b>	<b>\$17.88</b>	<b>\$16.65</b>	<b>\$15.97</b>
Total Return (%)	(23.65) <sup>b**</sup>	22.76 <sup>b,d</sup>	(16.01) <sup>b</sup>	10.52 <sup>b</sup>	16.89 <sup>b</sup>	(1.91)

## Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data

Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	58	78	70	96	153	161
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.89*	.88	.87	.83	.83	.80
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.82*	.83	.81	.83	.82	.80
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.70*	1.35	.65	.98	.99	.51
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	21**	55	64	35	53	25

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

<sup>d</sup> Includes proceeds from a non-recurring litigation payment amounting to \$0.14 per share and 1.07% of average daily net assets, for the year ended December 31, 2019.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

Class B	Six Months Ended 6/30/20 (Unaudited)		Years Ended December 31,			
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$13.82</b>	<b>\$12.20</b>	<b>\$17.86</b>	<b>\$16.63</b>	<b>\$15.95</b>	<b>\$17.77</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.07	.13	.05	.11	.09	.02
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(3.49)	2.53 <sup>d</sup>	(2.48)	1.55	2.34	(.29)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(3.42)</b>	<b>2.66</b>	<b>(2.43)</b>	<b>1.66</b>	<b>2.43</b>	<b>(.27)</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.13)	(.05)	(.17)	(.06)	(.04)	—
Net realized gains	(.93)	(.99)	(3.06)	(.37)	(1.71)	(1.55)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(1.06)</b>	<b>(1.04)</b>	<b>(3.23)</b>	<b>(.43)</b>	<b>(1.75)</b>	<b>(1.55)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$9.34</b>	<b>\$13.82</b>	<b>\$12.20</b>	<b>\$17.86</b>	<b>\$16.63</b>	<b>\$15.95</b>
Total Return (%)	(23.80) <sup>b**</sup>	22.32 <sup>b,d</sup>	(16.32) <sup>b</sup>	10.13 <sup>b</sup>	16.47 <sup>b</sup>	(2.21)

## Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data

Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	14	17	15	19	15	14
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.27*	1.25	1.24	1.19	1.19	1.16
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.19*	1.19	1.16	1.19	1.18	1.16
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	1.35*	.99	.30	.65	.57	.14
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	21**	55	64	35	53	25

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<sup>c</sup> Expense ratio does not reflect charges and fees associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

<sup>d</sup> Includes proceeds from a non-recurring litigation payment amounting to \$0.14 per share and 1.07% of average daily net assets, for the year ended December 31, 2019.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



# Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

## A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP (the "Fund") is a diversified series of Deutsche DWS Variable Series II (the "Trust"), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust.

**Multiple Classes of Shares of Beneficial Interest.** The Fund offers two classes of shares (Class A shares and Class B shares). Sales of Class B shares are subject to recordkeeping fees up to 0.15% and Rule 12b-1 fees under the 1940 Act equal to an annual rate of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Class B shares of the Fund. Class A shares are not subject to such fees.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class (including the applicable Rule 12b-1 fee and recordkeeping fees). Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Securities for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities are generally categorized as Level 1.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Board and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund's valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company's or issuer's financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

**Securities Lending.** Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash and/or U.S. Treasury Securities having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, an affiliated money market fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.11% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2020) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2020, the Fund had securities on loan, which were classified as common stocks in the Investment Portfolio. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end.

**Remaining Contractual Maturity of the Agreements** as of June 30, 2020

	Overnight and Continuous	<30 Days	Between 30 & 90 Days	>90 Days	Total
<b>Securities Lending Transactions</b>					
Common Stocks	\$1,971,464	\$ —	\$ —	\$938,985	<b>\$2,910,449</b>

Gross amount of recognized liabilities for securities lending transactions: \$2,910,449

**Taxes.** The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders.

At June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$80,810,392. The net unrealized depreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$7,109,249. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$7,828,621 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$14,937,870.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2019 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust arising in connection with a specific fund are allocated to that fund. Other Trust expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a fund are apportioned among the funds in the Trust based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Real Estate Investment Trusts.** The Fund at its fiscal year end recharacterizes distributions received from a Real Estate Investment Trust ("REIT") investment based on information provided by the REIT into the following categories: ordinary income, long-term and short-term capital gains, and return of capital. If information is not available timely from a REIT, the recharacterization will be estimated for financial reporting purposes and a recharacterization will be made to the accounting records in the following year when such information becomes available. Distributions received from REITs in excess of income are recorded as either a reduction of cost of investments or realized gains.

**Other.** Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

## B. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, purchases and sales of investment transactions (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$16,022,815 and \$16,072,192, respectively.

## C. Related Parties

**Management Agreement.** Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$250 million	.650%
Next \$750 million	.620%
Next \$1.5 billion	.600%
Next \$2.5 billion	.580%
Next \$2.5 billion	.550%
Next \$2.5 billion	.540%
Next \$2.5 billion	.530%
Over \$12.5 billion	.520%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.65% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive all or a portion of its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest) of certain classes as follows:

Class A	.82%
Class B	1.19%

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class were as follows:

Class A	\$ 23,048
Class B	5,773
	<b>\$ 28,821</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. Prior to March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund paid DIMA an annual fee ("Administration Fee") of 0.10% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. Effective March 1, 2020, for all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual Administration Fee of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Administration Fee was \$37,275, of which \$5,840 is unpaid.

**Service Provider Fees.** DWS Service Company ("DSC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. ("DST"), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Service to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2020
Class A	\$ 323	\$ 105
Class B	239	88
	<b>\$ 562</b>	<b>\$ 193</b>

**Distribution Service Agreement.** Under the Fund's Class B 12b-1 plan, DWS Distributors, Inc. ("DDI") received a fee ("Distribution Service Fee") of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of Class B shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$18,013, of which \$2,960 is unpaid.

**Typesetting and Filing Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$4,732, of which \$2,128 is unpaid.

**Trustees' Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

**Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles.** The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund's assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

## **D. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2020, one participating insurance company was owner of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, owning 68%. Four participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, each owning 29%, 19%, 17% and 11%.

## **E. Line of Credit**

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the "Participants") share in a \$350 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a rate per annum equal to the sum of the Federal Funds Rate plus 1.25 percent plus if the one-month LIBOR exceeds the Federal Funds Rate, the amount of such excess. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at June 30, 2020.

## **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The situation is evolving with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the pandemic. There are direct and indirect economic effects developing for various industries and individual companies throughout the world. The recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus and related geopolitical events could lead to increased financial market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments. A prolonged disruption may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in implementing their business continuity plans. Management will continue to monitor the impact COVID-19 has on the Fund and reflect the consequences as appropriate in the Fund's accounting and financial reporting.

## **G. Other — Deutsche Bank AG Consent Order**

On June 17, 2020, Deutsche Bank AG ("DB"), an affiliate of DWS Group, resolved with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") charges stemming from alleged violations of various swap data reporting requirements and corresponding supervision and other failures. The matter, which was resolved by the issuance of a federal court order ("Consent Order"), involved unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented DB from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for a period of five days in April 2016.

The matter giving rise to the Consent Order did not arise out of any investment advisory, fund management activities or distribution activities of DIMA, DWS Distributors, Inc. or their advisory affiliates (the "DWS Service Providers"). DWS Group, of which the DWS Service Providers are wholly-owned subsidiaries, is a separate publicly traded company but continues to be an affiliate of DB due to, among other things, DB's 79.49% ownership interest in DWS Group. Under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as a result of the Consent Order, the DWS Service Providers would not be eligible to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund absent an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). DB and the DWS Service Providers are seeking temporary and permanent orders from the SEC to permit the DWS Service Providers to continue to provide investment advisory and underwriting services to the Fund and other registered investment companies notwithstanding the Consent Order. While there can be no assurance that the requested exemptive orders will be granted, the SEC has granted this type of relief in the past. Consistent with their fiduciary and other relationships with the Fund, and in accordance with the desire of the Board of the Fund, the DWS Service Providers continue to provide investment advisory and distribution services to the Fund. Subject to the receipt of the temporary and permanent exemptive orders, the DWS Service Providers have informed the Fund that they do not believe the Consent Order will have any material impact on the Fund or the ability of the Service Providers to provide services for the Fund.

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

(Unaudited)

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees, distribution and service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include contract charges, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return.** This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- **Hypothetical 5% Fund Return.** This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical Fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. If these transaction costs had been included, your costs would have been higher.

## Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment for the six months ended June 30, 2020

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 771.30	\$ 771.20
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.61	\$ 5.24

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/20	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/20	\$ 1,020.79	\$ 1,018.95
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.12	\$ 5.97

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 366.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP	.82%	1.19%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

These tables do not reflect charges and fees ("contract charges") associated with the separate account that invests in the Fund or any variable life insurance policy or variable annuity contract for which the Fund is an investment option.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to the current and hypothetical expense calculators for Variable Insurance Products which can be found at [dws.com/calculators](https://dws.com/calculators).

## Liquidity Risk Management

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund’s liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors’ interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the “Committee”) composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund’s liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by a Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment’s ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value.

In February 2020, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the “Report”) addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019 (the “Reporting Period”). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was primarily invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund’s liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported on a material change made to the Program in May 2019 to address Securities and Exchange Commission guidance relating to extended foreign market holidays.

## Proxy Voting

The Trust’s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Trust voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — [dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting](https://dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting) — or on the SEC’s Web site — [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). To obtain a written copy of the Trust’s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

## Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the “Board” or “Trustees”) approved the renewal of DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2019.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund’s Trustees were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the “Independent Trustees”).
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board’s Contract Committee reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund’s performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund’s Independent Trustees (the “Fee Consultant”). Based on its evaluation of the information provided, the Contract Committee presented its findings and recommendations to the Board. The Board then reviewed the Contract Committee’s findings and recommendations.
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Trustees regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Trustees were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund’s contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund’s Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Contract Committee and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (“DWS Group”). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group’s shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund’s performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps. As part of these negotiations, the Board indicated that it would consider relaxing these caps in future years following sustained improvements in performance, among other considerations.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund’s Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA’s personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

**Nature, Quality and Extent of Services.** The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board reviewed the Fund’s performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct (“Morningstar”), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying “Funds in Review” (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA’s plans to address underperformance. The Board believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on



the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 4th quartile, of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has underperformed its benchmark in the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2018. The Board noted the disappointing investment performance of the Fund in recent periods and continued to discuss with senior management of DIMA the factors contributing to such underperformance and actions being taken to improve performance. The Board noted certain changes in the Fund's portfolio management team that were made effective February 14, 2019. The Board recognized the efforts by DIMA in recent years to enhance its investment platform and improve long-term performance across the DWS fund complex.

**Fees and Expenses.** The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.10% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were lower than the median (1st quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018). The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses were expected to be lower than the median (2nd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2018, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class's total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to a comparable DWS U.S. registered fund ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Fund. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

**Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates.** The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating

brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Trustees and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Trustees may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.

# Notes

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VS2SMCV-3 (R-028381-9 8/20)



## Invesco V.I. Managed Volatility Fund



Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the insurance company that offers your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract may no longer send you paper copies of the Fund's shareholder reports by mail, unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports from the insurance company or your financial intermediary. Instead of delivering paper copies of the report, the insurance company may choose to make the reports available on a website, and will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a website link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If the insurance company offers electronic delivery, you may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications about the Fund electronically by following the instructions provided by the insurance company or by contacting your financial intermediary. If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from the insurance company. You can inform the insurance company or your financial intermediary that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by the insurance company or by contacting your financial intermediary. Your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all portfolio companies available under your contract with the insurance company.

The Fund provides a complete list of its holdings four times in each fiscal year, at the quarter-ends. For the second and fourth quarters, the lists appear in the Fund's semiannual and annual reports to shareholders. For the first and third quarters, the Fund files the lists with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as an exhibit to its reports on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT filings are available on the SEC website, [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The SEC file numbers for the Fund are 811-07452 and 033-57340. The Fund's most recent portfolio holdings, as filed on Form N-PORT, have also been made available to insurance companies issuing variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies ("variable products") that invest in the Fund.

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities is available without charge, upon request, from our Client Services department at 800 959 4246 or at [invesco.com/proxyguidelines](http://invesco.com/proxyguidelines). The information is also available on the SEC website, [sec.gov](http://sec.gov).

Information regarding how the Fund voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available at [invesco.com/proxysearch](http://invesco.com/proxysearch). The information is also available on the SEC website, [sec.gov](http://sec.gov).

Invesco Advisers, Inc. is an investment adviser; it provides investment advisory services to individual and institutional clients and does not sell securities. Invesco Distributors, Inc. is the US distributor for Invesco Ltd.'s retail mutual funds, exchange-traded funds and institutional money market funds. Both are wholly owned, indirect subsidiaries of Invesco Ltd.

**This report must be accompanied or preceded by a currently effective Fund prospectus and variable product prospectus, which contain more complete information, including sales charges and expenses. Investors should read each carefully before investing.**

# Fund Performance

## Performance summary

### Fund vs. Indexes

Cumulative total returns, 12/31/19 to 6/30/20, excluding variable product issuer charges. If variable product issuer charges were included, returns would be lower.

Series I Shares	-12.65%
Series II Shares	-12.72
Russell 1000 Value Index <sup>▼</sup> (Broad Market Index)	-16.26
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Government/Credit Index <sup>▼</sup> (Style-Specific Index)	7.21
Lipper VUF Mixed-Asset Target Allocation Growth Funds Index <sup>■</sup> (Peer Group Index)	-4.14

Source(s): <sup>▼</sup>RIMES Technologies Corp.; <sup>■</sup>Lipper Inc.

The **Russell 1000<sup>®</sup> Value Index** is an unmanaged index considered representative of large-cap value stocks. The Russell 1000 Value Index is a trademark/service mark of the Frank Russell Co. Russell<sup>®</sup> is a trademark of the Frank Russell Co.

The **Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Government/Credit Index** is a broad-based benchmark that includes investment-grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate Treasuries, government-related and corporate securities.

The **Lipper VUF Mixed-Asset Target Allocation Growth Funds Index** is an unmanaged index considered representative of mixed-asset target allocation growth variable insurance underlying funds tracked by Lipper.

The Fund is not managed to track the performance of any particular index, including the index(es) described here, and consequently, the performance of the Fund may deviate significantly from the performance of the index(es).

A direct investment cannot be made in an index. Unless otherwise indicated, index results include reinvested dividends, and they do not reflect sales charges. Performance of the peer group, if applicable, reflects fund expenses; performance of a market index does not.

## Average Annual Total Returns

As of 6/30/20

### Series I Shares

Inception (12/30/94)	6.39%
10 Years	7.46
5 Years	1.79
1 Year	-7.56

### Series II Shares

Inception (4/30/04)	7.21%
10 Years	7.20
5 Years	1.53
1 Year	-7.75

The performance of the Fund's Series I and Series II share classes will differ primarily due to different class expenses.

The performance data quoted represent past performance and cannot guarantee future results; current performance may be lower or higher. Please contact your variable product issuer or financial adviser for the most recent month-end variable product performance. Performance figures reflect Fund expenses, reinvested distributions and changes in net asset value. Performance figures do not reflect deduction of taxes a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or sale of Fund shares. Investment return and principal value will

fluctuate so that you may have a gain or loss when you sell shares.

Invesco V.I. Managed Volatility Fund, a series portfolio of AIM Variable Insurance Funds (Invesco Variable Insurance Funds), is currently offered through insurance companies issuing variable products. You cannot purchase shares of the Fund directly. Performance figures given represent the Fund and are not intended to reflect actual variable product values. They do not reflect sales charges, expenses and fees assessed in connection with a variable product. Sales charges, expenses and fees, which are determined by the variable product issuers, will vary and will lower the total return.

The most recent month-end performance at the Fund level, excluding variable product charges, is available at 800 451 4246. As mentioned above, for the most recent month-end performance including variable product charges, please contact your variable product issuer or financial adviser.

Fund performance reflects any applicable fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements. Had the adviser not waived fees and/or reimbursed expenses currently or in the past, returns would have been lower. See current prospectus for more information.



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## Liquidity Risk Management Program

The Securities and Exchange Commission has adopted Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Liquidity Rule") in order to promote effective liquidity risk management throughout the open-end investment company industry, thereby reducing the risk that funds will be unable to meet their redemption obligations and mitigating dilution of the interests of fund shareholders. The Fund has adopted and implemented a liquidity risk management program in accordance with the Liquidity Rule (the "Program"). The Program is reasonably designed to assess and manage the Fund's liquidity risk, which is the risk that the Fund could not meet redemption requests without significant dilution of remaining investors' interests in the Fund. The Board of Trustees of the Fund (the "Board") has appointed Invesco Advisers, Inc. ("Invesco"), the Fund's investment adviser, as the Program's administrator, and Invesco has delegated oversight of the Program to the Liquidity Risk Management Committee (the "Committee"), which is composed of senior representatives from relevant business groups at Invesco.

As required by the Liquidity Rule, the Program includes policies and procedures providing for an assessment, no less frequently than annually, of the Fund's liquidity risk that takes into account, as relevant to the Fund's liquidity risk: (1) the Fund's investment strategy and liquidity of portfolio investments during both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions; (2) short-term and long-term cash flow projections for the Fund during both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions; and (3) the Fund's holdings of cash and cash equivalents and any borrowing arrangements. The Liquidity Rule also requires the classification of the Fund's investments into categories that reflect the assessment of their relative liquidity under current market conditions. The Fund classifies its investments into one of four categories defined in the Liquidity Rule: "Highly Liquid," "Moderately Liquid," "Less Liquid" and "Illiquid." Funds that are not invested primarily in "Highly Liquid Investments" that are assets (cash or investments that are reasonably expected to be convertible into cash within three business days without significantly changing the market value of the investment) are required to establish a "Highly Liquid Investment Minimum" ("HLIM"), which is the minimum percentage of net assets that must be invested in Highly Liquid Investments. Funds with HLIMs have procedures for addressing HLIM shortfalls, including reporting to the Board and the SEC (on a non-public basis) as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule. In addition, the Fund may not acquire an investment if, immediately after the acquisition, over 15% of the Fund's net assets would consist of "Illiquid Investments" that are assets (an investment that cannot reasonably be expected to be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment). The Liquidity Rule and the Program also require reporting to the Board and the SEC (on a non-public basis) if a Fund's holdings of Illiquid Investments exceed 15% of the Fund's assets.

At a meeting held on March 30-April 1, 2020, the Committee presented a report to the Board that addressed the operation of the Program and assessed the Program's adequacy and effectiveness of implementation (the "Report"). The Report covered the period from December 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019 (the "Program Reporting Period").

The Report stated, in relevant part, that during the Program Reporting Period:

- The Program, as adopted and implemented, remained reasonably designed to assess and manage the Fund's liquidity risk and was operated effectively to achieve that goal;
- The Fund's investment strategy remained appropriate for an open-end fund;
- The Fund was able to meet requests for redemption without significant dilution of remaining investors' interests in the Fund;
- The Fund did not breach the 15% limit on Illiquid Investments; and
- The Fund primarily held Highly Liquid Investments and therefore has not adopted an HLIM.

# Schedule of Investments<sup>(a)</sup>

June 30, 2020  
(Unaudited)

	Shares	Value
<b>Common Stocks &amp; Other Equity Interests-59.06%</b>		
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense-2.96%</b>		
General Dynamics Corp.	3,272	\$ 489,033
Raytheon Technologies Corp.	2,976	183,381
Textron, Inc.	5,912	194,564
		866,978
<b>Apparel Retail-0.65%</b>		
TJX Cos., Inc. (The)	3,751	189,651
<b>Apparel, Accessories &amp; Luxury Goods-0.56%</b>		
Capri Holdings Ltd. <sup>(b)</sup>	10,544	164,803
<b>Automobile Manufacturers-1.61%</b>		
General Motors Co. <sup>(c)</sup>	18,714	473,464
<b>Building Products-2.14%</b>		
Johnson Controls International PLC	11,377	388,411
Trane Technologies PLC	2,698	240,068
		628,479
<b>Cable &amp; Satellite-1.56%</b>		
Charter Communications, Inc., Class A <sup>(b)</sup>	418	213,197
Comcast Corp., Class A	6,248	243,547
		456,744
<b>Commodity Chemicals-0.62%</b>		
Dow, Inc.	4,455	181,586
<b>Communications Equipment-0.25%</b>		
Cisco Systems, Inc.	1,599	74,577
<b>Diversified Banks-3.80%</b>		
Bank of America Corp. <sup>(c)</sup>	22,807	541,666
Citigroup, Inc. <sup>(c)</sup>	11,199	572,269
		1,113,935
<b>Electric Utilities-1.75%</b>		
Duke Energy Corp.	1,658	132,458
Exelon Corp.	5,442	197,490
FirstEnergy Corp.	4,731	183,468
		513,416
<b>Electronic Components-0.66%</b>		
Corning, Inc.	7,454	193,059
<b>Fertilizers &amp; Agricultural Chemicals-1.59%</b>		
Corteva, Inc.	13,378	358,397
Nutrien Ltd. (Canada)	3,362	107,920
		466,317
<b>Food Distributors-1.44%</b>		
Sysco Corp.	3,930	214,814
US Foods Holding Corp. <sup>(b)</sup>	10,506	207,178
		421,992
<b>Health Care Distributors-1.03%</b>		
McKesson Corp.	1,968	301,931

	Shares	Value
<b>Health Care Equipment-1.82%</b>		
Medtronic PLC	3,456	\$ 316,915
Zimmer Biomet Holdings, Inc.	1,830	218,429
		535,344
<b>Health Care Services-0.78%</b>		
CVS Health Corp. <sup>(c)</sup>	3,523	228,889
<b>Health Care Supplies-0.50%</b>		
Alcon, Inc. (Switzerland) <sup>(b)</sup>	2,583	147,996
<b>Home Improvement Retail-0.62%</b>		
Kingfisher PLC (United Kingdom)	66,981	182,999
<b>Human Resource &amp; Employment Services-0.03%</b>		
Adecco Group AG (Switzerland)	158	7,403
<b>Insurance Brokers-0.70%</b>		
Willis Towers Watson PLC	1,046	206,010
<b>Integrated Oil &amp; Gas-2.36%</b>		
BP PLC (United Kingdom)	48,578	184,617
Chevron Corp.	3,708	330,865
Royal Dutch Shell PLC, Class A (United Kingdom)	11,154	177,485
		692,967
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail-0.76%</b>		
Booking Holdings, Inc. <sup>(b)</sup>	140	222,928
<b>Investment Banking &amp; Brokerage-3.56%</b>		
Charles Schwab Corp. (The)	3,727	125,749
Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (The)	2,359	466,186
Morgan Stanley	9,345	451,363
		1,043,298
<b>IT Consulting &amp; Other Services-1.34%</b>		
Cognizant Technology Solutions Corp., Class A	6,894	391,717
<b>Managed Health Care-1.20%</b>		
Anthem, Inc.	1,342	352,919
<b>Multi-line Insurance-1.54%</b>		
American International Group, Inc.	14,491	451,829
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Exploration &amp; Production-1.54%</b>		
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. (Canada)	5,598	97,108
Devon Energy Corp.	11,192	126,917
Marathon Oil Corp.	20,181	123,508
Parsley Energy, Inc., Class A	9,740	104,023
		451,556
<b>Other Diversified Financial Services-1.38%</b>		
Equitable Holdings, Inc.	8,091	156,075
Voya Financial, Inc.	5,336	248,925
		405,000
<b>Packaged Foods &amp; Meats-0.91%</b>		
Kellogg Co.	1,763	116,464
Mondelez International, Inc., Class A	2,931	149,862
		266,326

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value
<b>Pharmaceuticals-4.95%</b>		
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	6,936	\$ 407,837
GlaxoSmithKline PLC (United Kingdom)	6,957	140,962
Johnson & Johnson <sup>(c)</sup>	3,204	450,578
Pfizer, Inc.	6,007	196,429
Sanofi (France)	2,533	257,705
		1,453,511
<b>Railroads-1.54%</b>		
CSX Corp.	6,469	451,148
<b>Regional Banks-3.85%</b>		
Citizens Financial Group, Inc.	14,220	358,913
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (The)	3,840	404,006
Truist Financial Corp.	9,784	367,389
		1,130,308
<b>Semiconductors-3.09%</b>		
Intel Corp.	5,232	313,031
NXP Semiconductors N.V. (Netherlands)	2,082	237,431
QUALCOMM, Inc.	3,914	356,996
		907,458
<b>Specialty Chemicals-0.57%</b>		
DuPont de Nemours, Inc.	3,143	166,988
<b>Systems Software-1.29%</b>		
Oracle Corp.	6,872	379,815
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals-1.17%</b>		
Apple, Inc. <sup>(c)</sup>	939	342,547
<b>Tobacco-1.80%</b>		
Philip Morris International, Inc.	7,556	529,373
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services-1.14%</b>		
Vodafone Group PLC (United Kingdom)	208,918	333,132
Total Common Stocks & Other Equity Interests (Cost \$16,058,084)		17,328,393
	Principal Amount	
<b>U.S. Dollar Denominated Bonds &amp; Notes-29.34%</b>		
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense-0.28%</b>		
Northrop Grumman Corp., 2.08%, 10/15/2020	\$ 35,000	35,165
Raytheon Co., 3.13%, 10/15/2020	35,000	35,283
Raytheon Technologies Corp., 4.45%, 11/16/2038	9,000	11,021
		81,469
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics-0.01%</b>		
United Parcel Service, Inc., 3.40%, 11/15/2046	4,000	4,340
<b>Airlines-0.17%</b>		
American Airlines Pass Through Trust, Series 2014-1, Class A, 3.70%, 04/01/2028	17,539	14,927
United Airlines Pass Through Trust, Series 2014-2, Class A, 3.75%, 09/03/2026	22,375	20,466
Series 2018-1, Class AA, 3.50%, 03/01/2030	15,861	14,909
		50,302

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Alternative Carriers-0.61%</b>		
GCI Liberty, Inc., Conv., 1.75%, 10/05/2023 <sup>(d)(e)</sup>	\$ 85,000	\$ 119,253
Liberty Latin America Ltd. (Chile), Conv., 2.00%, 07/15/2024 <sup>(d)</sup>	74,000	58,969
		178,222

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Application Software-1.23%</b>		
Nuance Communications, Inc., Conv., 1.00%, 12/15/2022 <sup>(e)</sup>	127,000	150,304
1.25%, 04/01/2025	49,000	68,564
RealPage, Inc., Conv., 1.50%, 11/15/2022	24,000	38,728
Workday, Inc., Conv., 0.25%, 10/01/2022	75,000	103,461
		361,057

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Asset Management &amp; Custody Banks-0.61%</b>		
Apollo Management Holdings L.P., 4.00%, 05/30/2024 <sup>(d)</sup>	40,000	43,482
Brookfield Asset Management, Inc. (Canada), 4.00%, 01/15/2025	25,000	27,561
Carlyle Holdings Finance LLC, 3.88%, 02/01/2023 <sup>(d)</sup>	5,000	5,326
KKR Group Finance Co. III LLC, 5.13%, 06/01/2044 <sup>(d)</sup>	85,000	102,489
		178,858

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Automobile Manufacturers-0.14%</b>		
General Motors Co., 6.60%, 04/01/2036	16,000	17,413
General Motors Financial Co., Inc., 5.25%, 03/01/2026	21,000	22,903
		40,316

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Biotechnology-2.07%</b>		
AbbVie, Inc., 4.50%, 05/14/2035	38,000	46,917
4.05%, 11/21/2039 <sup>(d)</sup>	34,000	39,487
4.85%, 06/15/2044 <sup>(d)</sup>	150,000	187,711
BioMarin Pharmaceutical, Inc., Conv., 1.50%, 10/15/2020	117,000	154,026
Gilead Sciences, Inc., 2.55%, 09/01/2020	50,000	50,182
4.40%, 12/01/2021	25,000	26,158
Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc., Conv., 2.25%, 05/15/2024	62,000	103,709
		608,190

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Brewers-0.57%</b>		
Anheuser-Busch Cos. LLC/Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide, Inc. (Belgium), 4.70%, 02/01/2036	45,000	53,111
4.90%, 02/01/2046	47,000	57,665
Heineken N.V. (Netherlands), 3.50%, 01/29/2028 <sup>(d)</sup>	35,000	39,488
Molson Coors Beverage Co., 4.20%, 07/15/2046	16,000	15,589
		165,853

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Broadcasting-1.24%</b>		
Liberty Media Corp., Conv., 2.25%, 10/05/2021 <sup>(e)</sup>	55,000	26,404
1.38%, 10/15/2023	299,000	315,265

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Broadcasting--(continued)</b>		
Liberty Formula One, Conv., 1.00%, 01/30/2023	\$ 20,000	\$ 21,787
		363,456
<b>Cable &amp; Satellite-1.28%</b>		
BofA Finance LLC, Conv., 0.13%, 09/01/2022	62,000	64,635
Charter Communications Operating LLC/ Charter Communications Operating Capital Corp., 4.46%, 07/23/2022	60,000	63,994
Comcast Corp., 4.15%, 10/15/2028	30,000	36,116
3.90%, 03/01/2038	10,000	11,886
DISH Network Corp., Conv., 3.38%, 08/15/2026	216,000	198,961
		375,592
<b>Communications Equipment-0.68%</b>		
Finisar Corp., Conv., 0.50%, 12/15/2021 <sup>(e)</sup>	39,000	40,259
Viavi Solutions, Inc., Conv., 1.75%, 06/01/2023	71,000	79,449
1.00%, 03/01/2024	68,000	78,432
		198,140
<b>Consumer Finance-0.16%</b>		
American Express Co., 3.63%, 12/05/2024	18,000	19,984
Capital One Financial Corp., 3.20%, 01/30/2023	15,000	15,809
Synchrony Financial, 3.95%, 12/01/2027	10,000	10,458
		46,251
<b>Data Processing &amp; Outsourced Services-0.11%</b>		
Euronet Worldwide, Inc., Conv., 0.75%, 03/15/2025 <sup>(e)</sup>	17,000	16,522
Fiserv, Inc., 3.80%, 10/01/2023	15,000	16,399
		32,921
<b>Diversified Banks-1.96%</b>		
Bank of America Corp., 3.25%, 10/21/2027	10,000	11,035
Citigroup, Inc., 4.00%, 08/05/2024	60,000	65,464
3.67%, (3 mo. USD LIBOR + 1.39%), 07/24/2028 <sup>(f)</sup>	15,000	16,732
4.75%, 05/18/2046	15,000	19,202
JPMorgan Chase & Co., 3.20%, 06/15/2026	15,000	16,662
3.51%, (3 mo. USD LIBOR + 0.95%), 01/23/2029 <sup>(f)</sup>	15,000	16,769
4.26%, (3 mo. USD LIBOR + 1.58%), 02/22/2048 <sup>(f)</sup>	10,000	12,626
3.90%, (3 mo. USD LIBOR + 1.22%), 01/23/2049 <sup>(f)</sup>	15,000	18,155
Series V, 3.62% (3 mo. USD LIBOR + 3.32%) <sup>(f)(g)</sup>	150,000	132,660
U.S. Bancorp, Series W, 3.10%, 04/27/2026	10,000	11,112

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Diversified Banks--(continued)</b>		
Wells Fargo & Co., 3.55%, 09/29/2025	\$ 30,000	\$ 33,526
4.10%, 06/03/2026	95,000	107,165
4.65%, 11/04/2044	15,000	18,638
Westpac Banking Corp. (Australia), 2.10%, 05/13/2021	95,000	96,414
		576,160
<b>Diversified Capital Markets-0.43%</b>		
Credit Suisse AG (Switzerland), Conv., 0.50%, 06/24/2024 <sup>(d)</sup>	131,000	125,393
<b>Drug Retail-0.20%</b>		
Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc., 3.30%, 11/18/2021	32,000	33,012
4.50%, 11/18/2034	24,000	26,892
		59,904
<b>Electric Utilities-0.10%</b>		
Georgia Power Co., Series B, 3.70%, 01/30/2050	9,000	10,034
NextEra Energy Capital Holdings, Inc., 3.55%, 05/01/2027	11,000	12,489
Xcel Energy, Inc., 3.50%, 12/01/2049	7,000	7,841
		30,364
<b>Environmental &amp; Facilities Services-0.10%</b>		
Waste Management, Inc., 3.90%, 03/01/2035	25,000	29,667
<b>General Merchandise Stores-0.07%</b>		
Dollar General Corp., 3.25%, 04/15/2023	20,000	21,363
<b>Health Care Equipment-1.66%</b>		
Becton, Dickinson and Co., 4.88%, 05/15/2044	86,000	106,674
DexCom, Inc., Conv., 0.75%, 12/01/2023	86,000	213,554
Integra LifeSciences Holdings Corp., Conv., 0.50%, 08/15/2025 <sup>(d)</sup>	51,000	46,618
Medtronic, Inc., 4.38%, 03/15/2035	15,000	19,614
NuVasive, Inc., Conv., 2.25%, 03/15/2021	80,000	88,056
Tandem Diabetes Care, Inc., Conv., 1.50%, 05/01/2025 <sup>(d)</sup>	10,000	11,699
		486,215
<b>Health Care REITs-0.09%</b>		
Healthpeak Properties, Inc., 3.88%, 08/15/2024	25,000	27,509
<b>Health Care Services-0.38%</b>		
Cigna Corp., 4.80%, 08/15/2038	9,000	11,422
CVS Health Corp., 3.38%, 08/12/2024	20,000	21,809
4.10%, 03/25/2025	16,000	18,098
Laboratory Corp. of America Holdings, 3.20%, 02/01/2022	33,000	34,239
4.70%, 02/01/2045	22,000	26,832
		112,400
<b>Health Care Technology-0.37%</b>		
Teladoc Health, Inc., Conv., 1.25%, 06/01/2027 <sup>(d)</sup>	97,000	107,657

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Home Improvement Retail-0.09%</b>		
Home Depot, Inc. (The), 2.00%, 04/01/2021	\$ 27,000	\$ 27,319
<b>Insurance Brokers-0.02%</b>		
Willis North America, Inc., 3.60%, 05/15/2024	5,000	5,414
<b>Integrated Oil &amp; Gas-0.07%</b>		
Suncor Energy, Inc. (Canada), 3.60%, 12/01/2024	18,000	19,444
<b>Integrated Telecommunication Services-1.51%</b>		
AT&T, Inc., 3.00%, 06/30/2022	28,000	29,252
3.40%, 05/15/2025	15,000	16,504
4.50%, 05/15/2035	25,000	29,691
Telefonica Emisiones S.A. (Spain), 7.05%, 06/20/2036	150,000	218,489
Verizon Communications, Inc., 4.40%, 11/01/2034	120,000	149,272
		443,208
<b>Interactive Media &amp; Services-0.58%</b>		
JOYY, Inc. (China), Conv., 1.38%, 06/15/2024 <sup>(e)</sup>	116,000	128,316
Zillow Group, Inc., Conv., 2.75%, 05/15/2025	37,000	43,205
		171,521
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail-1.03%</b>		
Amazon.com, Inc., 4.80%, 12/05/2034	9,000	12,266
Booking Holdings, Inc., Conv., 0.90%, 09/15/2021	40,000	42,600
0.75%, 05/01/2025 <sup>(d)</sup>	10,000	12,403
Match Group Financeco 3, Inc., Conv., 2.00%, 01/15/2030 <sup>(d)</sup>	94,000	122,060
Trip.com Group Ltd. (China), Conv., 1.25%, 09/15/2022	113,000	112,855
		302,184
<b>Investment Banking &amp; Brokerage-0.91%</b>		
Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (The), 4.25%, 10/21/2025	27,000	30,450
GS Finance Corp., Series 0001, Conv., 0.25%, 07/08/2024	198,000	196,583
Morgan Stanley, 4.00%, 07/23/2025	35,000	39,710
		266,743
<b>Life &amp; Health Insurance-0.46%</b>		
Athene Global Funding, 4.00%, 01/25/2022 <sup>(d)</sup>	45,000	46,594
Jackson National Life Global Funding, 2.10%, 10/25/2021 <sup>(d)</sup>	10,000	10,200
3.25%, 01/30/2024 <sup>(d)</sup>	15,000	16,025
Nationwide Financial Services, Inc., 5.30%, 11/18/2044 <sup>(d)</sup>	35,000	41,009
Reliance Standard Life Global Funding II, 3.05%, 01/20/2021 <sup>(d)</sup>	20,000	20,209
		134,037
<b>Managed Health Care-0.06%</b>		
UnitedHealth Group, Inc., 3.50%, 08/15/2039	16,000	18,625

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Movies &amp; Entertainment-0.21%</b>		
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc., Conv., 2.50%, 03/15/2023	\$ 62,000	\$ 63,046
<b>Multi-line Insurance-0.23%</b>		
American International Group, Inc., 4.38%, 01/15/2055	40,000	46,042
Guardian Life Global Funding, 2.90%, 05/06/2024 <sup>(d)</sup>	20,000	21,340
		67,382
<b>Multi-Utilities-0.07%</b>		
NiSource, Inc., 4.38%, 05/15/2047	9,000	10,888
Sempra Energy, 3.80%, 02/01/2038	8,000	8,659
		19,547
<b>Office REITs-0.09%</b>		
Office Properties Income Trust, 4.00%, 07/15/2022	25,000	24,922
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Equipment &amp; Services-0.08%</b>		
Oil States International, Inc., Conv., 1.50%, 02/15/2023	46,000	23,199
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Exploration &amp; Production-0.11%</b>		
Cameron LNG LLC, 3.70%, 01/15/2039 <sup>(d)</sup>	16,000	17,215
ConocoPhillips, 4.15%, 11/15/2034	13,000	14,450
		31,665
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Storage &amp; Transportation-0.50%</b>		
Energy Transfer Operating L.P., 4.20%, 09/15/2023	2,000	2,128
4.90%, 03/15/2035	19,000	19,104
5.00%, 05/15/2050	8,000	7,587
Enterprise Products Operating LLC, 4.25%, 02/15/2048	10,000	10,913
Kinder Morgan, Inc., 5.30%, 12/01/2034	23,000	26,776
MPLX L.P., 4.50%, 07/15/2023	65,000	69,946
4.50%, 04/15/2038	11,000	11,010
		147,464
<b>Other Diversified Financial Services-2.37%</b>		
Convertible Trust - Consumer, Series 2018-1, 0.25%, 01/17/2024	160,000	162,464
Convertible Trust - Energy, Series 2019-1, 0.33%, 09/19/2024	168,000	169,882
Convertible Trust - Healthcare, Series 2018-1, 0.25%, 02/05/2024	168,000	181,171
Convertible Trust - Media, Series 2019, Class 1, 0.25%, 12/04/2024	168,000	180,650
		694,167
<b>Packaged Foods &amp; Meats-0.05%</b>		
Kraft Heinz Foods Co. (The), 4.63%, 10/01/2039 <sup>(d)</sup>	10,000	10,070
Mead Johnson Nutrition Co. (United Kingdom), 4.13%, 11/15/2025	3,000	3,475
		13,545
<b>Pharmaceuticals-1.67%</b>		
Bayer US Finance LLC (Germany), 3.00%, 10/08/2021 <sup>(d)</sup>	200,000	205,329

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Pharmaceuticals-(continued)</b>		
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., 4.13%, 06/15/2039 <sup>(d)</sup>	\$ 18,000	\$ 23,051
4.63%, 05/15/2044 <sup>(d)</sup>	100,000	134,259
Jazz Investments I Ltd., Conv., 2.00%, 06/15/2026 <sup>(d)</sup>	37,000	37,477
Mylan N.V., 3.15%, 06/15/2021	17,000	17,357
Pacira BioSciences, Inc., Conv., 2.38%, 04/01/2022	39,000	42,654
Supernus Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Conv., 0.63%, 04/01/2023	33,000	29,207
		489,334
<b>Property &amp; Casualty Insurance-0.10%</b>		
Allstate Corp. (The), 3.28%, 12/15/2026	10,000	11,429
Markel Corp., 5.00%, 05/20/2049	15,000	18,677
		30,106
<b>Railroads-0.12%</b>		
Norfolk Southern Corp., 3.40%, 11/01/2049	5,000	5,497
Union Pacific Corp., 4.15%, 01/15/2045	25,000	30,135
		35,632
<b>Regional Banks-0.13%</b>		
Citizens Financial Group, Inc., 2.38%, 07/28/2021	15,000	15,193
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (The), 3.45%, 04/23/2029	20,000	23,085
		38,278
<b>Reinsurance-0.11%</b>		
PartnerRe Finance B LLC, 3.70%, 07/02/2029	30,000	32,999
<b>Renewable Electricity-0.55%</b>		
Oglethorpe Power Corp., 4.55%, 06/01/2044	150,000	161,494
<b>Restaurants-0.08%</b>		
Starbucks Corp., 3.55%, 08/15/2029	20,000	22,820
<b>Retail REITs-0.02%</b>		
Regency Centers L.P., 2.95%, 09/15/2029	5,000	5,078
<b>Semiconductors-1.44%</b>		
Broadcom Corp./Broadcom Cayman Finance Ltd., 3.63%, 01/15/2024	30,000	32,285
Cree, Inc., Conv., 0.88%, 09/01/2023	59,000	69,522
1.75%, 05/01/2026 <sup>(d)</sup>	40,000	56,500
Microchip Technology, Inc., Conv., 1.63%, 02/15/2027	74,000	109,338
Micron Technology, Inc., 4.66%, 02/15/2030	10,000	11,692
NXP B.V./NXP Funding LLC (Netherlands), 5.35%, 03/01/2026 <sup>(d)</sup>	20,000	23,807
ON Semiconductor Corp., Conv., 1.00%, 12/01/2020	76,000	88,723
Silicon Laboratories, Inc., Conv., 1.38%, 03/01/2022	21,000	25,372

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Semiconductors-(continued)</b>		
Texas Instruments, Inc., 2.63%, 05/15/2024	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,377
		422,616
<b>Specialty Chemicals-0.01%</b>		
Sherwin-Williams Co. (The), 4.50%, 06/01/2047	3,000	3,657
<b>Systems Software-0.66%</b>		
FireEye, Inc., Series B, Conv., 1.63%, 06/01/2022 <sup>(e)</sup>	77,000	72,971
Series A, Conv., 1.00%, 06/01/2025 <sup>(e)</sup>	76,000	75,879
Microsoft Corp., 3.50%, 02/12/2035	37,000	45,325
		194,175
<b>Technology Distributors-0.12%</b>		
Avnet, Inc., 4.63%, 04/15/2026	30,000	33,982
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals-0.88%</b>		
Apple, Inc., 2.15%, 02/09/2022	39,000	40,137
3.35%, 02/09/2027	10,000	11,350
Dell International LLC/EMC Corp., 5.45%, 06/15/2023 <sup>(d)</sup>	26,000	28,450
SanDisk LLC, Conv., 0.50%, 10/15/2020	140,000	120,501
Western Digital Corp., Conv., 1.50%, 02/01/2024	61,000	57,647
		258,085
<b>Tobacco-0.15%</b>		
Altria Group, Inc., 5.80%, 02/14/2039	36,000	44,938
<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors-0.15%</b>		
Air Lease Corp., 4.25%, 09/15/2024	35,000	35,626
Aircastle Ltd., 4.40%, 09/25/2023	10,000	9,706
		45,332
<b>Trucking-0.13%</b>		
Aviation Capital Group LLC, 4.88%, 10/01/2025 <sup>(d)</sup>	40,000	36,682
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services-0.06%</b>		
Rogers Communications, Inc. (Canada), 4.30%, 02/15/2048	15,000	17,857
Total U.S. Dollar Denominated Bonds & Notes (Cost \$7,801,882)		8,608,096
<b>U.S. Treasury Securities-4.64%</b>		
<b>U.S. Treasury Bonds-0.52%</b>		
2.00%, 02/15/2050	133,500	152,852
<b>U.S. Treasury Notes-4.12%</b>		
0.13%, 06/30/2022	868,000	867,559
0.25%, 06/30/2025	238,200	237,758
0.50%, 06/30/2027	99,300	99,374
0.63%, 05/15/2030	4,000	3,989
		1,208,680
Total U.S. Treasury Securities (Cost \$1,357,811)		1,361,532
<b>Shares</b>		
<b>Preferred Stocks-0.23%</b>		
<b>Asset Management &amp; Custody Banks-0.23%</b>		
AMG Capital Trust II, 5.15%, Conv. Pfd. (Cost \$106,269)	1,700	67,606

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value
<b>Money Market Funds-7.09%</b>		
Invesco Government & Agency Portfolio, Institutional Class, 0.09% <sup>(h)(i)</sup>	817,609	\$ 817,609
Invesco Liquid Assets Portfolio, Institutional Class, 0.39% <sup>(h)(i)</sup>	330,213	330,444
Invesco Treasury Portfolio, Institutional Class, 0.08% <sup>(h)(i)</sup>	934,410	934,410
Total Money Market Funds (Cost \$2,082,410)		2,082,463
TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES-100.36% (Cost \$27,406,456)		29,448,090
OTHER ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES-(0.36)%		(106,837)
NET ASSETS-100.00%		\$29,341,253

Investment Abbreviations:

Conv. - Convertible  
LIBOR - London Interbank Offered Rate  
Pfd. - Preferred  
REIT - Real Estate Investment Trust  
USD - U.S. Dollar

Notes to Schedule of Investments:

- (a) Industry and/or sector classifications used in this report are generally according to the Global Industry Classification Standard, which was developed by and is the exclusive property and a service mark of MSCI Inc. and Standard & Poor's.
- (b) Non-income producing security.
- (c) All or a portion of the value was pledged as collateral to cover margin requirements for open futures contracts. See Note 1K.
- (d) Security purchased or received in a transaction exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act"). The security may be resold pursuant to an exemption from registration under the 1933 Act, typically to qualified institutional buyers. The aggregate value of these securities at June 30, 2020 was \$1,750,252, which represented 5.97% of the Fund's Net Assets.
- (e) Security has an irrevocable call by the issuer or mandatory put by the holder. Maturity date reflects such call or put.
- (f) Interest or dividend rate is redetermined periodically. Rate shown is the rate in effect on June 30, 2020.
- (g) Perpetual bond with no specified maturity date.
- (h) Affiliated issuer. The issuer and/or the Fund is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Invesco Ltd., or is affiliated by having an investment adviser that is under common control of Invesco Ltd. The table below shows the Fund's transactions in, and earnings from, its investments in affiliates for the six months ended June 30, 2020.

	Value December 31, 2019	Purchases at Cost	Proceeds from Sales	Change in Unrealized Appreciation	Realized Gain (Loss)	Value June 30, 2020	Dividend Income
<b>Investments in Affiliated Money Market Funds:</b>							
Invesco Government & Agency Portfolio, Institutional Class	\$ 619,911	\$ 4,427,782	\$ (4,230,084)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 817,609	\$ 2,250
Invesco Liquid Assets Portfolio, Institutional Class	441,820	3,162,701	(3,273,757)	53	(373)	330,444	2,116
Invesco Treasury Portfolio, Institutional Class	708,469	5,060,322	(4,834,381)	-	-	934,410	2,418
Total	\$1,770,200	\$12,650,805	\$(12,338,222)	\$53	\$(373)	\$2,082,463	\$6,784

- (i) The rate shown is the 7-day SEC standardized yield as of June 30, 2020.

**Open Futures Contracts**

Short Futures Contracts	Number of Contracts	Expiration Month	Notional Value	Value	Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
<b>Equity Risk</b>					
E-Mini S&P 500 Index	84	September-2020	\$(12,978,840)	\$(355,855)	\$(355,855)

**Open Forward Foreign Currency Contracts**

Settlement Date	Counterparty	Contract to		Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
		Deliver	Receive	
<b>Currency Risk</b>				
07/10/2020	Bank of New York Mellon (The)	GBP 323,583	USD 406,164	\$ 5,194
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	CAD 128,307	USD 94,880	367
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	EUR 10,050	USD 11,359	66
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	GBP 377,341	USD 473,788	6,201
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD 17,586	CAD 23,932	43

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

## Open Forward Foreign Currency Contracts—(continued)

Settlement Date	Counterparty	Contract to		Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)	
		Deliver	Receive		
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	23,909	CHF 22,811	\$ 172
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	9,482	EUR 8,454	18
Subtotal—Appreciation					12,061
<b>Currency Risk</b>					
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	CAD	4,493	USD 3,301	(8)
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	CHF	137,348	USD 143,002	(1,995)
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	EUR	176,698	USD 197,565	(987)
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	GBP	14,910	USD 18,458	(18)
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	6,563	CAD 8,818	(67)
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	3,879	CHF 3,662	(12)
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	5,966	EUR 5,302	(9)
07/10/2020	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	112,791	GBP 89,855	(1,447)
Subtotal—Depreciation					(4,543)
Total Forward Foreign Currency Contracts					\$ 7,518

### Abbreviations:

CAD - Canadian Dollar  
 CHF - Swiss Franc  
 EUR - Euro  
 GBP - British Pound Sterling  
 USD - U.S. Dollar

## Portfolio Composition

*By sector, based on Net Assets  
 as of June 30, 2020*

Financials	22.54%
Health Care	16.50
Information Technology	12.92
Communication Services	8.60
Industrials	7.62
Consumer Discretionary	5.20
Consumer Staples	5.12
Energy	4.66
U.S. Treasury Securities	4.64
Materials	2.79
Utilities	2.47
Real Estate	0.20
Money Market Funds Plus Other Assets Less Liabilities	6.74

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.



# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

June 30, 2020

(Unaudited)

## Assets:

Investments in securities, at value (Cost \$25,324,046)	\$27,365,627
Investments in affiliated money market funds, at value (Cost \$2,082,410)	2,082,463
Other investments:	
Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts outstanding	12,061
Foreign currencies, at value (Cost \$28,773)	28,384
Receivable for:	
Fund shares sold	10,434
Dividends	40,391
Interest	47,396
Investment for trustee deferred compensation and retirement plans	65,464
Other assets	3,911
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>29,656,131</b>

## Liabilities:

Other investments:	
Variation margin payable - futures contracts	178,500
Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts outstanding	4,543
Payable for:	
Fund shares reacquired	3,231
Accrued fees to affiliates	15,500
Accrued trustees' and officers' fees and benefits	1,706
Accrued other operating expenses	41,561
Trustee deferred compensation and retirement plans	69,837
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>314,878</b>
<b>Net assets applicable to shares outstanding</b>	<b>\$29,341,253</b>

## Net assets consist of:

Shares of beneficial interest	\$27,524,987
Distributable earnings	1,816,266
	<b>\$29,341,253</b>

## Net Assets:

Series I	\$28,358,431
Series II	\$ 982,822

## Shares outstanding, no par value, with an unlimited number of shares authorized:

Series I	2,615,572
Series II	91,840
Series I:	
Net asset value per share	\$ 10.84
Series II:	
Net asset value per share	\$ 10.70

# Statement of Operations

For the six months ended June 30, 2020

(Unaudited)

## Investment income:

Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$3,856)	\$ 281,196
Interest	127,006
Dividends from affiliated money market funds	6,784
<b>Total investment income</b>	<b>414,986</b>

## Expenses:

Advisory fees	94,426
Administrative services fees	26,284
Custodian fees	4,488
Distribution fees - Series II	1,400
Transfer agent fees	8,873
Trustees' and officers' fees and benefits	7,825
Reports to shareholders	2,837
Professional services fees	20,533
Other	299
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>166,965</b>
Less: Fees waived	(949)
<b>Net expenses</b>	<b>166,016</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>248,970</b>

## Realized and unrealized gain (loss) from:

Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investment securities	(513,861)
Foreign currencies	12,558
Forward foreign currency contracts	659
Futures contracts	(643,967)
	<b>(1,144,611)</b>
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of:	
Investment securities	(3,370,106)
Foreign currencies	(681)
Forward foreign currency contracts	40,508
Futures contracts	(355,855)
	<b>(3,686,134)</b>
<b>Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)</b>	<b>(4,830,745)</b>
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	<b>\$(4,581,775)</b>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the six months ended June 30, 2020 and the year ended December 31, 2019

(Unaudited)

	June 30, 2020	December 31, 2019
<b>Operations:</b>		
Net investment income	\$ 248,970	\$ 569,748
Net realized gain (loss)	(1,144,611)	708,999
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(3,686,134)	5,011,773
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(4,581,775)	6,290,520
<b>Distributions to shareholders from distributable earnings:</b>		
Series I	-	(1,896,583)
Series II	-	(63,708)
Total distributions from distributable earnings	-	(1,960,291)
<b>Share transactions-net:</b>		
Series I	(2,647,029)	(3,190,164)
Series II	(156,238)	(47,952)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from share transactions	(2,803,267)	(3,238,116)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets	(7,385,042)	1,092,113
<b>Net assets:</b>		
Beginning of period	36,726,295	35,634,182
End of period	\$29,341,253	\$36,726,295

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Financial Highlights

(Unaudited)

The following schedule presents financial highlights for a share of the Fund outstanding throughout the periods indicated.

	Net asset value, beginning of period	Net investment income <sup>(a)</sup>	Net gains (losses) on securities (both realized and unrealized)	Total from investment operations	Dividends from net investment income	Distributions from net realized gains	Total distributions	Net asset value, end of period	Total return <sup>(b)</sup>	Net assets, end of period (000's omitted)	Ratio of expenses to average net assets with fee waivers and/or expenses absorbed	Ratio of expenses to average net assets without fee waivers and/or expenses absorbed	Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	Portfolio turnover <sup>(c)</sup>
<b>Series I</b>														
Six months ended 06/30/20	\$12.41	\$0.09	\$(1.66)	\$(1.57)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$10.84	(12.65)%	\$28,358	1.04% <sup>(d)</sup>	1.05% <sup>(d)</sup>	1.60% <sup>(d)</sup>	57%
Year ended 12/31/19	11.04	0.19	1.82	2.01	(0.17)	(0.47)	(0.64)	12.41	18.58	35,409	1.07	1.08	1.55	109
Year ended 12/31/18	13.06	0.16	(1.51)	(1.35)	(0.22)	(0.45)	(0.67)	11.04	(11.00)	34,420	1.23	1.24	1.24	111
Year ended 12/31/17	11.97	0.18 <sup>(e)</sup>	1.08	1.26	(0.17)	-	(0.17)	13.06	10.56	44,104	1.13	1.13	1.42 <sup>(e)</sup>	91
Year ended 12/31/16	11.38	0.14	1.03	1.17	(0.22)	(0.36)	(0.58)	11.97	10.61	50,183	1.15	1.16	1.26	92
Year ended 12/31/15	19.02	0.18	(0.74)	(0.56)	(0.27)	(6.81)	(7.08)	11.38	(2.15)	52,360	1.08	1.10	1.07	117
<b>Series II</b>														
Six months ended 06/30/20	12.26	0.07	(1.63)	(1.56)	-	-	-	10.70	(12.72)	983	1.29 <sup>(d)</sup>	1.30 <sup>(d)</sup>	1.35 <sup>(d)</sup>	57
Year ended 12/31/19	10.91	0.15	1.81	1.96	(0.14)	(0.47)	(0.61)	12.26	18.30	1,317	1.32	1.33	1.30	109
Year ended 12/31/18	12.92	0.12	(1.49)	(1.37)	(0.19)	(0.45)	(0.64)	10.91	(11.28)	1,214	1.48	1.49	0.99	111
Year ended 12/31/17	11.84	0.15 <sup>(e)</sup>	1.07	1.22	(0.14)	-	(0.14)	12.92	10.33	1,446	1.38	1.38	1.17 <sup>(e)</sup>	91
Year ended 12/31/16	11.26	0.11	1.02	1.13	(0.19)	(0.36)	(0.55)	11.84	10.31	1,462	1.40	1.41	1.01	92
Year ended 12/31/15	18.88	0.13	(0.72)	(0.59)	(0.22)	(6.81)	(7.03)	11.26	(2.37)	1,500	1.33	1.35	0.82	117

<sup>(a)</sup> Calculated using average shares outstanding.

<sup>(b)</sup> Includes adjustments in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and as such, the net asset value for financial reporting purposes and the returns based upon those net asset values may differ from the net asset value and returns for shareholder transactions. Total returns are not annualized for periods less than one year, if applicable, and do not reflect charges assessed in connection with a variable product, which if included would reduce total returns.

<sup>(c)</sup> Portfolio turnover is calculated at the fund level and is not annualized for periods less than one year, if applicable.

<sup>(d)</sup> Ratios are annualized and based on average daily net assets (000's omitted) of \$30,523 and \$1,126 for Series I and Series II shares, respectively.

<sup>(e)</sup> Net investment income per share and the ratio of net investment income to average net assets includes significant dividends received during the year ended December 31, 2017. Net investment income per share and the ratio of net investment income to average net assets excluding the significant dividends are \$0.14 and 1.11% and \$0.11 and 0.86% for Series I and Series II shares, respectively.

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2020

(Unaudited)

## NOTE 1—Significant Accounting Policies

Invesco V.I. Managed Volatility Fund (the “Fund”) is a series portfolio of AIM Variable Insurance Funds (Invesco Variable Insurance Funds) (the “Trust”). The Trust is a Delaware statutory trust registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), as an open-end series management investment company. Information presented in these financial statements pertains only to the Fund. Matters affecting the Fund or each class will be voted on exclusively by the shareholders of the Fund or each class. Current Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) guidance, however, requires participating insurance companies offering separate accounts to vote shares proportionally in accordance with the instructions of the contract owners whose investments are funded by shares of each Fund or class.

The Fund’s investment objective is both capital appreciation and current income while managing portfolio volatility.

The Fund currently offers two classes of shares, Series I and Series II, both of which are offered to insurance company separate accounts funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies (“variable products”).

The Fund is an investment company and accordingly follows the investment company accounting and reporting guidance in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 946, *Financial Services – Investment Companies*.

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

### A. Security Valuations – Securities, including restricted securities, are valued according to the following policy.

A security listed or traded on an exchange (except convertible securities) is valued at its last sales price or official closing price as of the close of the customary trading session on the exchange where the security is principally traded, or lacking any sales or official closing price on a particular day, the security may be valued at the closing bid price on that day. Securities traded in the over-the-counter market are valued based on prices furnished by independent pricing services or market makers. When such securities are valued by an independent pricing service they may be considered fair valued. Futures contracts are valued at the final settlement price set by an exchange on which they are principally traded. Listed options are valued at the mean between the last bid and asked prices from the exchange on which they are principally traded. Options not listed on an exchange are valued by an independent source at the mean between the last bid and asked prices. For purposes of determining net asset value (“NAV”) per share, futures and option contracts generally are valued 15 minutes after the close of the customary trading session of the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”).

Investments in open-end and closed-end registered investment companies that do not trade on an exchange are valued at the end-of-day net asset value per share. Investments in open-end and closed-end registered investment companies that trade on an exchange are valued at the last sales price or official closing price as of the close of the customary trading session on the exchange where the security is principally traded.

Debt obligations (including convertible securities) and unlisted equities are fair valued using an evaluated quote provided by an independent pricing service. Evaluated quotes provided by the pricing service may be determined without exclusive reliance on quoted prices, and may reflect appropriate factors such as institution-size trading in similar groups of securities, developments related to specific securities, dividend rate (for unlisted equities), yield (for debt obligations), quality, type of issue, coupon rate (for debt obligations), maturity (for debt obligations), individual trading characteristics and other market data. Pricing services generally value debt obligations assuming orderly transactions of institutional round lot size, but a fund may hold or transact in the same securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots often trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. Debt obligations are subject to interest rate and credit risks. In addition, all debt obligations involve some risk of default with respect to interest and/or principal payments.

Foreign securities’ (including foreign exchange contracts) prices are converted into U.S. dollar amounts using the applicable exchange rates as of the close of the NYSE. If market quotations are available and reliable for foreign exchange-traded equity securities, the securities will be valued at the market quotations. Because trading hours for certain foreign securities end before the close of the NYSE, closing market quotations may become unreliable. If between the time trading ends on a particular security and the close of the customary trading session on the NYSE, events occur that the investment adviser determines are significant and make the closing price unreliable, the Fund may fair value the security. If the event is likely to have affected the closing price of the security, the security will be valued at fair value in good faith using procedures approved by the Board of Trustees. Adjustments to closing prices to reflect fair value may also be based on a screening process of an independent pricing service to indicate the degree of certainty, based on historical data, that the closing price in the principal market where a foreign security trades is not the current value as of the close of the NYSE. Foreign securities’ prices meeting the approved degree of certainty that the price is not reflective of current value will be priced at the indication of fair value from the independent pricing service. Multiple factors may be considered by the independent pricing service in determining adjustments to reflect fair value and may include information relating to sector indices, American Depositary Receipts and domestic and foreign index futures. Foreign securities may have additional risks including exchange rate changes, potential for sharply devalued currencies and high inflation, political and economic upheaval, the relative lack of issuer information, relatively low market liquidity and the potential lack of strict financial and accounting controls and standards.

Securities for which market prices are not provided by any of the above methods may be valued based upon quotes furnished by independent sources. The last bid price may be used to value equity securities. The mean between the last bid and asked prices is used to value debt obligations, including corporate loans.

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available or became unreliable are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the supervision of the Trust’s officers following procedures approved by the Board of Trustees. Issuer specific events, market trends, bid/asked quotes of brokers and information providers and other market data may be reviewed in the course of making a good faith determination of a security’s fair value.

The Fund may invest in securities that are subject to interest rate risk, meaning the risk that the prices will generally fall as interest rates rise and, conversely, the prices will generally rise as interest rates fall. Specific securities differ in their sensitivity to changes in interest rates depending on their individual characteristics. Changes in interest rates may result in increased market volatility, which may affect the value and/or liquidity of certain Fund investments.

Valuations change in response to many factors including the historical and prospective earnings of the issuer, the value of the issuer’s assets, general market conditions which are not specifically related to the particular issuer, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for revenues or corporate earnings, changes in interest or currency rates, regional or global instability, natural or environmental disasters, widespread disease or other public health issues, war, acts of terrorism or adverse investor sentiment generally and market liquidity. Because of the inherent uncertainties of valuation, the values reflected in the financial statements may materially differ from the value received upon actual sale of those investments.

### B. Securities Transactions and Investment Income – Securities transactions are accounted for on a trade date basis. Realized gains or losses on sales are computed on the basis of specific identification of the securities sold. Interest income (net of withholding tax, if any) is recorded on an accrual basis from settlement date. Bond premiums and discounts are amortized and/or accreted over the lives of the respective securities. Pay-in-kind interest income and non-cash dividend income received in the form of securities in-lieu of cash are recorded at the fair value of the securities received. Dividend income (net of withholding tax, if any) is recorded on the ex-dividend date.

The Fund may periodically participate in litigation related to Fund investments. As such, the Fund may receive proceeds from litigation settlements. Any proceeds received are included in the Statement of Operations as realized gain (loss) for investments no longer held and as unrealized gain (loss) for investments still held.

Brokerage commissions and mark ups are considered transaction costs and are recorded as an increase to the cost basis of securities purchased and/or a reduction of proceeds on a sale of securities. Such transaction costs are included in the determination of net realized and unrealized gain (loss) from investment securities reported in the Statement of Operations and the Statement of Changes in Net Assets and the net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on securities per share in the Financial Highlights. Transaction costs are included in the calculation of the Fund's net asset value and, accordingly, they reduce the Fund's total returns. These transaction costs are not considered operating expenses and are not reflected in net investment income reported in the Statement of Operations and the Statement of Changes in Net Assets, or the net investment income per share and the ratios of expenses and net investment income reported in the Financial Highlights, nor are they limited by any expense limitation arrangements between the Fund and the investment adviser.

The Fund allocates income and realized and unrealized capital gains and losses to a class based on the relative net assets of each class.

**C. Country Determination** – For the purposes of making investment selection decisions and presentation in the Schedule of Investments, the investment adviser may determine the country in which an issuer is located and/or credit risk exposure based on various factors. These factors include the laws of the country under which the issuer is organized, where the issuer maintains a principal office, the country in which the issuer derives 50% or more of its total revenues and the country that has the primary market for the issuer's securities, as well as other criteria. Among the other criteria that may be evaluated for making this determination are the country in which the issuer maintains 50% or more of its assets, the type of security, financial guarantees and enhancements, the nature of the collateral and the sponsor organization. Country of issuer and/or credit risk exposure has been determined to be the United States of America, unless otherwise noted.

**D. Distributions** – Distributions from net investment income and net realized capital gain, if any, are generally declared and paid to separate accounts of participating insurance companies annually and recorded on the ex-dividend date.

**E. Federal Income Taxes** – The Fund intends to comply with the requirements of Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"), necessary to qualify as a regulated investment company and to distribute substantially all of the Fund's taxable earnings to shareholders. As such, the Fund will not be subject to federal income taxes on otherwise taxable income (including net realized capital gain) that is distributed to shareholders. Therefore, no provision for federal income taxes is recorded in the financial statements.

The Fund recognizes the tax benefits of uncertain tax positions only when the position is more likely than not to be sustained. Management has analyzed the Fund's uncertain tax positions and concluded that no liability for unrecognized tax benefits should be recorded related to uncertain tax positions. Management is not aware of any tax positions for which it is reasonably possible that the total amounts of unrecognized tax benefits will change materially in the next 12 months.

The Fund files tax returns in the U.S. Federal jurisdiction and certain other jurisdictions. Generally, the Fund is subject to examinations by such taxing authorities for up to three years after the filing of the return for the tax period.

**F. Expenses** – Fees provided for under the Rule 12b-1 plan of a particular class of the Fund and which are directly attributable to that class are charged to the operations of such class. All other expenses are allocated among the classes based on relative net assets.

**G. Accounting Estimates** – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period including estimates and assumptions related to taxation. Actual results could differ from those estimates by a significant amount. In addition, the Fund monitors for material events or transactions that may occur or become known after the period-end date and before the date the financial statements are released to print.

**H. Indemnifications** – Under the Trust's organizational documents, each Trustee, officer, employee or other agent of the Trust is indemnified against certain liabilities that may arise out of the performance of their duties to the Fund. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the Fund enters into contracts, including the Fund's servicing agreements, that contain a variety of indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet occurred. The risk of material loss as a result of such indemnification claims is considered remote.

**I. Foreign Currency Translations** – Foreign currency is valued at the close of the NYSE based on quotations posted by banks and major currency dealers. Portfolio securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollar amounts at the date of valuation. Purchases and sales of portfolio securities (net of foreign taxes withheld on disposition) and income items denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollar amounts on the respective dates of such transactions. The Fund does not separately account for the portion of the results of operations resulting from changes in foreign exchange rates on investments and the fluctuations arising from changes in market prices of securities held. The combined results of changes in foreign exchange rates and the fluctuation of market prices on investments (net of estimated foreign tax withholding) are included with the net realized and unrealized gain or loss from investments in the Statement of Operations. Reported net realized foreign currency gains or losses arise from (1) sales of foreign currencies, (2) currency gains or losses realized between the trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, and (3) the difference between the amounts of dividends, interest, and foreign withholding taxes recorded on the Fund's books and the U.S. dollar equivalent of the amounts actually received or paid. Net unrealized foreign currency gains and losses arise from changes in the fair values of assets and liabilities, other than investments in securities at fiscal period end, resulting from changes in exchange rates.

The Fund may invest in foreign securities, which may be subject to foreign taxes on income, gains on investments or currency repatriation, a portion of which may be recoverable. Foreign taxes, if any, are recorded based on the tax regulations and rates that exist in the foreign markets in which the Fund invests and are shown in the Statement of Operations.

**J. Forward Foreign Currency Contracts** – The Fund may engage in foreign currency transactions either on a spot (i.e. for prompt delivery and settlement) basis, or through forward foreign currency contracts, to manage or minimize currency or exchange rate risk.

The Fund may also enter into forward foreign currency contracts for the purchase or sale of a security denominated in a foreign currency in order to "lock in" the U.S. dollar price of that security, or the Fund may also enter into forward foreign currency contracts that do not provide for physical settlement of the two currencies, but instead are settled by a single cash payment calculated as the difference between the agreed upon exchange rate and the spot rate at settlement based upon an agreed upon notional amount (non-deliverable forwards). The Fund will set aside liquid assets in an amount equal to the daily mark-to-market obligation for forward foreign currency contracts.

A forward foreign currency contract is an obligation between two parties ("Counterparties") to purchase or sell a specific currency for an agreed-upon price at a future date. The use of forward foreign currency contracts does not eliminate fluctuations in the price of the underlying securities the Fund owns or intends to acquire but establishes a rate of exchange in advance. Fluctuations in the value of these contracts are measured by the difference in the contract date and reporting date exchange rates and are recorded as unrealized appreciation (depreciation) until the contracts are closed. When the contracts are closed, realized gains (losses) are recorded. Realized and unrealized gains (losses) on the contracts are included in the Statement of Operations. The primary risks associated with forward foreign currency contracts include failure of the Counterparty to meet the terms of the contract and the value of the foreign currency changing unfavorably. These risks may be in excess of the amounts reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

**K. Futures Contracts** – The Fund may enter into futures contracts to manage exposure to interest rate, equity and market price movements and/or currency risks. A futures contract is an agreement between Counterparties to purchase or sell a specified underlying security, currency or commodity (or delivery of a cash settlement price, in the case of an index future) for a fixed price at a future date. The Fund currently invests only in exchange-traded futures and they are standardized as to maturity date and underlying financial instrument. Initial margin deposits required upon entering into futures contracts are satisfied by the segregation of specific securities or cash as collateral at the futures commission merchant (broker). During the period the futures contracts are open, changes in the value of the contracts are recognized as unrealized gains or losses by recalculating the value of the contracts on a daily basis. Subsequent or variation margin

payments are received or made depending upon whether unrealized gains or losses are incurred. These amounts are reflected as receivables or payables on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. When the contracts are closed or expire, the Fund recognizes a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the proceeds from, or cost of, the closing transaction and the Fund's basis in the contract. The net realized gain (loss) and the change in unrealized gain (loss) on futures contracts held during the period is included on the Statement of Operations. The primary risks associated with futures contracts are market risk and the absence of a liquid secondary market. If the Fund were unable to liquidate a futures contract and/or enter into an offsetting closing transaction, the Fund would continue to be subject to market risk with respect to the value of the contracts and continue to be required to maintain the margin deposits on the futures contracts. Futures contracts have minimal Counterparty risk since the exchange's clearinghouse, as Counterparty to all exchange-traded futures, guarantees the futures against default. Risks may exceed amounts recognized in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

- L. Other Risks** - The current low interest rate environment was created in part by the Federal Reserve Board (FRB) and certain foreign central banks keeping the federal funds and equivalent foreign rates near historical lows. Increases in the federal funds and equivalent foreign rates may expose fixed income markets to heightened volatility and reduced liquidity for certain fixed income investments, particularly those with longer maturities. In addition, decreases in fixed income dealer market-making capacity may also potentially lead to heightened volatility and reduced liquidity in the fixed income markets. As a result, the value of the Fund's investments and share price may decline. Changes in central bank policies could also result in higher than normal shareholder redemptions, which could potentially increase portfolio turnover and the Fund's transaction costs.

The market values of convertible securities are affected by market interest rates, the risk of actual issuer default on interest or principal payments and the value of the underlying common stock into which the convertible security may be converted. Additionally, a convertible security is subject to the same types of market and issuer risks as apply to the underlying common stock. In addition, certain convertible securities are subject to involuntary conversions and may undergo principal write-downs upon the occurrence of certain triggering events, and, as a result, are subject to an increased risk of loss. Convertible securities may be rated below investment grade.

## **NOTE 2—Advisory Fees and Other Fees Paid to Affiliates**

The Trust has entered into a master investment advisory agreement with Invesco Advisers, Inc. (the "Adviser" or "Invesco"). Under the terms of the investment advisory agreement, the Fund accrues daily and pays monthly an advisory fee to the Adviser at the annual rate of 0.60% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the effective advisory fee rate incurred by the Fund was 0.60%.

Under the terms of a master sub-advisory agreement between the Adviser and each of Invesco Asset Management Deutschland GmbH, Invesco Asset Management Limited, Invesco Asset Management (Japan) Limited, Invesco Hong Kong Limited, Invesco Senior Secured Management, Inc. and Invesco Canada Ltd. and separate sub-advisory agreements with Invesco Capital Management LLC and Invesco Asset Management (India) Private Limited (collectively, the "Affiliated Sub-Advisers") the Adviser, not the Fund, will pay 40% of the fees paid to the Adviser to any such Affiliated Sub-Adviser(s) that provide(s) discretionary investment management services to the Fund based on the percentage of assets allocated to such Affiliated Sub-Adviser(s).

The Adviser has contractually agreed, through at least June 30, 2021, to waive advisory fees and/or reimburse expenses of all shares to the extent necessary to limit total annual fund operating expenses after fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement (excluding certain items discussed below) of Series I shares to 2.00% and Series II shares to 2.25% of average daily net assets (the "expense limits"). In determining the Adviser's obligation to waive advisory fees and/or reimburse expenses, the following expenses are not taken into account, and could cause the total annual fund operating expenses after fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement to exceed the numbers reflected above: (1) interest; (2) taxes; (3) dividend expense on short sales; (4) extraordinary or non-routine items, including litigation expenses; and (5) expenses that the Fund has incurred but did not actually pay because of an expense offset arrangement. Unless Invesco continues the fee waiver agreement, it will terminate on June 30, 2021. During its term, the fee waiver agreement cannot be terminated or amended to increase the expense limits or reduce the advisory fee waiver without approval of the Board of Trustees. The Adviser did not waive fees and/or reimburse expenses during the period under these expense limits.

Further, the Adviser has contractually agreed, through at least June 30, 2022, to waive the advisory fee payable by the Fund in an amount equal to 100% of the net advisory fees the Adviser receives from the affiliated money market funds on investments by the Fund of uninvested cash in such affiliated money market funds.

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Adviser waived advisory fees of \$949.

The Trust has entered into a master administrative services agreement with Invesco pursuant to which the Fund has agreed to pay Invesco a fee for costs incurred in providing accounting services and fund administrative services to the Fund and to reimburse Invesco for fees paid to insurance companies that have agreed to provide certain administrative services to the Fund. These administrative services provided by the insurance companies may include, among other things: maintenance of master accounts with the Fund; tracking, recording and transmitting net purchase and redemption orders for Fund shares; maintaining and preserving records related to the purchase, redemption and other account activity of variable product owners; distributing copies of Fund documents such as prospectuses, proxy materials and periodic reports, to variable product owners, and responding to inquiries from variable product owners about the Fund. Pursuant to such agreement, for the six months ended June 30, 2020, Invesco was paid \$2,664 for accounting and fund administrative services and was reimbursed \$23,620 for fees paid to insurance companies. Invesco has entered into a sub-administration agreement whereby State Street Bank and Trust Company ("SSB") serves as fund accountant and provides certain administrative services to the Fund. Pursuant to a custody agreement with the Trust on behalf of the Fund, SSB also serves as the Fund's custodian.

The Trust has entered into a transfer agency and service agreement with Invesco Investment Services, Inc. ("IIS") pursuant to which the Fund has agreed to pay IIS a fee for providing transfer agency and shareholder services to the Fund and reimburse IIS for certain expenses incurred by IIS in the course of providing such services. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, expenses incurred under the agreement are shown in the Statement of Operations as *Transfer agent fees*.

The Trust has entered into a master distribution agreement with Invesco Distributors, Inc. ("IDI") to serve as the distributor for the Fund. The Trust has adopted a plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act with respect to the Fund's Series II shares (the "Plan"). The Fund, pursuant to the Plan, pays IDI compensation at the annual rate of 0.25% of the Fund's average daily net assets of Series II shares. The fees are accrued daily and paid monthly. Of the Plan payments, up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Series II shares may be paid to insurance companies who furnish continuing personal shareholder services to customers who purchase and own Series II shares of the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, expenses incurred under the Plan are detailed in the Statement of Operations as *Distribution fees*.

Certain officers and trustees of the Trust are officers and directors of the Adviser, IIS and/or IDI.

## **NOTE 3—Additional Valuation Information**

GAAP defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date, under current market conditions. GAAP establishes a hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation methods, giving the highest priority to readily available unadjusted quoted prices in an active market for identical assets (Level 1) and the lowest priority to significant unobservable inputs (Level 3), generally when market prices are not readily available or are unreliable. Based on the valuation inputs, the securities or other investments are tiered into one of three levels. Changes in valuation methods may result in transfers in or out of an investment's assigned level:

Level 1 - Prices are determined using quoted prices in an active market for identical assets.

Level 2 - Prices are determined using other significant observable inputs. Observable inputs are inputs that other market participants may use in pricing a security.

These may include quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, yield curves, loss severities, default rates, discount rates, volatilities and others.

Level 3 - Prices are determined using significant unobservable inputs. In situations where quoted prices or observable inputs are unavailable (for example, when there is little or no market activity for an investment at the end of the period), unobservable inputs may be used. Unobservable inputs reflect the Fund's own assumptions about the factors market participants would use in determining fair value of the securities or instruments and would be based on the best available information.

The following is a summary of the tiered valuation input levels, as of June 30, 2020. The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities. Because of the inherent uncertainties of valuation, the values reflected in the financial statements may materially differ from the value received upon actual sale of those investments.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
<b>Investments in Securities</b>				
Common Stocks & Other Equity Interests	\$15,896,094	\$ 1,432,299	\$-	\$17,328,393
U.S. Dollar Denominated Bonds & Notes	-	8,608,096	-	8,608,096
U.S. Treasury Securities	-	1,361,532	-	1,361,532
Preferred Stocks	67,606	-	-	67,606
Money Market Funds	2,082,463	-	-	2,082,463
<b>Total Investments in Securities</b>	<b>18,046,163</b>	<b>11,401,927</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29,448,090</b>
<b>Other Investments - Assets*</b>				
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	-	12,061	-	12,061
<b>Other Investments - Liabilities*</b>				
Futures Contracts	(355,855)	-	-	(355,855)
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	-	(4,543)	-	(4,543)
	(355,855)	(4,543)	-	(360,398)
<b>Total Other Investments</b>	<b>(355,855)</b>	<b>7,518</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(348,337)</b>
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>\$17,690,308</b>	<b>\$11,409,445</b>	<b>\$-</b>	<b>\$29,099,753</b>

\* Unrealized appreciation (depreciation).

#### NOTE 4—Derivative Investments

The Fund may enter into an International Swaps and Derivatives Association Master Agreement ("ISDA Master Agreement") under which a fund may trade OTC derivatives. An OTC transaction entered into under an ISDA Master Agreement typically involves a collateral posting arrangement, payment netting provisions and close-out netting provisions. These netting provisions allow for reduction of credit risk through netting of contractual obligations. The enforceability of the netting provisions of the ISDA Master Agreement depends on the governing law of the ISDA Master Agreement, among other factors.

For financial reporting purposes, the Fund does not offset OTC derivative assets or liabilities that are subject to ISDA Master Agreements in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

#### Value of Derivative Investments at Period-End

The table below summarizes the value of the Fund's derivative investments, detailed by primary risk exposure, held as of June 30, 2020:

Derivative Assets	Value		
	Currency Risk	Equity Risk	Total
Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts outstanding	\$12,061	\$ -	\$ 12,061
Derivatives not subject to master netting agreements	-	-	-
<b>Total Derivative Assets subject to master netting agreements</b>	<b>\$12,061</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 12,061</b>

Derivative Liabilities	Value		
	Currency Risk	Equity Risk	Total
Unrealized depreciation on futures contracts - Exchange-Traded <sup>(a)</sup>	\$ -	\$(355,855)	\$(355,855)
Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts outstanding	(4,543)	-	(4,543)
<b>Total Derivative Liabilities</b>	<b>(4,543)</b>	<b>(355,855)</b>	<b>(360,398)</b>
Derivatives not subject to master netting agreements	-	355,855	355,855
<b>Total Derivative Liabilities subject to master netting agreements</b>	<b>\$ (4,543)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (4,543)</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> The daily variation margin receivable (payable) at period-end is recorded in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

## Offsetting Assets and Liabilities

The table below reflects the Fund's exposure to Counterparties subject to either an ISDA Master Agreement or other agreement for OTC derivative transactions as of June 30, 2020.

Counterparty	Financial Derivative Assets	Financial Derivative Liabilities	Net Value of Derivatives	Collateral (Received)/Pledged		Net Amount
	Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	Forward Foreign Currency Contracts		Non-Cash	Cash	
Bank of New York Mellon (The)	\$ 5,194	\$ -	\$5,194	\$-	\$-	\$5,194
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	6,867	(4,543)	2,324	-	-	2,324
Total	\$12,061	\$(4,543)	\$7,518	\$-	\$-	\$7,518

## Effect of Derivative Investments for the six months ended June 30, 2020

The table below summarizes the gains (losses) on derivative investments, detailed by primary risk exposure, recognized in earnings during the period:

	Location of Gain (Loss) on Statement of Operations		
	Currency Risk	Equity Risk	Total
Realized Gain (Loss):			
Forward foreign currency contracts	\$ 659	\$ -	\$ 659
Futures contracts	-	(643,967)	(643,967)
Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation):			
Forward foreign currency contracts	40,508	-	40,508
Futures contracts	-	(355,855)	(355,855)
Total	\$41,167	\$(999,822)	\$(958,655)

The table below summarizes the average notional value of derivatives held during the period.

	Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	Futures Contracts
Average notional value	\$1,980,140	\$11,776,248

## NOTE 5—Trustees' and Officers' Fees and Benefits

*Trustees' and Officers' Fees and Benefits* include amounts accrued by the Fund to pay remuneration to certain Trustees and Officers of the Fund. Trustees have the option to defer compensation payable by the Fund, and *Trustees' and Officers' Fees and Benefits* also include amounts accrued by the Fund to fund such deferred compensation amounts. Those Trustees who defer compensation have the option to select various Invesco Funds in which their deferral accounts shall be deemed to be invested. Finally, certain current Trustees were eligible to participate in a retirement plan that provided for benefits to be paid upon retirement to Trustees over a period of time based on the number of years of service. The Fund may have certain former Trustees who also participate in a retirement plan and receive benefits under such plan. *Trustees' and Officers' Fees and Benefits* include amounts accrued by the Fund to fund such retirement benefits. Obligations under the deferred compensation and retirement plans represent unsecured claims against the general assets of the Fund.

## NOTE 6—Cash Balances

The Fund is permitted to temporarily carry a negative or overdrawn balance in its account with SSB, the custodian bank. Such balances, if any at period-end, are shown in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities under the payable caption Amount due custodian. To compensate the custodian bank for such overdrafts, the overdrawn Fund may either (1) leave funds as a compensating balance in the account so the custodian bank can be compensated by earning the additional interest; or (2) compensate by paying the custodian bank at a rate agreed upon by the custodian bank and Invesco, not to exceed the contractually agreed upon rate. The Fund may not purchase additional securities when any borrowings from banks or broker-dealers exceed 5% of the Fund's total assets, or when any borrowings from an Invesco Fund are outstanding.

## NOTE 7—Tax Information

The amount and character of income and gains to be distributed are determined in accordance with income tax regulations, which may differ from GAAP. Reclassifications are made to the Fund's capital accounts to reflect income and gains available for distribution (or available capital loss carryforward) under income tax regulations. The tax character of distributions paid during the year and the tax components of net assets will be reported at the Fund's fiscal year-end.

Capital loss carryforward is calculated and reported as of a specific date. Results of transactions and other activity after that date may affect the amount of capital loss carryforward actually available for the Fund to utilize. The ability to utilize capital loss carryforwards in the future may be limited under the Internal Revenue Code and related regulations based on the results of future transactions.

The Fund did not have a capital loss carryforward as of December 31, 2019.

## NOTE 8—Investment Transactions

The aggregate amount of investment securities (other than short-term securities, U.S. Treasury obligations and money market funds, if any) purchased and sold by the Fund during the six months ended June 30, 2020 was \$5,503,113 and \$7,438,972, respectively. During the same period, purchases and sales of U.S. Treasury



obligations were \$11,398,693 and \$13,006,661, respectively. Cost of investments, including any derivatives, on a tax basis includes the adjustments for financial reporting purposes as of the most recently completed federal income tax reporting period-end.

**Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) of Investments on a Tax Basis**

Aggregate unrealized appreciation of investments	\$ 3,519,607
Aggregate unrealized (depreciation) of investments	(2,062,334)
Net unrealized appreciation of investments	\$ 1,457,273

Cost of investments for tax purposes is \$27,642,480.

**NOTE 9—Share Information**

**Summary of Share Activity**

	Six months ended June 30, 2020 <sup>(a)</sup>		Year ended December 31, 2019	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
<b>Sold:</b>				
Series I	95,286	\$ 1,070,218	262,050	\$ 3,173,461
Series II	6,784	76,119	2,709	32,332
<b>Issued as reinvestment of dividends:</b>				
Series I	-	-	161,687	1,896,583
Series II	-	-	5,492	63,708
<b>Reacquired:</b>				
Series I	(332,699)	(3,717,247)	(688,807)	(8,260,208)
Series II	(22,354)	(232,357)	(12,075)	(143,992)
Net increase (decrease) in share activity	(252,983)	\$(2,803,267)	(268,944)	\$(3,238,116)

<sup>(a)</sup> There are entities that are record owners of more than 5% of the outstanding shares of the Fund and in the aggregate own 58% of the outstanding shares of the Fund. The Fund and the Fund's principal underwriter or adviser, are parties to participation agreements with these entities whereby these entities sell units of interest in separate accounts funding variable products that are invested in the Fund. The Fund, Invesco and/or Invesco affiliates may make payments to these entities, which are considered to be related to the Fund, for providing services to the Fund, Invesco and/or Invesco affiliates including but not limited to services such as, securities brokerage, third party record keeping and account servicing and administrative services. The Fund has no knowledge as to whether all or any portion of the shares owned of record by these entities are also owned beneficially.

**NOTE 10—Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic**

During the first quarter of 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a public health emergency. COVID-19 has led to increased short-term market volatility and may have adverse long-term effects on U.S. and world economies and markets in general. COVID-19 may adversely impact the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. Because of the uncertainties on valuation, the global economy and business operations, values reflected in these financial statements may materially differ from the value received upon actual sales of those investments.

The extent of the impact on the performance of the Fund and its investments will depend on future developments, including the duration and spread of the COVID-19 outbreak, related restrictions and advisories, and the effects on the financial markets and economy overall, all of which are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted.

# Calculating your ongoing Fund expenses

## Example

As a shareholder of the Fund, you incur ongoing costs, including management fees; distribution and/or service fees (12b-1); and other Fund expenses. This example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to compare these costs with ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds. The example is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the period and held for the entire period January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

The actual and hypothetical expenses in the examples below do not represent the effect of any fees or other expenses assessed in connection with a variable product; if they did, the expenses shown would be higher while the ending account values shown would be lower.

## Actual expenses

The table below provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in this table, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the table under the heading entitled "Actual Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during this period.

## Hypothetical example for comparison purposes

The table below also provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the Fund's actual expense ratio and an assumed rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Fund's actual return.

*The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Fund and other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other funds.*

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs. Therefore, the hypothetical information is useful in comparing ongoing costs, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds.

	Beginning Account Value (01/01/20)	ACTUAL		HYPOTHETICAL (5% annual return before expenses)		Annualized Expense Ratio
		Ending Account Value (06/30/20) <sup>1</sup>	Expenses Paid During Period <sup>2</sup>	Ending Account Value (06/30/20)	Expenses Paid During Period <sup>2</sup>	
Series I	\$1,000.00	\$873.50	\$4.84	\$1,019.69	\$5.22	1.04%
Series II	1,000.00	872.80	6.01	1,018.45	6.47	1.29

<sup>1</sup> The actual ending account value is based on the actual total return of the Fund for the period January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, after actual expenses and will differ from the hypothetical ending account value which is based on the Fund's expense ratio and a hypothetical annual return of 5% before expenses.

<sup>2</sup> Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio as indicated above multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182/366 to reflect the most recent fiscal half year.

# Approval of Investment Advisory and Sub-Advisory Contracts

At meetings held on June 3, 2020, the Board of Trustees (the Board or the Trustees) of AIM Variable Insurance Funds (Invesco Variable Insurance Funds) as a whole, and the independent Trustees, who comprise over 75% of the Board, voting separately, approved the continuance of the Invesco V.I. Managed Volatility Fund's (the Fund) Master Investment Advisory Agreement with Invesco Advisers, Inc. (Invesco Advisers and the investment advisory agreement) and the Master Intergroup Sub-Advisory Contract for Mutual Funds with Invesco Asset Management Deutschland GmbH, Invesco Asset Management Limited, Invesco Asset Management (Japan) Limited, Invesco Hong Kong Limited, Invesco Senior Secured Management, Inc. and Invesco Canada Ltd. and separate sub-advisory contracts with Invesco Capital Management LLC and Invesco Asset Management (India) Private Limited (collectively, the Affiliated Sub-Advisers and the sub-advisory contracts) for another year, effective July 1, 2020. After evaluating the factors discussed below, among others, the Board approved the renewal of the Fund's investment advisory agreement and the sub-advisory contracts and determined that the compensation payable thereunder by the Fund to Invesco Advisers and by Invesco Advisers to the Affiliated Sub-Advisers is fair and reasonable.

## The Board's Evaluation Process

The Board's Investments Committee has established Sub-Committees, which meet throughout the year to review the performance of funds advised by Invesco Advisers (the Invesco Funds). The Sub-Committees meet regularly with portfolio managers for their assigned Invesco Funds and other members of management to review detailed information about investment performance and portfolio attributes of these funds. The Board took into account evaluations and reports that it received from the Investments Committee and Sub-Committees, as well as the information provided to such committees and the Board throughout the year, in considering whether to approve each Invesco Fund's investment advisory agreement and sub-advisory contracts.

As part of the contract renewal process, the Board reviews and considers information provided in response to detailed requests for information submitted to management by the independent Trustees with assistance from legal counsel to the independent Trustees. The Board receives comparative investment performance and fee data regarding the Invesco Funds prepared by Invesco Advisers and Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. (Broadridge), an independent mutual fund data provider, as well as information on the composition of the peer groups provided by Broadridge and its methodology for determining peer groups. The Board also receives an independent written evaluation from the Senior Officer, an officer of the Invesco Funds who reports directly to the independent Trustees. The Senior Officer's evaluation is prepared as part of his responsibility to manage the process by which the Invesco Funds' proposed management fees are negotiated during the annual contract renewal process to ensure they are negotiated in a manner that is at arms' length and reasonable. In addition to meetings with Invesco Advisers and fund counsel throughout the year, the independent Trustees also

discuss the continuance of the investment advisory agreement and sub-advisory contracts in separate sessions with the Senior Officer and with independent legal counsel.

The discussion below is a summary of the Senior Officer's independent written evaluation with respect to the Fund's investment advisory agreement, as well as a discussion of the material factors and related conclusions that formed the basis for the Board's approval of the Fund's investment advisory agreement and sub-advisory contracts. The Trustees' review and conclusions are based on the comprehensive consideration of all information presented to them during the course of the year and in prior years and are not the result of any single determinative factor. Moreover, one Trustee may have weighed a particular piece of information or factor differently than another Trustee. This information is current as of June 3, 2020.

## Factors and Conclusions and Summary of Independent Written Fee Evaluation

### A. Nature, Extent and Quality of Services Provided by Invesco Advisers and the Affiliated Sub-Advisers

The Board reviewed the nature, extent and quality of the advisory services provided to the Fund by Invesco Advisers under the Fund's investment advisory agreement, and the credentials and experience of the officers and employees of Invesco Advisers who provide these services, including the Fund's portfolio manager(s). The Board's review included consideration of Invesco Advisers' investment process oversight and structure, credit analysis, investment risk management and research capabilities. The Board also considered non-advisory services that Invesco Advisers and its affiliates provide to the Invesco Funds, such as various back office support functions, third party oversight, internal audit, valuation, portfolio trading and legal and compliance. The Board also received and reviewed information about Invesco Advisers' role as administrator of the Invesco Funds' liquidity risk management program. The Board reviewed and considered the benefits to shareholders of investing in a Fund that is part of the Invesco family of funds under the umbrella of Invesco Ltd., Invesco Advisers' parent company, and noted Invesco Ltd.'s depth and experience in conducting an investment management business, as well as its commitment of financial and other resources to such business. The Board also reviewed and considered information regarding the benefits to the Fund resulting from Invesco Ltd.'s acquisition of OppenheimerFunds, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the Transaction) and the resources that Invesco Advisers has committed to managing the Invesco family of funds following the Transaction. The Board concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services provided to the Fund by Invesco Advisers are appropriate and satisfactory.

The Board reviewed the services that may be provided by the Affiliated Sub-Advisers under the sub-advisory contracts and the credentials and experience of the officers and employees of the Affiliated Sub-Advisers who provide these services. The Board noted the Affiliated Sub-Advisers' expertise with respect to certain asset classes and that the Affiliated Sub-Advisers have offices and personnel that are located in financial centers around the world.

As a result, the Board noted that the Affiliated Sub-Advisers can provide research and investment analysis on the markets and economies of various countries in which the Fund may invest, make recommendations regarding securities and assist with security trades. The Board concluded that the sub-advisory contracts may benefit the Fund and its shareholders by permitting Invesco Advisers to use the resources and talents of the Affiliated Sub-Advisers in managing the Fund. The Board concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services that may be provided by the Affiliated Sub-Advisers are appropriate and satisfactory.

### B. Fund Investment Performance

The Board considered Fund investment performance as a relevant factor in considering whether to approve the investment advisory agreement. The Board did not view Fund investment performance as a relevant factor in considering whether to approve the sub-advisory contracts for the Fund, as no Affiliated Sub-Adviser currently manages assets of the Fund.

The Board compared the Fund's investment performance over multiple time periods ending December 31, 2019 to the performance of funds in the Broadridge performance universe and against the Russell 1000® Value Index. The Board noted that performance of Series I shares of the Fund was in the fifth quintile of its performance universe for the one, three and five year periods (the first quintile being the best performing funds and the fifth quintile being the worst performing funds). The Board noted that performance of Series I shares of the Fund was below the performance of the Index for the one, three and five year periods. The Board noted that the Fund's cash position, allocation to bonds and volatility overlay during strong equity markets, as well as stock selection in certain sectors, negatively impacted relative performance. The Board noted that, unlike certain of the peer funds and the Index, managing portfolio volatility is a component of the Fund's investment objective. The Board recognized that the performance data reflects a snapshot in time as of a particular date and that selecting a different performance period could produce different results. The Board also reviewed more recent Fund performance as well as other performance metrics and this review did not change their conclusions.

### C. Advisory and Sub-Advisory Fees and Fund Expenses

The Board compared the Fund's contractual management fee rate to the contractual management fee rates of funds in the Fund's Broadridge expense group. The Board noted that the contractual management fee rate for Series I shares of the Fund was below the median contractual management fee rate of funds in its expense group. The Board noted that the term "contractual management fee" for funds in the expense group may include both advisory and certain non-portfolio management administrative services fees, but that Broadridge does not provide information on a fund by fund basis as to what is included. The Board also reviewed the methodology used by Broadridge in providing expense group information, which includes using each fund's contractual management fee schedule (including any applicable breakpoints) as reported in the most recent prospectus or statement of additional information for each fund in the expense group. The

Board also considered comparative information regarding the Fund's total expense ratio and its various components. The Board noted that there were only five funds (including the Fund) in the expense group.

The Board noted that Invesco Advisers has contractually agreed to waive fees and/or limit expenses of the Fund for the term disclosed in the Fund's registration statement in an amount necessary to limit total annual operating expenses to a specified percentage of average daily net assets for each class of the Fund.

The Board also considered the fees charged by Invesco Advisers and the Affiliated Sub-Advisers to other similarly managed client accounts. Invesco Advisers reviewed with the Board differences in the scope of services it provides to the Invesco Funds relative to certain other types of client accounts, including, among others: management of cash flows as a result of redemptions and purchases; necessary infrastructure such as officers, office space, technology, legal and distribution; oversight of service providers; costs and business risks associated with launching new funds and sponsoring and maintaining the product line; and compliance with federal and state laws and regulations.

The Board also compared the Fund's effective advisory fee rate (the advisory fee rate after advisory fee waivers and before other expense limitations/waivers) to the effective advisory fee rates of other similarly managed third-party mutual funds advised or sub-advised by Invesco Advisers and its affiliates, based on asset balances as of December 31, 2019.

The Board also considered the services that may be provided by the Affiliated Sub-Advisers pursuant to the sub-advisory contracts, as well as the fees payable by Invesco Advisers to the Affiliated Sub-Advisers pursuant to the sub-advisory contracts.

#### *D. Economies of Scale and Breakpoints*

The Board considered the extent to which there may be economies of scale in the provision of advisory services to the Fund. The Board noted that the Fund does not benefit from economies of scale through contractual breakpoints, but does share in economies of scale through lower fees charged by third party service providers based on the combined size of the Invesco Funds. The Board noted that the Fund may also benefit from economies of scale through initial fee setting, fee waivers and expense reimbursements. The Board also considered Invesco's reinvestment in its business, including investments in business infrastructure, technology and cybersecurity.

#### *E. Profitability and Financial Resources*

The Board reviewed information from Invesco Advisers concerning the costs of the advisory and other services that Invesco Advisers and its affiliates provide to the Fund and the Invesco Funds and the profitability of Invesco Advisers and its affiliates in providing these services in the aggregate and on an individual Fund-by-Fund basis. The Board considered the methodology used for calculating profitability and noted the periodic review and enhancement of such methodology. The Board noted that Invesco Advisers continues to operate at a net profit from services Invesco Advisers and its affiliates provide to the Invesco Funds in the aggregate and to certain Funds on an individual fund level. The Board did not deem the level of profits realized by Invesco Advisers and its affiliates from providing such services to be excessive given the nature, extent and quality of the services provided. The Board received information

from Invesco Advisers demonstrating that Invesco Advisers and the Affiliated Sub-Advisers are financially sound and have the resources necessary to perform their obligations under the investment advisory agreement and sub-advisory contracts.

#### *F. Collateral Benefits to Invesco Advisers and its Affiliates*

The Board considered various other benefits received by Invesco Advisers and its affiliates from the relationship with the Fund, including the fees received for providing administrative, transfer agency and distribution services to the Fund. The Board considered comparative information regarding fees charged for these services, including information provided by Broadridge and other independent sources. The Board considered the performance of Invesco Advisers and its affiliates in providing these services and the organizational structure employed to provide these services. The Board also considered that these services are provided to the Fund pursuant to written contracts that are reviewed and approved on an annual basis by the Board; and that the services are required for the operation of the Fund.

The Board considered the benefits realized by Invesco Advisers and the Affiliated Sub-Advisers as a result of portfolio brokerage transactions executed through "soft dollar" arrangements. The Board noted that soft dollar arrangements may result in the Fund bearing costs to purchase research that may be used by Invesco Advisers or the Affiliated Sub-Advisers with other clients and may reduce Invesco Advisers' or the Affiliated Sub-Advisers' expenses. The Board also considered that it receives periodic reports from Invesco representing that these arrangements are consistent with regulatory requirements. The Board did not deem the soft dollar arrangements to be inappropriate.

The Board considered that the Fund's uninvested cash and cash collateral from any securities lending arrangements may be invested in registered money market funds or, with regard to securities lending cash collateral, unregistered funds that comply with Rule 2a-7 (collectively referred to as "affiliated money market funds") advised by Invesco Advisers pursuant to procedures approved by the Board. The Board considered information regarding the returns of the affiliated money market funds relative to comparable overnight investments, as well as the costs to the Fund of such investments. The Board noted that Invesco Advisers receives advisory fees from these affiliated money market funds attributable to such investments, although Invesco Advisers has contractually agreed to waive through varying periods the advisory fees payable by the Invesco Funds with respect to certain investments in the affiliated money market funds. The waiver is in an amount equal to 100% of the net advisory fee Invesco Advisers receives from the affiliated money market funds with respect to the Fund's investment in the affiliated money market funds of uninvested cash, but not cash collateral. The Board concluded that the amount of advisory fees received by Invesco Advisers from the Fund's investment of cash collateral from any securities lending arrangements in the affiliated money market funds is fair and reasonable.

The Board also considered that an affiliated broker may receive commissions for executing certain trades for the Fund. Invesco Advisers and the Affiliated Sub-Advisers may use the affiliated broker to, among other things, control order routing and minimize information leakage, and the Board was advised that

such trades are executed in compliance with rules under the federal securities laws and consistent with best execution obligations.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

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## Janus Aspen Series

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the insurance company that offers your variable life insurance contract or variable annuity contract, may determine that it will no longer send you paper copies of the Portfolio's shareholder reports, unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports. Beginning on January 1, 2021, for shareholders who are not insurance contract holders, paper copies of the Portfolio's shareholder reports will no longer be sent by mail unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports. Instead, the reports will be made available on a website, and your insurance company or plan sponsor, broker-dealer, or financial intermediary will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a website link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company or plan sponsor, broker-dealer, or financial intermediary.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from the Portfolio electronically by contacting your insurance company or plan sponsor, broker-dealer, or other financial intermediary.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge by contacting your insurance company or plan sponsor, broker dealer or other financial intermediary. Your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all funds held in your account with your insurance company or plan sponsor, broker dealer or other financial intermediary.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Portfolio management perspective
- Investment strategy behind your portfolio
- Portfolio performance, characteristics and holdings

**Janus Henderson**  
— INVESTORS —

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## **Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**

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# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio (unaudited)

## PORTFOLIO SNAPSHOT

We believe that constructing a concentrated portfolio of quality growth companies will allow us to outperform our benchmark over time. We define quality as companies that enjoy sustainable “moats” around their businesses, potentially allowing them to grow faster, with higher returns, than their competitors. We believe the market often underestimates these companies’ sustainable competitive advantage periods.



Doug Rao  
co-portfolio manager

Nick Schommer  
co-portfolio manager

## PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

For the six-month period ended June 30, 2020, the Portfolio's Institutional Shares and Service Shares returned 10.84% and 10.68%, respectively, versus a return of 9.81% for the Portfolio's primary benchmark, the Russell 1000<sup>®</sup> Growth Index. The Portfolio's secondary benchmark, the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index, returned -3.08% for the period.

## INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT

The Russell 1000 Growth Index staged an impressive rebound on the heels of a near-total shutdown of the economy as the U.S. government and Federal Reserve (Fed) implemented massive stimulus and liquidity measures to backstop markets. Growth stocks, driven primarily by large-cap technology firms, significantly outperformed value stocks and the broader market. The unemployment rate, which had previously risen to an extremely high level, eventually showed signs of recovery but remained elevated. Relatively positive economic data toward the end of the period, including an uptick in consumer spending, pointed to a nascent recovery; however, the development of virus hot spots, particularly in the Southern and Western regions of the country, underscored the challenges that remain as the economy reopens amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

## PERFORMANCE DISCUSSION

The Portfolio outperformed its primary benchmark, the Russell 1000 Growth Index, and its secondary benchmark, the S&P 500 Index, during the period. As part of our investment strategy, we seek companies that have built clear, sustainable competitive moats around their businesses, which should help them grow market share within their respective industries over time. Important competitive advantages could include a strong brand, network effects from a product or service that would be hard for a competitor to replicate, a lower cost structure than competitors in the industry, a distribution advantage or patent protection over valuable intellectual property. We

think emphasizing these sustainable competitive advantages can be a meaningful driver of outperformance over longer time horizons because the market often underestimates the duration of growth for these companies and the long-term potential return to shareholders.

Avalara was a top contributor for the period relative to the benchmark. The Software as a Service company is a provider of tax calculation solutions for medium-size e-commerce businesses. Companies that sell goods online are now required to collect the appropriate sales tax for each state they sell into, even if they do not have a physical presence in that state. This requirement, combined with the complexity of the U.S. tax code, makes Avalara's software an essential service for many online businesses. The stock was up during the period after reporting strong earnings and a growing customer base through a challenging economic environment.

Netflix, Inc., another top contributor, has been a clear beneficiary of shelter-in-place orders, with a fairly low-priced product that has seen a spike in demand amid social distancing. As business activity slowed and advertising decreased, Netflix's business model also benefited due to its ad-free structure, while competitors more reliant on advertising revenue were negatively impacted.

Amazon was another top contributor, as almost every business line has continued to benefit from the disrupted environment. E-commerce (traditional and Whole Foods) benefited from increased deliveries. Amazon's extensive and sophisticated direct-to-consumer distribution network and Prime Video streaming were welcomed by consumers in this environment. Amazon Web Services (AWS) also benefited from an accelerated transition to the cloud, driven by the need to provide knowledge workers remote access to corporate information technology (IT) applications.

## Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio (unaudited)

Boston Scientific, a cardiovascular-focused medical device company, was among the top detractors. The company has suffered as some surgeries have been pushed back until the COVID-19 pandemic slows down. Procedures like heart surgery are not seen as elective, but many operations have been delayed in the near term.

Another detractor relative to the benchmark was defense contractor L3Harris Technologies. Defense stocks in general held up better during the initial market sell-off but have struggled more recently. Huge levels of fiscal stimulus will likely lead to strained government budgets for the foreseeable future. As a result, fears that defense spending will be negatively impacted weighed on the stock during the period.

Elanco Animal Health also detracted from relative performance. The stock declined after the company reported lower-than-expected quarterly revenues and withdrew fiscal year guidance because of COVID-19. Elanco is a top participant in the expanding animal food and health market. The firm's planned acquisition of Bayer Animal Health remains targeted for a midyear close and should help diversify Elanco's portfolio and distribution channels.

### OUTLOOK

Massive fiscal and monetary stimulus measures have thus far helped cushion the blow from shelter-in-place orders and provided much-needed liquidity for markets, Main Street businesses and consumers. As a result, the individual savings rate has gone up dramatically, and many companies with impaired balance sheets have likewise been able to raise inexpensive capital and deleverage. Interest rates (and therefore company cost of capital) are likely to remain at or near zero for the foreseeable future. This could eventually lead to price extremes for both equities and fixed income and will present investors with significant challenges in assessing corporate valuations.

The economy has shown signs of a budding recovery as it reopens, but it is clear that COVID-19 infection rates will need to be kept in check, as large spikes could necessitate renewed shutdowns and create risks to the developing recovery. Thus, the path back to normalcy will likely be extended and volatile until there is an effective and widely implemented vaccine. Adding to short-term market volatility is a recent spike in retail trading volume and accounts, spurred by zero-cost commissions across the retail brokerage industry and an increase in hours spent at home for individual investors.

While we can't predict macroeconomic outlooks, nor the trajectory of COVID-19, we believe many of the themes we have discussed in the past, specifically the widespread digitization of sectors across the economy, will not only persist but also get stronger over the coming months and years. Now more than ever, we think it is important to own companies that can benefit from long-term secular trends and that can continue to invest and grow. These are firms that have durable business models with deeply rooted competitive advantages, including strong balance sheets. Such qualities should allow these companies to allocate capital to growth opportunities despite a recessionary environment.

Thank you for your investment in Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio.



**Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio (unaudited)**  
**Portfolio At A Glance**  
**June 30, 2020**

**5 Top Contributors - Holdings**

	<b>Average Weight</b>	<b>Relative Contribution</b>
Avalara Inc	1.09%	0.62%
Netflix Inc	2.84%	0.55%
Amazon.com Inc	7.24%	0.51%
Adobe Inc	3.43%	0.46%
ASML Holding NV	2.13%	0.31%

**5 Top Detractors - Holdings**

	<b>Average Weight</b>	<b>Relative Contribution</b>
Boston Scientific Corp	3.28%	-1.11%
Walt Disney Co	1.71%	-0.68%
L3Harris Technologies Inc	2.99%	-0.61%
Elanco Animal Health Inc	1.05%	-0.61%
Mastercard Inc	5.81%	-0.43%

**5 Top Contributors - Sectors\***

	<b>Relative Contribution</b>	<b>Portfolio Average Weight</b>	<b>Russell 1000 Growth Index Average Weight</b>
Information Technology	1.21%	38.10%	39.94%
Consumer Discretionary	1.02%	13.43%	14.35%
Industrials	0.54%	6.97%	8.18%
Consumer Staples	0.49%	1.21%	4.48%
Real Estate	0.25%	3.01%	2.37%

**5 Top Detractors - Sectors\***

	<b>Relative Contribution</b>	<b>Portfolio Average Weight</b>	<b>Russell 1000 Growth Index Average Weight</b>
Health Care	-1.93%	13.07%	14.54%
Materials	-0.47%	3.49%	1.25%
Financials	-0.34%	3.85%	2.96%
Other**	0.04%	2.42%	0.00%
Energy	0.12%	0.00%	0.18%

Relative contribution reflects how the portfolio's holdings impacted return relative to the benchmark. Cash and securities not held in the portfolio are not shown. For equity portfolios, relative contribution compares the performance of a security in the portfolio to the benchmark's total return, factoring in the difference in weight of that security in the benchmark. Returns are calculated using daily returns and previous day ending weights rolled up by ticker, excluding fixed income securities, gross of advisory fees, may exclude certain derivatives and will differ from actual performance. Performance attribution reflects returns gross of advisory fees and may differ from actual returns as they are based on end of day holdings. Attribution is calculated by geometrically linking daily returns for the portfolio and index.

\* Based on sector classification according to the Global Industry Classification Standard ("GICS") codes, which are the exclusive property and a service mark of MSCI Inc. and Standard & Poor's.

\*\* Not a GICS classified sector.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio (unaudited)

## Portfolio At A Glance

### June 30, 2020

#### 5 Largest Equity Holdings - (% of Net Assets)

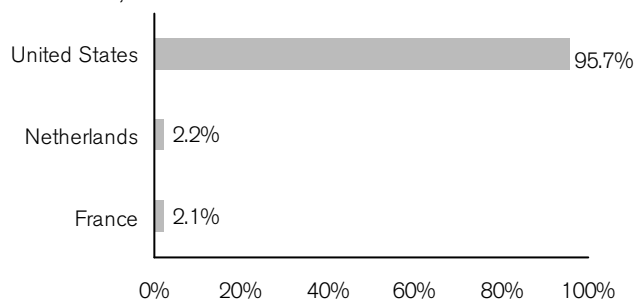
Microsoft Corp	
Software	9.0%
Amazon.com Inc	
Internet & Direct Marketing Retail	8.7%
Apple Inc	
Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals	5.9%
Mastercard Inc	
Information Technology Services	5.8%
Alphabet Inc - Class C	
Interactive Media & Services	3.9%
	<u>33.3%</u>

#### Asset Allocation - (% of Net Assets)

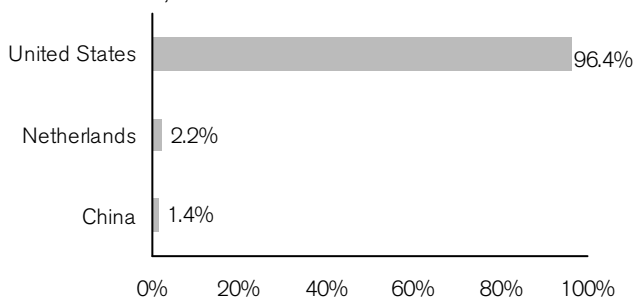
Common Stocks	99.5%
Investments Purchased with Cash	
Collateral from Securities Lending	0.9%
Investment Companies	0.8%
Other	(1.2)%
	<u>100.0%</u>

#### Top Country Allocations - Long Positions - (% of Investment Securities)

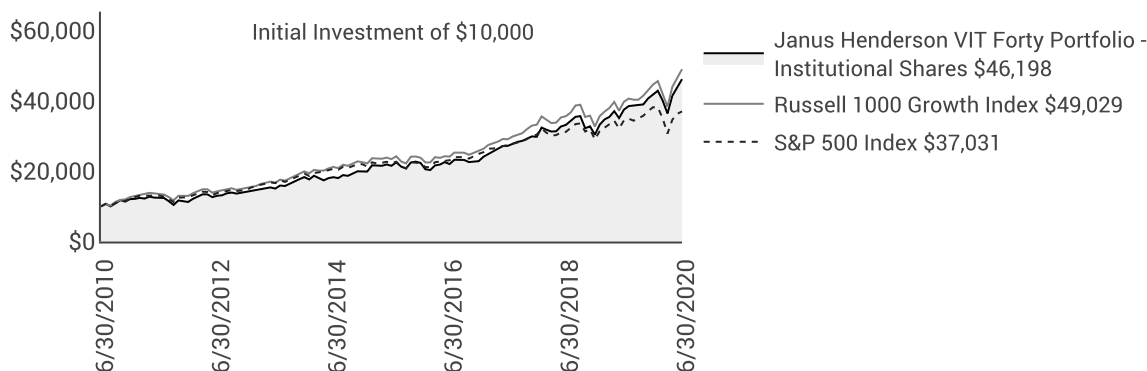
As of June 30, 2020



As of December 31, 2019



## Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio (unaudited) Performance



	Average Annual Total Return - for the periods ended June 30, 2020					Expense Ratios
	Fiscal Year-to-Date	One Year	Five Year	Ten Year	Since Inception*	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>†</sup>
Institutional Shares	10.84%	23.10%	16.48%	16.54%	12.25%	0.77%
Service Shares	10.68%	22.79%	16.19%	16.24%	11.94%	1.02%
Russell 1000 Growth Index	9.81%	23.28%	15.89%	17.23%	8.62%	
S&P 500 Index	-3.08%	7.51%	10.73%	13.99%	8.05%	
Morningstar Quartile - Institutional Shares	-	1st	1st	2nd	1st	
Morningstar Ranking - based on total returns for Large Growth Funds	-	319/1,366	161/1,251	305/1,100	14/587	

Returns quoted are past performance and do not guarantee future results; current performance may be lower or higher. Investment returns and principal value will vary; there may be a gain or loss when shares are sold. For the most recent month-end performance call 800.668.0434 or visit [janushenderson.com/VITperformance](http://janushenderson.com/VITperformance).

This Portfolio has a performance-based management fee that may adjust up or down based on the Portfolio's performance.

Performance may be affected by risks that include those associated with non-diversification, portfolio turnover, short sales, potential conflicts of interest, foreign and emerging markets, initial public offerings (IPOs), high-yield and high-risk securities, undervalued, overlooked and smaller capitalization companies, real estate related securities including Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), derivatives, and commodity-linked investments. Each product has different risks. Please see the prospectus for more information about risks, holdings and other details.

Returns do not reflect the deduction of fees, charges or expenses of any insurance product or qualified plan. If applied, returns would have been lower.

Returns include reinvestment of all dividends and distributions and do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Portfolio distributions or redemptions of Portfolio shares. The returns do not include adjustments in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles required at the period end for financial reporting purposes.

Performance for Service Shares prior to December 31, 1999 reflects the performance of Institutional Shares, adjusted to reflect the expenses of Service Shares.

Ranking is for the share class shown only; other classes may have different performance characteristics.

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There is no assurance that the investment process will consistently lead to successful investing.

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information for index definitions.

See important disclosures on the next page.

## **Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio (unaudited) Performance**

Index performance does not reflect the expenses of managing a portfolio as an index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

See "Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report."

\*The Portfolio's inception date – May 1, 1997

‡ As stated in the prospectus. See Financial Highlights for actual expense ratios during the reporting period.

## Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio (unaudited) Expense Examples

As a shareholder of the Portfolio, you incur two types of costs: (1) transaction costs and (2) ongoing costs, including management fees; 12b-1 distribution and shareholder servicing fees (applicable to Service Shares only); transfer agent fees and expenses payable pursuant to the Transfer Agency Agreement; and other Portfolio expenses. This example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Portfolio and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other funds. The example is based upon an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the period and held for the six-months indicated, unless noted otherwise in the table and footnotes below.

### Actual Expenses

The information in the table under the heading "Actual" provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in these columns, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the appropriate column for your share class under the heading entitled "Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during the period.

### Hypothetical Example for Comparison Purposes

The information in the table under the heading "Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)" provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based upon the Portfolio's actual expense ratio and an assumed rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Portfolio's actual return. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Portfolio and other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other funds. Additionally, for an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in either share class or other similar funds, please visit [www.finra.org/fundalyzer](http://www.finra.org/fundalyzer).

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transaction costs, such as any charges at the separate account level or contract level. These fees are fully described in the Portfolio's prospectuses. Therefore, the hypothetical examples are useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds. In addition, if these transaction costs were included, your costs would have been higher.

	Actual			Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)			Net Annualized Expense Ratio (1/1/20 - 6/30/20)
	Beginning Account Value (1/1/20)	Ending Account Value (6/30/20)	Expenses Paid During Period (1/1/20 - 6/30/20)†	Beginning Account Value (1/1/20)	Ending Account Value (6/30/20)	Expenses Paid During Period (1/1/20 - 6/30/20)†	
Institutional Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,108.40	\$4.09	\$1,000.00	\$1,020.98	\$3.92	0.78%
Service Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,106.80	\$5.34	\$1,000.00	\$1,019.79	\$5.12	1.02%

† Expenses Paid During Period are equal to the Net Annualized Expense Ratio multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182/366 (to reflect the one-half year period). Expenses in the examples include the effect of applicable fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements, if any. Had such waivers and/or reimbursements not been in effect, your expenses would have been higher. Please refer to the Notes to Financial Statements or the Portfolio's prospectuses for more information regarding waivers and/or reimbursements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**  
**Schedule of Investments (unaudited)**  
**June 30, 2020**

	<i>Shares or Principal Amounts</i>	<i>Value</i>
Common Stocks – 99.5%		
Aerospace & Defense – 2.2%		
L3Harris Technologies Inc	118,258	\$20,064,835
Capital Markets – 2.3%		
Blackstone Group Inc	377,230	21,373,852
Chemicals – 2.0%		
Sherwin-Williams Co	32,071	18,532,227
Construction Materials – 0.8%		
Vulcan Materials Co	60,230	6,977,646
Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components – 0.6%		
Cognex Corp	97,030	5,794,632
Entertainment – 4.0%		
Netflix Inc*	56,422	25,674,267
Walt Disney Co	101,830	11,355,063
		37,029,330
Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) – 3.0%		
American Tower Corp	107,415	27,771,074
Health Care Equipment & Supplies – 8.6%		
Boston Scientific Corp*	894,478	31,405,123
DanaHER Corp	143,461	25,368,209
Edwards Lifesciences Corp*	92,124	6,366,690
Intuitive Surgical Inc*	28,895	16,465,238
		79,605,260
Household Products – 1.9%		
Procter & Gamble Co	149,413	17,865,312
Information Technology Services – 7.3%		
Mastercard Inc	181,878	53,781,325
PayPal Holdings Inc*	77,802	13,555,442
		67,336,767
Interactive Media & Services – 9.2%		
Alphabet Inc - Class C*	25,682	36,304,332
Facebook Inc*	105,041	23,851,660
Match Group Inc*.#	104,099	11,143,798
Snap Inc*	581,763	13,665,613
		84,965,403
Internet & Direct Marketing Retail – 9.9%		
Amazon.com Inc*	29,018	80,055,439
Booking Holdings Inc*	7,125	11,345,422
		91,400,861
Pharmaceuticals – 4.4%		
Elanco Animal Health Inc*	453,220	9,721,569
Merck & Co Inc	207,128	16,017,208
Zoetis Inc	107,998	14,800,046
		40,538,823
Professional Services – 2.1%		
CoStar Group Inc*	27,655	19,653,579
Semiconductor & Semiconductor Equipment – 8.5%		
ASML Holding NV	56,609	20,833,810
Lam Research Corp	29,219	9,451,178
Microchip Technology Inc	74,542	7,850,018
NVIDIA Corp	50,564	19,209,769
Texas Instruments Inc	165,868	21,060,260
		78,405,035
Software – 17.4%		
Adobe Inc*	74,698	32,516,786
Avalara Inc*	89,312	11,886,534
Microsoft Corp	407,075	82,843,833
salesforce.com Inc*	180,945	33,896,427
		161,143,580

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**  
**Schedule of Investments (unaudited)**  
**June 30, 2020**

	<i>Shares or Principal Amounts</i>	<i>Value</i>
Common Stocks – (continued)		
Specialty Retail – 2.6%		
Home Depot Inc	96,149	\$24,086,286
Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals – 5.9%		
Apple Inc	148,379	54,128,659
Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods – 4.4%		
Lululemon Athletica Inc*	21,321	6,652,365
LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE	44,143	19,332,971
NIKE Inc	147,294	14,442,177
		40,427,513
Wireless Telecommunication Services – 2.4%		
T-Mobile US Inc*	214,575	22,347,986
<b>Total Common Stocks (cost \$525,472,235)</b>		<b>919,448,660</b>
Investment Companies – 0.8%		
Money Markets – 0.8%		
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 0.1535% <sup>ann.£</sup> (cost \$7,687,698)	7,687,556	7,688,325
Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending – 0.9%		
Investment Companies – 0.7%		
Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, 0.0368% <sup>ann.£</sup>	6,398,181	6,398,181
Time Deposits – 0.2%		
Royal Bank of Canada, 0.0900%, 7/1/20	\$1,599,545	1,599,545
<b>Total Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending (cost \$7,997,726)</b>		<b>7,997,726</b>
<b>Total Investments (total cost \$541,157,659) – 101.2%</b>		<b>935,134,711</b>
<b>Liabilities, net of Cash, Receivables and Other Assets – (1.2)%</b>		<b>(10,901,244)</b>
<b>Net Assets – 100%</b>		<b>\$924,233,467</b>

**Summary of Investments by Country - (Long Positions) (unaudited)**

<i>Country</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>% of Investment Securities</i>
United States	\$894,967,930	95.7 %
Netherlands	20,833,810	2.2
France	19,332,971	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$935,134,711</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**  
**Schedule of Investments (unaudited)**  
**June 30, 2020**

*Schedules of Affiliated Investments – (% of Net Assets)*

	<i>Dividend Income</i>		<i>Realized Gain/(Loss)</i>		<i>Change in Unrealized Appreciation/ Depreciation</i>		<i>Value at 6/30/20</i>
Investment Companies - 0.8%							
Money Markets - 0.8%							
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 0.1535%	\$ 97,840	\$	5,174	\$	850	\$	7,688,325
Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending - 0.7%							
Investment Companies - 0.7%							
Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, 0.0368%	278,585 <sup>A</sup>		-		-		6,398,181
<b>Total Affiliated Investments - 1.5%</b>	<b>\$ 376,425</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,174-</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>14,086,506</b>

	<i>Value at 12/31/19</i>		<i>Purchases</i>		<i>Sales Proceeds</i>		<i>Value at 6/30/20</i>
Investment Companies - 0.8%							
Money Markets - 0.8%							
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 0.1535%	17,377,343		157,584,891		(167,279,933)		7,688,325
Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending - 0.7%							
Investment Companies - 0.7%							
Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, 0.0368%	-		19,515,652		(13,117,471)		6,398,181

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.



# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information (unaudited)

Russell 1000 <sup>®</sup> Growth Index	Russell 1000 <sup>®</sup> Growth Index reflects the performance of U.S. large-cap equities with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.
S&P 500 <sup>®</sup> Index	S&P 500 <sup>®</sup> Index reflects U.S. large-cap equity performance and represents broad U.S. equity market performance.
LLC	Limited Liability Company

\* Non-income producing security.

∞ Rate shown is the 7-day yield as of June 30, 2020.

# Loaned security; a portion of the security is on loan at June 30, 2020.

£ The Portfolio may invest in certain securities that are considered affiliated companies. As defined by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, an affiliated company is one in which the Portfolio owns 5% or more of the outstanding voting securities, or a company which is under common ownership or control.

Δ Net of income paid to the securities lending agent and rebates paid to the borrowing counterparties.

The following is a summary of the inputs that were used to value the Portfolio's investments in securities and other financial instruments as of June 30, 2020. See Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

### Valuation Inputs Summary

	<i>Level 1 - Quoted Prices</i>	<i>Level 2 - Other Significant Observable Inputs</i>	<i>Level 3 - Significant Unobservable Inputs</i>
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Investments In Securities:</b>			
<i>Common Stocks</i>			
Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods	\$ 21,094,542	\$ 19,332,971	\$ -
All Other	879,021,147	-	-
<i>Investment Companies</i>	-	7,688,325	-
<i>Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending</i>	-	7,997,726	-
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 900,115,689</b>	<b>\$ 35,019,022</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities (unaudited)**  
**June 30, 2020**

Assets:	
Unaffiliated investments, at value <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	\$ 921,048,205
Affiliated investments, at value <sup>(3)</sup>	14,086,506
Cash	347
Non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation	19,045
Receivables:	
Dividends	340,016
Portfolio shares sold	176,377
Foreign tax reclaims	7,160
Dividends from affiliates	2,159
Other assets	93,149
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>935,772,964</b>
Liabilities:	
Collateral for securities loaned (Note 2)	7,997,726
Payables:	
Portfolio shares repurchased	2,791,461
Advisory fees	475,478
12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees	109,260
Transfer agent fees and expenses	39,604
Non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation fees	19,045
Non-affiliated portfolio administration fees payable	18,898
Professional fees	17,335
Non-interested Trustees' fees and expenses	4,277
Affiliated portfolio administration fees payable	1,857
Custodian fees	1,693
Accrued expenses and other payables	62,863
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>11,539,497</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 924,233,467</b>
Net Assets Consist of:	
Capital (par value and paid-in surplus)	\$ 479,180,586
Total distributable earnings (loss)	445,052,881
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 924,233,467</b>
Net Assets - Institutional Shares	\$ 381,570,831
Shares Outstanding, \$0.01 Par Value (unlimited shares authorized)	8,418,855
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>	<b>\$ 45.32</b>
Net Assets - Service Shares	\$ 542,662,636
Shares Outstanding, \$0.01 Par Value (unlimited shares authorized)	12,869,814
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>	<b>\$ 42.17</b>

(1) Includes cost of \$527,071,780.

(2) Includes \$7,831,492 of securities on loan. See Note 2 in Notes to Financial Statements.

(3) Includes cost of \$14,085,879.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**  
**Statement of Operations (unaudited)**  
**For the period ended June 30, 2020**

Investment Income:		
Dividends	\$	3,383,310
Affiliated securities lending income, net		278,585
Dividends from affiliates		97,840
Unaffiliated securities lending income, net		3,142
Foreign tax withheld		(13,670)
<b>Total Investment Income</b>		<b>3,749,207</b>
Expenses:		
Advisory fees		2,964,550
12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees:		
Service Shares		626,658
Transfer agent administrative fees and expenses:		
Institutional Shares		87,260
Service Shares		125,332
Other transfer agent fees and expenses:		
Institutional Shares		8,511
Service Shares		5,762
Shareholder reports expense		20,346
Professional fees		19,834
Registration fees		11,740
Affiliated portfolio administration fees		10,630
Non-interested Trustees' fees and expenses		7,710
Custodian fees		5,539
Other expenses		45,664
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>3,939,536</b>
<b>Net Investment Income/(Loss)</b>		<b>(190,329)</b>
Net Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments:		
Investments and foreign currency transactions		51,282,171
Investments in affiliates		5,174
<b>Total Net Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments</b>		<b>51,287,345</b>
Change in Unrealized Net Appreciation/Depreciation:		
Investments, foreign currency translations and non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation		37,904,505
Investments in affiliates		850
<b>Total Change in Unrealized Net Appreciation/Depreciation</b>		<b>37,905,355</b>
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>89,002,371</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	<i>Period ended</i>	
	<i>June 30, 2020</i>	<i>Year ended</i>
	<i>(unaudited)</i>	<i>December 31, 2019</i>
<b>Operations:</b>		
Net investment income/(loss)	\$ (190,329)	\$ 678,107
Net realized gain/(loss) on investments	51,287,345	71,678,445
Change in unrealized net appreciation/depreciation	37,905,355	183,133,171
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>89,002,371</b>	<b>255,489,723</b>
<b>Dividends and Distributions to Shareholders</b>		
Institutional Shares	(28,629,140)	(27,749,524)
Service Shares	(43,209,494)	(42,198,627)
<b>Net Decrease from Dividends and Distributions to Shareholders</b>	<b>(71,838,634)</b>	<b>(69,948,151)</b>
<b>Capital Share Transactions:</b>		
Institutional Shares	11,410,846	(6,219,350)
Service Shares	8,545,667	(11,662,110)
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) from Capital Share Transactions</b>	<b>19,956,513</b>	<b>(17,881,460)</b>
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>37,120,250</b>	<b>167,660,112</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Beginning of period	887,113,217	719,453,105
<b>End of period</b>	<b>\$ 924,233,467</b>	<b>\$ 887,113,217</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Financial Highlights

### Institutional Shares

For a share outstanding during the period ended June 30, 2020 (unaudited) and the year ended

December 31	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$44.38	\$35.20	\$39.76	\$32.19	\$36.37	\$40.27
Income/(Loss) from Investment Operations:						
Net investment income/(loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.02	0.09	0.07	0.02	0.05	0.03
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss)	4.58	12.55	1.31	9.58	0.58	4.77
Total from Investment Operations	4.60	12.64	1.38	9.60	0.63	4.80
Less Dividends and Distributions:						
Dividends (from net investment income)	(0.14)	(0.06)	—	—	—	—
Distributions (from capital gains)	(3.52)	(3.40)	(5.94)	(2.03)	(4.81)	(8.70)
Total Dividends and Distributions	(3.66)	(3.46)	(5.94)	(2.03)	(4.81)	(8.70)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$45.32	\$44.38	\$35.20	\$39.76	\$32.19	\$36.37
Total Return*	10.84%	37.16%	1.98%	30.31%	2.20%	12.22%
Net Assets, End of Period (in thousands)	\$381,571	\$362,001	\$292,132	\$309,258	\$257,009	\$295,725
Average Net Assets for the Period (in thousands)	\$352,946	\$337,416	\$327,962	\$297,125	\$273,374	\$298,904
Ratios to Average Net Assets**:						
Ratio of Gross Expenses	0.78%	0.77%	0.71%	0.82%	0.72%	0.69%
Ratio of Net Expenses (After Waivers and Expense Offsets)	0.78%	0.77%	0.71%	0.82%	0.72%	0.69%
Ratio of Net Investment Income/(Loss)	0.10%	0.23%	0.17%	0.05%	0.15%	0.08%
Portfolio Turnover Rate	26%	35%	41%	39%	53%	55%

### Service Shares

For a share outstanding during the period ended June 30, 2020 (unaudited) and the year ended

December 31	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$41.53	\$33.15	\$37.84	\$30.79	\$35.08	\$39.21
Income/(Loss) from Investment Operations:						
Net investment income/(loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.03)	(0.01)	(0.03)	(0.07)	(0.03)	(0.06)
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss)	4.27	11.80	1.28	9.15	0.55	4.63
Total from Investment Operations	4.24	11.79	1.25	9.08	0.52	4.57
Less Dividends and Distributions:						
Dividends (from net investment income)	(0.08)	(0.01)	—	—	—	—
Distributions (from capital gains)	(3.52)	(3.40)	(5.94)	(2.03)	(4.81)	(8.70)
Total Dividends and Distributions	(3.60)	(3.41)	(5.94)	(2.03)	(4.81)	(8.70)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$42.17	\$41.53	\$33.15	\$37.84	\$30.79	\$35.08
Total Return*	10.71%	36.85%	1.72%	29.99%	1.94%	11.94%
Net Assets, End of Period (in thousands)	\$542,663	\$525,112	\$427,321	\$466,969	\$430,510	\$501,003
Average Net Assets for the Period (in thousands)	\$506,966	\$495,465	\$487,559	\$457,168	\$464,943	\$501,868
Ratios to Average Net Assets**:						
Ratio of Gross Expenses	1.02%	1.02%	0.96%	1.06%	0.97%	0.94%
Ratio of Net Expenses (After Waivers and Expense Offsets)	1.02%	1.02%	0.96%	1.06%	0.97%	0.94%
Ratio of Net Investment Income/(Loss)	(0.15)%	(0.02)%	(0.08)%	(0.19)%	(0.09)%	(0.17)%
Portfolio Turnover Rate	26%	35%	41%	39%	53%	55%

\* Total return includes adjustments in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles required at the year or period end and are not annualized for periods of less than one full year. Total return does not include fees, charges, or expenses imposed by the variable annuity and life insurance contracts for which Janus Aspen Series serves as an underlying investment vehicle.

\*\* Annualized for periods of less than one full year.

(1) Per share amounts are calculated based on average shares outstanding during the year or period.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

### 1. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio (the "Portfolio") is a series of Janus Aspen Series (the "Trust"), which is organized as a Delaware statutory trust and is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company, and therefore has applied the specialized accounting and reporting guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 946. The Trust offers 11 portfolios, each of which offers multiple share classes, with differing investment objectives and policies. The Portfolio seeks long-term growth of capital. The Portfolio is classified as nondiversified, as defined in the 1940 Act.

The Portfolio currently offers two classes of shares: Institutional Shares and Service Shares. Each class represents an interest in the same portfolio of investments. Institutional Shares are offered only in connection with investment in and payments under variable insurance contracts as well as certain qualified retirement plans. Service Shares are offered only in connection with investment in and payments under variable insurance contracts as well as certain qualified retirement plans that require a fee from Portfolio assets to procure distribution and administrative services to contract owners and plan participants.

Shareholders, including other portfolios, participating insurance companies, as well as accounts, may from time to time own (beneficially or of record) a significant percentage of the Portfolio's Shares and can be considered to "control" the Portfolio when that ownership exceeds 25% of the Portfolio's assets (and which may differ from control as determined in accordance with United States of America generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP")).

The following accounting policies have been followed by the Portfolio and are in conformity with US GAAP.

#### Investment Valuation

Securities held by the Portfolio are valued in accordance with policies and procedures established by and under the supervision of the Trustees (the "Valuation Procedures"). Equity securities traded on a domestic securities exchange are generally valued at the closing prices on the primary market or exchange on which they trade. If such price is lacking for the trading period immediately preceding the time of determination, such securities are valued at their current bid price. Equity securities that are traded on a foreign exchange are generally valued at the closing prices on such markets. In the event that there is no current trading volume on a particular security in such foreign exchange, the bid price from the primary exchange is generally used to value the security. Securities that are traded on the over-the-counter ("OTC") markets are generally valued at their closing or latest bid prices as available. Foreign securities and currencies are converted to U.S. dollars using the applicable exchange rate in effect at the close of the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"). The Portfolio will determine the market value of individual securities held by it by using prices provided by one or more approved professional pricing services or, as needed, by obtaining market quotations from independent broker-dealers. Most debt securities are valued in accordance with the evaluated bid price supplied by the pricing service that is intended to reflect market value. The evaluated bid price supplied by the pricing service is an evaluation that may consider factors such as security prices, yields, maturities and ratings. Certain short-term securities maturing within 60 days or less may be evaluated and valued on an amortized cost basis provided that the amortized cost determined approximates market value. Securities for which market quotations or evaluated prices are not readily available or deemed unreliable are valued at fair value determined in good faith under the Valuation Procedures. Circumstances in which fair value pricing may be utilized include, but are not limited to: (i) a significant event that may affect the securities of a single issuer, such as a merger, bankruptcy, or significant issuer-specific development; (ii) an event that may affect an entire market, such as a natural disaster or significant governmental action; (iii) a nonsignificant event such as a market closing early or not opening, or a security trading halt; and (iv) pricing of a nonvalued security and a restricted or nonpublic security. Special valuation considerations may apply with respect to "odd-lot" fixed-income transactions which, due to their small size, may receive evaluated prices by pricing services which reflect a large block trade and not what actually could be obtained for the odd-lot position. The Portfolio uses systematic fair valuation models provided by independent third parties to value international equity securities in order to adjust for stale pricing, which may occur between the close of certain foreign exchanges and the close of the NYSE.

#### Valuation Inputs Summary

FASB ASC 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures ("ASC 820"), defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosure requirements regarding fair value measurements. This standard emphasizes that fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on the assumptions that

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability and establishes a hierarchy that prioritizes inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. These inputs are summarized into three broad levels:

Level 1 – Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets the Portfolio has the ability to access for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 – Observable inputs other than unadjusted quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly. These inputs may include quoted prices for the identical instrument on an inactive market, prices for similar instruments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, yield curves, default rates and similar data.

Assets or liabilities categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy generally include: debt securities fair valued in accordance with the evaluated bid or ask prices supplied by a pricing service; securities traded on OTC markets and listed securities for which no sales are reported that are fair valued at the latest bid price (or yield equivalent thereof) obtained from one or more dealers transacting in a market for such securities or by a pricing service approved by the Portfolio's Trustees; certain short-term debt securities with maturities of 60 days or less that are fair valued at amortized cost; and equity securities of foreign issuers whose fair value is determined by using systematic fair valuation models provided by independent third parties in order to adjust for stale pricing which may occur between the close of certain foreign exchanges and the close of the NYSE. Other securities that may be categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy include, but are not limited to, preferred stocks, bank loans, swaps, investments in unregistered investment companies, options, and forward contracts.

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability to the extent that relevant observable inputs are not available, representing the Portfolio's own assumptions about the assumptions that a market participant would use in valuing the asset or liability, and that would be based on the best information available.

There have been no significant changes in valuation techniques used in valuing any such positions held by the Portfolio since the beginning of the fiscal year.

The inputs or methodology used for fair valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. The summary of inputs used as of June 30, 2020 to fair value the Portfolio's investments in securities and other financial instruments is included in the "Valuation Inputs Summary" in the Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information.

### Investment Transactions and Investment Income

Investment transactions are accounted for as of the date purchased or sold (trade date). Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Certain dividends from foreign securities will be recorded as soon as the Portfolio is informed of the dividend, if such information is obtained subsequent to the ex-dividend date. Dividends from foreign securities may be subject to withholding taxes in foreign jurisdictions. Interest income is recorded daily on the accrual basis and includes amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts. The Portfolio classifies gains and losses on prepayments received as an adjustment to interest income. Debt securities may be placed in non-accrual status and related interest income may be reduced by stopping current accruals and writing off interest receivables when collection of all or a portion of interest has become doubtful. Gains and losses are determined on the identified cost basis, which is the same basis used for federal income tax purposes.

### Expenses

The Portfolio bears expenses incurred specifically on its behalf. Each class of shares bears a portion of general expenses, which are allocated daily to each class of shares based upon the ratio of net assets represented by each class as a percentage of total net assets. Expenses directly attributable to a specific class of shares are charged against the operations of such class.

### Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with US GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

### Indemnifications

In the normal course of business, the Portfolio may enter into contracts that contain provisions for indemnification of other parties against certain potential liabilities. The Portfolio's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, and would involve future claims that may be made against the Portfolio that have not yet occurred. Currently, the risk of material loss from such claims is considered remote.

### Foreign Currency Translations

The Portfolio does not isolate that portion of the results of operations resulting from the effect of changes in foreign exchange rates on investments from the fluctuations arising from changes in market prices of securities held at the date of the financial statements. Net unrealized appreciation or depreciation of investments and foreign currency translations arise from changes in the value of assets and liabilities, including investments in securities held at the date of the financial statements, resulting from changes in the exchange rates and changes in market prices of securities held.

Currency gains and losses are also calculated on payables and receivables that are denominated in foreign currencies. The payables and receivables are generally related to foreign security transactions and income translations.

Foreign currency-denominated assets and forward currency contracts may involve more risks than domestic transactions, including currency risk, counterparty risk, political and economic risk, regulatory risk and equity risk. Risks may arise from unanticipated movements in the value of foreign currencies relative to the U.S. dollar.

### Dividends and Distributions

The Portfolio may make semiannual distributions of substantially all of its investment income and an annual distribution of its net realized capital gains (if any).

The Portfolio may make certain investments in real estate investment trusts ("REITs") which pay dividends to their shareholders based upon funds available from operations. It is quite common for these dividends to exceed the REITs' taxable earnings and profits, resulting in the excess portion of such dividends being designated as a return of capital. If the Portfolio distributes such amounts, such distributions could constitute a return of capital to shareholders for federal income tax purposes.

### Federal Income Taxes

The Portfolio intends to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company and distribute all of its taxable income in accordance with the requirements of Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code. Management has analyzed the Portfolio's tax positions taken for all open federal income tax years, generally a three-year period, and has concluded that no provision for federal income tax is required in the Portfolio's financial statements. The Portfolio is not aware of any tax positions for which it is reasonably possible that the total amounts of unrecognized tax benefits will significantly change in the next twelve months.

## 2. Other Investments and Strategies

### Additional Investment Risk

In the aftermath of the 2007-2008 financial crisis, the financial sector experienced reduced liquidity in credit and other fixed-income markets, and an unusually high degree of volatility, both domestically and internationally. In response to the crisis, the United States and certain foreign governments, along with the U.S. Federal Reserve and certain foreign central banks, took a number of unprecedented steps designed to support the financial markets. For example, the enactment of the Dodd-Frank Act in 2010 provided for widespread regulation of financial institutions, consumer financial products and services, broker-dealers, over-the-counter derivatives, investment advisers, credit rating agencies, and mortgage lending, which expanded federal oversight in the financial sector, including the investment management industry. More recently, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. government and the Federal Reserve, as well as certain foreign governments and central banks, have taken extraordinary actions to support local and global economies and the financial markets, including reducing interest rates to record low levels. The withdrawal of this support, a failure of measures put in place in response to such economic uncertainty, or investor perception that such efforts were not sufficient could each negatively affect financial markets generally, and the value and liquidity of specific securities. In addition, policy and legislative changes in the United States and in other countries continue to impact many aspects of financial regulation.

Widespread disease, including pandemics and epidemics, and natural or environmental disasters, such as earthquakes, fires, floods, hurricanes, tsunamis and weather-related phenomena generally, have been and can be highly disruptive to



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## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

economies and markets, adversely impacting individual companies, sectors, industries, markets, currencies, interest and inflation rates, credit ratings, investor sentiment, and other factors affecting the value of a Fund's investments. Economies and financial markets throughout the world have become increasingly interconnected, which increases the likelihood that events or conditions in one region or country will adversely affect markets or issuers in other regions or countries, including the United States. These disruptions could prevent a Fund from executing advantageous investment decisions in a timely manner and negatively impact a Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective(s). Any such event(s) could have a significant adverse impact on the value of a Fund. In addition, these disruptions could also impair the information technology and other operational systems upon which the Fund's service providers, including Janus Capital or the subadviser (as applicable), rely, and could otherwise disrupt the ability of employees of the Fund's service providers to perform essential tasks on behalf of the Fund.

A number of countries in the European Union ("EU") have experienced, and may continue to experience, severe economic and financial difficulties. In particular, many EU nations are susceptible to economic risks associated with high levels of debt. Many non-governmental issuers, and even certain governments, have defaulted on, or been forced to restructure, their debts. Many other issuers have faced difficulties obtaining credit or refinancing existing obligations. Financial institutions have in many cases required government or central bank support, have needed to raise capital, and/or have been impaired in their ability to extend credit. As a result, financial markets in the EU have experienced extreme volatility and declines in asset values and liquidity. Responses to these financial problems by European governments, central banks, and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest, and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. The risk of investing in securities in the European markets may also be heightened due to the referendum in which the United Kingdom voted to exit the EU (commonly known as "Brexit"). The United Kingdom formally left the EU on January 31, 2020 and entered into an eleven-month transition period, during which the United Kingdom will remain subject to EU laws and regulations. There is considerable uncertainty relating to the potential consequences of the United Kingdom's exit and how negotiations for new trade agreements will be conducted or concluded.

Certain areas of the world have historically been prone to and economically sensitive to environmental events such as, but not limited to, hurricanes, earthquakes, typhoons, flooding, tidal waves, tsunamis, erupting volcanoes, wildfires or droughts, tornadoes, mudslides, or other weather-related phenomena. Such disasters, and the resulting physical or economic damage, could have a severe and negative impact on the Portfolio's investment portfolio and, in the longer term, could impair the ability of issuers in which the Portfolio invests to conduct their businesses as they would under normal conditions. Adverse weather conditions may also have a particularly significant negative effect on issuers in the agricultural sector and on insurance and reinsurance companies that insure or reinsure against the impact of natural disasters.

### Counterparties

Portfolio transactions involving a counterparty are subject to the risk that the counterparty or a third party will not fulfill its obligation to the Portfolio ("counterparty risk"). Counterparty risk may arise because of the counterparty's financial condition (i.e., financial difficulties, bankruptcy, or insolvency), market activities and developments, or other reasons, whether foreseen or not. A counterparty's inability to fulfill its obligation may result in significant financial loss to the Portfolio. The Portfolio may be unable to recover its investment from the counterparty or may obtain a limited recovery, and/or recovery may be delayed. The extent of the Portfolio's exposure to counterparty risk with respect to financial assets and liabilities approximates its carrying value.

The Portfolio may be exposed to counterparty risk through participation in various programs, including, but not limited to, lending its securities to third parties, cash sweep arrangements whereby the Portfolio's cash balance is invested in one or more types of cash management vehicles, as well as investments in, but not limited to, repurchase agreements, debt securities, and derivatives, including various types of swaps, futures and options. The Portfolio intends to enter into financial transactions with counterparties that Janus Capital believes to be creditworthy at the time of the transaction. There is always the risk that Janus Capital's analysis of a counterparty's creditworthiness is incorrect or may change due to market conditions. To the extent that the Portfolio focuses its transactions with a limited number of counterparties, it will have greater exposure to the risks associated with one or more counterparties.

### Real Estate Investing

The Portfolio may invest in equity and debt securities of real estate-related companies. Such companies may include those in the real estate industry or real estate-related industries. These securities may include common stocks, corporate bonds, preferred stocks, and other equity securities, including, but not limited to, mortgage-backed securities,

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

real estate-backed securities, securities of REITs and similar REIT-like entities. A REIT is a trust that invests in real estate-related projects, such as properties, mortgage loans, and construction loans. REITs are generally categorized as equity, mortgage, or hybrid REITs. A REIT may be listed on an exchange or traded OTC.

### Offsetting Assets and Liabilities

The Portfolio presents gross and net information about transactions that are either offset in the financial statements or subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement or similar agreement with a designated counterparty, regardless of whether the transactions are actually offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The following table presents gross amounts of recognized assets and/or liabilities and the net amounts after deducting collateral that has been pledged by counterparties or has been pledged to counterparties (if applicable). For corresponding information grouped by type of instrument, see the Portfolio's Schedule of Investments.

### Offsetting of Financial Assets and Derivative Assets

Counterparty	Gross Amounts of Recognized		Offsetting Asset or Liability <sup>(a)</sup>	Collateral Pledged <sup>(b)</sup>		Net Amount
	Assets					
JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association	\$	7,831,492	\$	—	\$ (7,831,492)	\$ —

(a) Represents the amount of assets or liabilities that could be offset with the same counterparty under master netting or similar agreements that management elects not to offset on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

(b) Collateral pledged is limited to the net outstanding amount due to/from an individual counterparty. The actual collateral amounts pledged may exceed these amounts and may fluctuate in value.

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association acts as securities lending agent and a limited purpose custodian or subcustodian to receive and disburse cash balances and cash collateral, hold short-term investments, hold collateral, and perform other custodial functions in accordance with the Non-Custodial Securities Lending Agreement. For financial reporting purposes, the Portfolio does not offset financial instruments' payables and receivables and related collateral on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Securities on loan will be continuously secured by collateral which may consist of cash, U.S. Government securities, domestic and foreign short-term debt instruments, letters of credit, time deposits, repurchase agreements, money market mutual funds or other money market accounts, or such other collateral as permitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). See "Securities Lending" in the "Notes to Financial Statements" for additional information.

### Securities Lending

Under procedures adopted by the Trustees, the Portfolio may seek to earn additional income by lending securities to certain qualified broker-dealers and institutions. Effective December 16, 2019, JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association replaced Deutsche Bank AG as securities lending agent for the Portfolio. JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association acts as securities lending agent and a limited purpose custodian or subcustodian to receive and disburse cash balances and cash collateral, hold short-term investments, hold collateral, and perform other custodial functions in accordance with the Non-Custodial Securities Lending Agreement. The Portfolio may lend portfolio securities in an amount equal to up to 1/3 of its total assets as determined at the time of the loan origination. There is the risk of delay in recovering a loaned security or the risk of loss in collateral rights if the borrower fails financially. In addition, Janus Capital makes efforts to balance the benefits and risks from granting such loans. All loans will be continuously secured by collateral which may consist of cash, U.S. Government securities, domestic and foreign short-term debt instruments, letters of credit, time deposits, repurchase agreements, money market mutual funds or other money market accounts, or such other collateral as permitted by the SEC. If the Portfolio is unable to recover a security on loan, the Portfolio may use the collateral to purchase replacement securities in the market. There is a risk that the value of the collateral could decrease below the cost of the replacement security by the time the replacement investment is made, resulting in a loss to the Portfolio. In certain circumstances individual loan transactions could yield negative returns.

Upon receipt of cash collateral, Janus Capital may invest it in affiliated or non-affiliated cash management vehicles, whether registered or unregistered entities, as permitted by the 1940 Act and rules promulgated thereunder. Janus Capital currently intends to primarily invest the cash collateral in a cash management vehicle for which Janus Capital serves as investment adviser, Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC. An investment in Janus Henderson Cash

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## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

Collateral Fund LLC is generally subject to the same risks that shareholders experience when investing in similarly structured vehicles, such as the potential for significant fluctuations in assets as a result of the purchase and redemption activity of the securities lending program, a decline in the value of the collateral, and possible liquidity issues. Such risks may delay the return of the cash collateral and cause the Portfolio to violate its agreement to return the cash collateral to a borrower in a timely manner. As adviser to the Portfolio and Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, Janus Capital has an inherent conflict of interest as a result of its fiduciary duties to both the Portfolio and Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC. Additionally, Janus Capital receives an investment advisory fee of 0.05% for managing Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, but it may not receive a fee for managing certain other affiliated cash management vehicles in which the Portfolio may invest, and therefore may have an incentive to allocate preferred investment opportunities to investment vehicles for which it is receiving a fee.

The value of the collateral must be at least 102% of the market value of the loaned securities that are denominated in U.S. dollars and 105% of the market value of the loaned securities that are not denominated in U.S. dollars. Loaned securities and related collateral are marked-to-market each business day based upon the market value of the loaned securities at the close of business, employing the most recent available pricing information. Collateral levels are then adjusted based on this mark-to-market evaluation.

The cash collateral invested by Janus Capital is disclosed in the Schedule of Investments (if applicable). Income earned from the investment of the cash collateral, net of rebates paid to, or fees paid by, borrowers and less the fees paid to the lending agent are included as "Affiliated securities lending income, net" on the Statement of Operations. As of June 30, 2020, securities lending transactions accounted for as secured borrowings with an overnight and continuous contractual maturity are \$7,831,492. Gross amounts of recognized liabilities for securities lending (collateral received) as of June 30, 2020 is \$7,997,726, resulting in the net amount due to the counterparty of \$166,234.

### 3. Investment Advisory Agreements and Other Transactions with Affiliates

The Portfolio pays Janus Capital Management LLC ("Janus Capital") an investment advisory fee which is calculated daily and paid monthly. The Portfolio's "base" fee rate prior to any performance adjustment (expressed as an annual rate) is 0.64%.

The investment advisory fee rate is determined by calculating a base fee and applying a performance adjustment. The base fee rate is the same as the contractual investment advisory fee rate. The performance adjustment either increases or decreases the base fee depending on how well the Portfolio has performed relative to its benchmark index. The Portfolio's benchmark index used in the calculation is the Russell 1000<sup>®</sup> Growth Index.

The calculation of the performance adjustment applies as follows:

Investment Advisory Fee = Base Fee Rate +/- Performance Adjustment

The investment advisory fee rate paid to Janus Capital by the Portfolio consists of two components: (1) a base fee calculated by applying the contractual fixed rate of the advisory fee to the Portfolio's average daily net assets during the previous month ("Base Fee Rate"), plus or minus (2) a performance-fee adjustment ("Performance Adjustment") calculated by applying a variable rate of up to 0.15% (positive or negative) to the Portfolio's average daily net assets based on the Portfolio's relative performance compared to the cumulative investment record of its benchmark index over a 36-month performance measurement period or shorter time period, as applicable. The investment performance of a Portfolio's Service Shares, for the performance measurement period is used to calculate the Performance Adjustment. No Performance Adjustment is applied unless the difference between the Portfolio's investment performance and the cumulative investment record of the Portfolio's benchmark index is 0.50% or greater (positive or negative) during the applicable performance measurement period.

The Portfolio's prospectuses and statement(s) of additional information contain additional information about performance-based fees. The amount shown as advisory fees on the Statement of Operations reflects the Base Fee Rate plus/minus any Performance Adjustment. For the period ended June 30, 2020, the performance adjusted investment advisory fee rate before any waivers and/or reimbursements of expenses is 0.70%.

Janus Services LLC ("Janus Services"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Janus Capital, is the Portfolio's transfer agent. Janus Services receives an administrative services fee at an annual rate of 0.05% of the average daily net assets of the Portfolio for arranging for the provision by participating insurance companies and qualified plan service providers of administrative services, including recordkeeping, subaccounting, order processing, or other shareholder services

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### Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

provided on behalf of contract holders or plan participants investing in the Portfolio. Other shareholder services may include the provision of order confirmations, periodic account statements, forwarding prospectuses, shareholder reports, and other materials to existing investors, and answering inquiries regarding accounts. Janus Services expects to use this entire fee to compensate insurance companies and qualified plan service providers for providing these services to their customers who invest in the Portfolio. Any unused portion will be reimbursed to the applicable share class at least annually.

In addition, Janus Services provides or arranges for the provision of certain other internal administrative, recordkeeping, and shareholder relations services for the Portfolio. Janus Services is not compensated for these internal services related to the shares, except for out-of-pocket costs. These amounts are disclosed as "Other transfer agent fees and expenses" on the Statement of Operations.

Under a distribution and shareholder servicing plan (the "Plan") adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, the Service Shares may pay the Trust's distributor, Janus Distributors LLC ("Janus Distributors"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Janus Capital, a fee for the sale and distribution and/or shareholder servicing of the Service Shares at an annual rate of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Service Shares. Under the terms of the Plan, the Trust is authorized to make payments to Janus Distributors for remittance to insurance companies and qualified plan service providers as compensation for distribution and/or shareholder services performed by such entities. These amounts are disclosed as "12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees" on the Statement of Operations. Payments under the Plan are not tied exclusively to actual 12b-1 distribution and servicing fees, and the payments may exceed 12b-1 distribution and servicing fees actually incurred. If any of the Portfolio's actual 12b-1 distribution and servicing fees incurred during a calendar year are less than the payments made during a calendar year, the Portfolio will be refunded the difference. Refunds, if any, are included in "12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees" in the Statement of Operations.

Janus Capital serves as administrator to the Portfolio pursuant to an administration agreement between Janus Capital and the Trust. Under the administration agreement, Janus Capital is obligated to provide or arrange for the provision of certain administration, compliance, and accounting services to the Portfolio, including providing office space for the Portfolio, and is reimbursed by the Portfolio for certain of its costs in providing these services (to the extent Janus Capital seeks reimbursement and such costs are not otherwise waived). In addition, employees of Janus Capital and/or its affiliates may serve as officers of the Trust. The Portfolio pays for some or all of the salaries, fees, and expenses of Janus Capital employees and Portfolio officers, with respect to certain specified administration functions they perform on behalf of the Portfolio. The Portfolio pays these costs based on out-of-pocket expenses incurred by Janus Capital, and these costs are separate and apart from advisory fees and other expenses paid in connection with the investment advisory services Janus Capital (or any subadvisor, as applicable) provides to the Portfolio. These amounts are disclosed as "Affiliated portfolio administration fees" on the Statement of Operations. In addition, some expenses related to compensation payable to the Portfolio's Chief Compliance Officer and certain compliance staff, all of whom are employees of Janus Capital and/or its affiliates, are shared with the Portfolio. Total compensation of \$20,422 was paid to the Chief Compliance Officer and certain compliance staff by the Trust during the period ended June 30, 2020. The Portfolio's portion is reported as part of "Other expenses" on the Statement of Operations.

The Board of Trustees has adopted a deferred compensation plan (the "Deferred Plan") for independent Trustees to elect to defer receipt of all or a portion of the annual compensation they are entitled to receive from the Portfolio. All deferred fees are credited to an account established in the name of the Trustees. The amounts credited to the account then increase or decrease, as the case may be, in accordance with the performance of one or more of the Janus Henderson funds that are selected by the Trustees. The account balance continues to fluctuate in accordance with the performance of the selected fund or funds until final payment of all amounts are credited to the account. The fluctuation of the account balance is recorded by the Portfolio as unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) and is included as of June 30, 2020 on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities in the asset, "Non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation," and liability, "Non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation fees." Additionally, the recorded unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) is included in "Total distributable earnings (loss)" on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Deferred compensation expenses for the period ended June 30, 2020 are included in "Non-interested Trustees' fees and expenses" on the Statement of Operations. Trustees are allowed to change their designation of mutual funds from time to time. Amounts will be deferred until distributed in accordance with the Deferred Plan. Deferred fees of \$220,425 were paid by the Trust to the Trustees under the Deferred Plan during the period ended June 30, 2020.

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## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

Pursuant to the provisions of the 1940 Act and related rules, the Portfolio may participate in an affiliated or non-affiliated cash sweep program. In the cash sweep program, uninvested cash balances of the Portfolio may be used to purchase shares of affiliated or non-affiliated money market funds or cash management pooled investment vehicles that operate as money market funds. The Portfolio is eligible to participate in the cash sweep program (the "Investing Funds"). As adviser, Janus Capital has an inherent conflict of interest because of its fiduciary duties to the affiliated money market funds or cash management pooled investment vehicles and the Investing Funds. Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC (the "Sweep Vehicle") is an affiliated unregistered cash management pooled investment vehicle that invests primarily in highly-rated short-term fixed-income securities. The Sweep Vehicle operates pursuant to the provisions of the 1940 Act that govern the operation of money market funds and prices its shares at NAV reflecting market-based values of its portfolio securities (i.e., a "floating" NAV) rounded to the fourth decimal place (e.g., \$1.0000). The Sweep Vehicle is permitted to impose a liquidity fee (of up to 2%) on redemptions from the Sweep Vehicle or a redemption gate that temporarily suspends redemptions from the Sweep Vehicle for up to 10 business days during a 90 day period. There are no restrictions on the Portfolio's ability to withdraw investments from the Sweep Vehicle at will, and there are no unfunded capital commitments due from the Portfolio to the Sweep Vehicle. The Sweep Vehicle does not charge any management fee, sales charge or service fee.

Any purchases and sales, realized gains/losses and recorded dividends from affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2020 can be found in the "Schedules of Affiliated Investments" located in the Schedule of Investments.

The Portfolio is permitted to purchase or sell securities ("cross-trade") between itself and other funds or accounts managed by Janus Capital in accordance with Rule 17a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Rule 17a-7"), when the transaction is consistent with the investment objectives and policies of the Portfolio and in accordance with the Internal Cross Trade Procedures adopted by the Trust's Board of Trustees. These procedures have been designed to ensure that any cross-trade of securities by the Portfolio from or to another fund or account that is or could be considered an affiliate of the Portfolio under certain limited circumstances by virtue of having a common investment adviser, common Officer, or common Trustee complies with Rule 17a-7. Under these procedures, each cross-trade is effected at the current market price to save costs where allowed. During the period ended June 30, 2020, the Portfolio engaged in cross trades amounting to \$1,075,151 in sales, resulting in a net realized loss of \$565,414. The net realized loss is included within the "Net Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments" section of the Portfolio's Statement of Operations.

#### 4. Federal Income Tax

Income and capital gains distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations that may differ from US GAAP. These differences are due to differing treatments for items such as net short-term gains, deferral of wash sale losses, foreign currency transactions, net investment losses, and capital loss carryovers.

The Portfolio has elected to treat gains and losses on forward foreign currency contracts as capital gains and losses, if applicable. Other foreign currency gains and losses on debt instruments are treated as ordinary income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 988 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The aggregate cost of investments and the composition of unrealized appreciation and depreciation of investment securities for federal income tax purposes as of June 30, 2020 are noted below. The primary differences between book and tax appreciation or depreciation of investments are wash sale loss deferrals and investments in partnerships.

<i>Federal Tax Cost</i>	<i>Unrealized Appreciation</i>	<i>Unrealized (Depreciation)</i>	<i>Net Tax Appreciation/ (Depreciation)</i>
\$ 543,831,297	\$398,248,584	\$ (6,945,170)	\$ 391,303,414

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

### 5. Capital Share Transactions

	Period ended June 30, 2020		Year ended December 31, 2019	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Institutional Shares:				
Shares sold	671,671	\$29,694,016	1,174,768	\$ 48,016,950
Reinvested dividends and distributions	667,502	28,629,140	703,924	27,749,524
Shares repurchased	(1,076,765)	(46,912,310)	(2,021,587)	(81,985,824)
Net Increase/(Decrease)	262,408	\$11,410,846	(142,895)	\$ (6,219,350)
Service Shares:				
Shares sold	570,659	\$23,537,173	919,315	\$ 34,835,599
Reinvested dividends and distributions	1,082,945	43,209,494	1,143,734	42,198,627
Shares repurchased	(1,428,767)	(58,201,000)	(2,307,562)	(88,696,336)
Net Increase/(Decrease)	224,837	\$ 8,545,667	(244,513)	\$ (11,662,110)

### 6. Purchases and Sales of Investment Securities

For the period ended June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of investment securities (excluding any short-term securities, short-term options contracts, TBAs, and in-kind transactions, as applicable) was as follows:

<i>Purchases of Securities</i>	<i>Proceeds from Sales of Securities</i>	<i>Purchases of Long-Term U.S. Government Obligations</i>	<i>Proceeds from Sales of Long-Term U.S. Government Obligations</i>
\$218,319,160	\$ 258,876,098	\$ -	\$ -

### 7. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

The FASB issued Accounting Standards Update 2018-13, *Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820)*, in August 2018. The new guidance removes, modifies and enhances the disclosures to Topic 820. For public entities, the amendments are effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, and interim periods within those fiscal years. An entity is permitted, and Management has decided, to early adopt the removed and modified disclosures in these financial statements. Management is also evaluating the implications related to the new disclosure requirements and has not yet determined the impact to the financial statements.

### 8. Other Matters

An outbreak of infectious respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 was first detected in China in December 2019 and has now been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. The impact of COVID-19 has been, and may continue to be, highly disruptive to economies and markets, adversely impacting individual companies, sectors, industries, markets, currencies, interest and inflation rates, credit ratings, investor sentiment, and other factors affecting the value of a Portfolio's investments. This may impact liquidity in the marketplace, which in turn may affect the Portfolio's ability to meet redemption requests. Public health crises caused by the COVID-19 pandemic may exacerbate other pre-existing political, social, and economic risks in certain countries or globally. The duration of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects cannot be determined with certainty, and could prevent a Portfolio from executing advantageous investment decisions in a timely manner and negatively impact a Portfolio's ability to achieve its investment objective.

### 9. Subsequent Event

Management has evaluated whether any events or transactions occurred subsequent to June 30, 2020 and through the date of issuance of the Portfolio's financial statements and determined that there were no material events or transactions that would require recognition or disclosure in the Portfolio's financial statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Additional Information (unaudited)

### Proxy Voting Policies and Voting Record

A description of the policies and procedures that the Portfolio uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to its portfolio securities is available without charge: (i) upon request, by calling 1-800-525-1093; (ii) on the Portfolio's website at [janushenderson.com/proxyvoting](http://janushenderson.com/proxyvoting); and (iii) on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Additionally, information regarding the Portfolio's proxy voting record for the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30 is also available, free of charge, through [janushenderson.com/proxyvoting](http://janushenderson.com/proxyvoting) and from the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

### Full Holdings

The Portfolio is required to disclose its complete holdings as an exhibit to Form N-PORT within 60 days of the end of the first and third fiscal quarters, and in the annual report and semiannual report to Portfolio shareholders. Historically, the Portfolio filed its complete portfolio holdings (schedule of investments) with the SEC for the first and third quarters each fiscal year on Form N-Q. The Portfolio's Form N-PORT and Form N-Q filings: (i) are available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>; (ii) may be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. (information on the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330); and (iii) are available without charge, upon request, by calling a Janus Henderson representative at 1-877-335-2687 (toll free). Portfolio holdings consisting of at least the names of the holdings are generally available on a monthly basis with a 30-day lag. Holdings are generally posted approximately two business days thereafter under Full Holdings for the Portfolio at [janushenderson.com/vit](http://janushenderson.com/vit).

### APPROVAL OF ADVISORY AGREEMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

The Trustees of Janus Aspen Series, each of whom serves as an "independent" Trustee (the "Trustees"), oversee the management of each Portfolio of Janus Aspen Series (each, a "VIT Portfolio," and collectively, the "VIT Portfolios"), as well as each Fund of Janus Investment Fund (together with the VIT Portfolios, the "Janus Henderson Funds," and each, a "Janus Henderson Fund"). As required by law, the Trustees determine annually whether to continue the investment advisory agreement for each Janus Henderson Fund and the subadvisory agreements for the Janus Henderson Funds that utilize subadvisers.

In connection with their most recent consideration of those agreements for each Janus Henderson Fund, the Trustees received and reviewed information provided by Janus Capital and the respective subadvisers in response to requests of the Trustees and their independent legal counsel. They also received and reviewed information and analysis provided by, and in response to requests of, their independent fee consultant. Throughout their consideration of the agreements, the Trustees were advised by their independent legal counsel. The Trustees met with management to consider the agreements, and also met separately in executive session with their independent legal counsel and their independent fee consultant.

At a meeting held on December 5, 2019, based on the Trustees' evaluation of the information provided by Janus Capital, the subadvisers, and the independent fee consultant, as well as other information, the Trustees determined that the overall arrangements between each Janus Henderson Fund and Janus Capital and each subadviser, as applicable, were fair and reasonable in light of the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by Janus Capital, its affiliates and the subadvisers, the fees charged for those services, and other matters that the Trustees considered relevant in the exercise of their business judgment. At that meeting, the Trustees unanimously approved the continuation of the investment advisory agreement for each Janus Henderson Fund, and the subadvisory agreement for each subadvised Janus Henderson Fund, for the period from February 1, 2020 through February 1, 2021, subject to earlier termination as provided for in each agreement.

In considering the continuation of those agreements, the Trustees reviewed and analyzed various factors that they determined were relevant, including the factors described below, none of which by itself was considered dispositive. However, the material factors and conclusions that formed the basis for the Trustees' determination to approve the continuation of the agreements are discussed separately below. Also included is a summary of the independent fee consultant's conclusions and opinions that arose during, and were included as part of, the Trustees' consideration of the agreements. "Management fees," as used herein, reflect actual annual advisory fees and, for the purpose of peer comparisons, any administration fees (excluding out of pocket costs), net of any waivers, paid by a fund as a percentage of average net assets.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Additional Information (unaudited)

### ***Nature, Extent and Quality of Services***

The Trustees reviewed the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by Janus Capital and the subadvisers to the Janus Henderson Funds, taking into account the investment objective, strategies and policies of each Janus Henderson Fund, and the knowledge the Trustees gained from their regular meetings with management on at least a quarterly basis and their ongoing review of information related to the Janus Henderson Funds. In addition, the Trustees reviewed the resources and key personnel of Janus Capital and each subadviser, particularly noting those employees who provide investment and risk management services to the Janus Henderson Funds. The Trustees also considered other services provided to the Janus Henderson Funds by Janus Capital or the subadvisers, such as managing the execution of portfolio transactions and the selection of broker-dealers for those transactions. The Trustees considered Janus Capital's role as administrator to the Janus Henderson Funds, noting that Janus Capital generally does not receive a fee for its services but is reimbursed for its out-of-pocket costs. The Trustees considered the role of Janus Capital in monitoring adherence to the Janus Henderson Funds' investment restrictions, providing support services for the Trustees and Trustee committees, and overseeing communications with shareholders and the activities of other service providers, including monitoring compliance with various policies and procedures of the Janus Henderson Funds and with applicable securities laws and regulations.

In this regard, the independent fee consultant noted that Janus Capital provides a number of different services for the Janus Henderson Funds and fund shareholders, ranging from investment management services to various other servicing functions, and that, in its view, Janus Capital is a capable provider of those services. The independent fee consultant also provided its belief that Janus Capital has developed a number of institutional competitive advantages that should enable it to provide superior investment and service performance over the long term.

The Trustees concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by Janus Capital or the subadviser to each Janus Henderson Fund were appropriate and consistent with the terms of the respective advisory and subadvisory agreements, and that, taking into account steps taken to address those Janus Henderson Funds whose performance lagged that of their peers for certain periods, the Janus Henderson Funds were likely to benefit from the continued provision of those services. They also concluded that Janus Capital and each subadviser had sufficient personnel, with the appropriate education and experience, to serve the Janus Henderson Funds effectively and had demonstrated its ability to attract well-qualified personnel.

### ***Performance of the Funds***

The Trustees considered the performance results of each Janus Henderson Fund over various time periods. They noted that they considered Janus Henderson Fund performance data throughout the year, including periodic meetings with each Janus Henderson Fund's portfolio manager(s), and also reviewed information comparing each Janus Henderson Fund's performance with the performance of comparable funds and peer groups identified by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge"), an independent data provider, and with the Janus Henderson Fund's benchmark index. In this regard, the independent fee consultant found that the overall Janus Henderson Funds' performance has been reasonable: for the 36 months ended September 30, 2019, approximately 69% of the Janus Henderson Funds were in the top two quartiles of performance, as reported by Morningstar, and for the 12 months ended September 30, 2019, approximately 71% of the Janus Henderson Funds were in the top two quartiles of performance, as reported by Morningstar.

The Trustees considered the performance of each Janus Henderson Fund, noting that performance may vary by share class, and noted the following with respect to the VIT Portfolios:

- For Janus Henderson Balanced Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the first Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2019 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2019.
- For Janus Henderson Enterprise Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the second Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2019 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2019.
- For Janus Henderson Flexible Bond Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2019 and the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2019. The Trustees noted the reasons for the Fund's underperformance and the steps Janus Capital had taken or was taking to improve performance.



## **Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**

### **Additional Information (unaudited)**

- For Janus Henderson Forty Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the second Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2019 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2019.
- For Janus Henderson Global Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2019 and the second Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2019. The Trustees noted the reasons for the Fund's underperformance, while also noting that the Fund has a performance fee structure that results in lower management fees during periods of underperformance, and the steps Janus Capital had taken or was taking to improve performance, and that the performance trend was improving
- For Janus Henderson Global Technology Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the first Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2019 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2019.
- For Janus Henderson Mid Cap Value Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the second Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2019 and the third Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2019.
- For Janus Henderson Overseas Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the second Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2019 and the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2019.
- For Janus Henderson Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the third Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2019 and the second Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2019. The Trustees noted the reasons for the Fund's underperformance, while also noting that the Fund has a performance fee structure that results in lower management fees during periods of underperformance, and the steps Janus Capital had taken or was taking to improve performance, and that the performance trend was improving
- For Janus Henderson U.S. Low Volatility Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the third Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2019 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2019. The Trustees noted the reasons for the Fund's underperformance and the steps Janus Capital and Intech had taken or were taking to improve performance, and the performance trend was improving.

In consideration of each Janus Henderson Fund's performance, the Trustees concluded that, taking into account the factors relevant to performance, as well as other considerations, including steps taken to improve performance, the Janus Henderson Fund's performance warranted continuation of such Janus Henderson Fund's investment advisory and subadvisory agreement(s).

#### **Costs of Services Provided**

The Trustees examined information regarding the fees and expenses of each Janus Henderson Fund in comparison to similar information for other comparable funds as provided by Broadridge, an independent data provider. They also reviewed an analysis of that information provided by their independent fee consultant and noted that the rate of management fees (investment advisory and any administration, but excluding out-of-pocket costs) for many of the Janus Henderson Funds, after applicable waivers, was below the average management fee rate of the respective peer group of funds selected by an independent data provider. The Trustees also examined information regarding the subadvisory fees charged for subadvisory services, as applicable, noting that all such fees were paid by Janus Capital out of its management fees collected from such Janus Henderson Fund.

The independent fee consultant provided its belief that the management fees charged by Janus Capital to each of the Janus Henderson Funds under the current investment advisory and administration agreements are reasonable in relation to the services provided by Janus Capital. The independent fee consultant found: (1) the total expenses and management fees of the Janus Henderson Funds to be reasonable relative to other mutual funds; (2) the total expenses, on average, were 10% under the average total expenses of their respective Broadridge Expense Group peers; and (3) and the management fees for the Janus Henderson Funds, on average, were 7% under the average management fees for their Expense Groups. The Trustees also considered the total expenses for each share class of

## Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

### Additional Information (unaudited)

each Janus Henderson Fund compared to the average total expenses for its Broadridge Expense Group peers and to average total expenses for its Broadridge Expense Universe.

For certain Janus Henderson Funds, the independent fee consultant also performed a systematic “focus list” analysis of expenses which assessed fund fees in the context of fund performance being delivered. Based on this analysis, the independent fee consultant found that the combination of service quality/performance and expenses on these individual Janus Henderson Funds was reasonable in light of performance trends, performance histories, and existence of performance fees, breakpoints, and/or expense waivers on such Janus Henderson Funds.

The Trustees considered the methodology used by Janus Capital and each subadviser in determining compensation payable to portfolio managers, the competitive environment for investment management talent, and the competitive market for mutual funds in different distribution channels.

The Trustees also reviewed management fees charged by Janus Capital and each subadviser to comparable separate account clients and to comparable non-affiliated funds subadvised by Janus Capital or by a subadviser (for which Janus Capital or the subadviser provides only or primarily portfolio management services). Although in most instances subadvisory and separate account fee rates for various investment strategies were lower than management fee rates for Janus Henderson Funds having a similar strategy, the Trustees considered that Janus Capital noted that, under the terms of the management agreements with the Janus Henderson Funds, Janus Capital performs significant additional services for the Janus Henderson Funds that it does not provide to those other clients, including administration services, oversight of the Janus Henderson Funds' other service providers, trustee support, regulatory compliance and numerous other services, and that, in serving the Janus Henderson Funds, Janus Capital assumes many legal risks and other costs that it does not assume in servicing its other clients. Moreover, they noted that the independent fee consultant found that: (1) the management fees Janus Capital charges to the Janus Henderson Funds are reasonable in relation to the management fees Janus Capital charges to funds subadvised by Janus Capital and to the fees Janus Capital charges to its institutional separate account clients; (2) these subadvised and institutional separate accounts have different service and infrastructure needs; and (3) Janus Henderson mutual fund investors enjoy reasonable fees relative to the fees charged to Janus Henderson subadvised fund and separate account investors; (4) 11 of 12 Janus Henderson Funds have lower management fees than similar funds subadvised by Janus Capital; and (5) six of nine Janus Henderson Funds have lower management fees than similar separate accounts managed by Janus Capital.

The Trustees considered the fees for each Janus Henderson Fund for its fiscal year ended in 2018, including the VIT Portfolios, and noted the following with regard to each VIT Portfolio's total expenses, net of applicable fee waivers (the VIT Portfolio's “total expenses”):

- For Janus Henderson Balanced Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable.
- For Janus Henderson Enterprise Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable.
- For Janus Henderson Flexible Bond Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable. The Trustees also noted that Janus Capital has contractually agreed to limit the Fund's expenses, although this limit did not apply because the Fund's total expenses were already below the applicable fee limit.
- For Janus Henderson Forty Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable.
- For Janus Henderson Global Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.
- For Janus Henderson Global Technology Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.
- For Janus Henderson Mid Cap Value Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the Fund's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the Fund's total expenses were reasonable. The Trustees also noted that Janus Capital has contractually agreed to limit the Fund's expenses, although this limit did not apply because the Fund's total expenses were already below the applicable fee limit.

## Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

### Additional Information (unaudited)

- For Janus Henderson Overseas Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.
- For Janus Henderson Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.
- For Janus Henderson U.S. Low Volatility Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's total expenses were below the peer group average for its sole share class.

The Trustees reviewed information on the overall profitability to Janus Capital and its affiliates of their relationship with the Janus Henderson Funds, and considered profitability data of other publicly traded mutual fund advisers. The Trustees recognized that profitability comparisons among fund managers are difficult because of the variation in the type of comparative information that is publicly available, and the profitability of any fund manager is affected by numerous factors, including the organizational structure of the particular fund manager, differences in complex size, difference in product mix, difference in types of business (mutual fund, institutional and other), differences in the types of funds and other accounts it manages, possible other lines of business, the methodology for allocating expenses, and the fund manager's capital structure and cost of capital.

Additionally, the Trustees considered the estimated profitability to Janus Capital from the investment management services it provided to each Janus Henderson Fund. In their review, the Trustees considered whether Janus Capital and each subadviser receive adequate incentives and resources to manage the Janus Henderson Funds effectively. In reviewing profitability, the Trustees noted that the estimated profitability for an individual Janus Henderson Fund is necessarily a product of the allocation methodology utilized by Janus Capital to allocate its expenses as part of the estimated profitability calculation. In this regard, the Trustees noted that the independent fee consultant found that (1) the expense allocation methodology and rationales utilized by Janus Capital were reasonable and (2) no clear correlation between expense allocations and operating margins. The Trustees also considered that the estimated profitability for an individual Janus Henderson Fund was influenced by a number of factors, including not only the allocation methodology selected, but also the presence of fee waivers and expense caps, and whether the Janus Henderson Fund's investment management agreement contained breakpoints or a performance fee component. The Trustees determined, after taking into account these factors, among others, that Janus Capital's estimated profitability with respect to each Janus Henderson Fund was not unreasonable in relation to the services provided, and that the variation in the range of such estimated profitability among the Janus Henderson Funds was not a material factor in the Board's approval of the reasonableness of any Janus Henderson Fund's investment management fees.

The Trustees concluded that the management fees payable by each Janus Henderson Fund to Janus Capital and its affiliates, as well as the fees paid by Janus Capital to the subadvisers of subadvised Janus Henderson Funds, were reasonable in relation to the nature, extent, and quality of the services provided, taking into account the fees charged by other advisers for managing comparable mutual funds with similar strategies, the fees Janus Capital and the subadvisers charge to other clients, and, as applicable, the impact of fund performance on management fees payable by the Janus Henderson Funds. The Trustees also concluded that each Janus Henderson Fund's total expenses were reasonable, taking into account the size of the Janus Henderson Fund, the quality of services provided by Janus Capital and any subadviser, the investment performance of the Janus Henderson Fund, and any expense limitations agreed to or provided by Janus Capital.

### ***Economies of Scale***

The Trustees considered information about the potential for Janus Capital to realize economies of scale as the assets of the Janus Henderson Funds increase. They noted that their independent fee consultant published a report to the Trustees in November 2019 which provided its research and analysis into economies of scale. They also noted that, although many Janus Henderson Funds pay advisory fees at a base fixed rate as a percentage of net assets, without any breakpoints or performance fees, their independent fee consultant concluded that 64% of these Janus Henderson Funds' share classes have contractual management fees (gross of waivers) below their Broadridge expense group averages. They also noted the following: (1) that for those Janus Henderson Funds whose expenses are being reduced by the contractual expense limitations of Janus Capital, Janus Capital is subsidizing certain of these Janus Henderson Funds because they have not reached adequate scale; (2) as the assets of some of the Janus Henderson Funds have declined in the past few years, certain Janus Henderson Funds have benefited from having advisory fee rates that have remained constant rather than increasing as assets declined; (3) performance fee structures have been implemented for various Janus Henderson Funds that have caused the effective rate of advisory fees payable by such a

## **Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**

### **Additional Information (unaudited)**

Janus Henderson Fund to vary depending on the investment performance of the Janus Henderson Fund relative to its benchmark index over the measurement period; and (4) a few Janus Henderson Funds have fee schedules with breakpoints and reduced fee rates above certain asset levels. The Trustees also noted that the Janus Henderson Funds share directly in economies of scale through the lower charges of third-party service providers that are based in part on the combined scale of all of the Janus Henderson Funds.

The Trustees also considered the independent fee consultant's conclusion that, given the limitations of various analytical approaches to economies of scale and their conflicting results, it is difficult to analytically confirm or deny the existence of economies of scale in the Janus Henderson complex. In this regard, the independent consultant concluded that (1) to the extent there were economies of scale at Janus Capital, Janus Capital's general strategy of setting fixed management fees below peers appeared to share any such economies with investors even on smaller Janus Henderson Funds which have not yet achieved those economies and (2) by setting lower fixed fees from the start on these Janus Henderson Funds, Janus Capital appeared to be investing to increase the likelihood that these Janus Henderson Funds will grow to a level to achieve any scale economies that may exist. Further, the independent fee consultant provided its belief that Janus Henderson Fund investors are well-served by the fee levels and performance fee structures in place on the Janus Henderson Funds in light of any economies of scale that may be present at Janus Capital.

Based on all of the information reviewed, including the recent and past research and analysis conducted by the Trustees' independent fee consultant, the Trustees concluded that the current fee structure of each Janus Henderson Fund was reasonable and that the current rates of fees do reflect a sharing between Janus Capital and the Janus Henderson Fund of any economies of scale that may be present at the current asset level of the Janus Henderson Fund.

#### ***Other Benefits to Janus Capital***

The Trustees also considered benefits that accrue to Janus Capital and its affiliates and subadvisers to the Janus Henderson Funds from their relationships with the Janus Henderson Funds. They recognized that two affiliates of Janus Capital separately serve the Janus Henderson Funds as transfer agent and distributor, respectively, and the transfer agent receives compensation directly from the non-money market funds for services provided, and that such compensation contributes to the overall profitability of Janus Capital and its affiliates that results from their relationship with the Janus Henderson Funds. The Trustees also considered Janus Capital's past and proposed use of commissions paid by the Janus Henderson Funds on portfolio brokerage transactions to obtain proprietary and third-party research products and services benefiting the Janus Henderson Fund and/or other clients of Janus Capital and/or Janus Capital, and/or a subadviser to a Janus Henderson Fund. The Trustees concluded that Janus Capital's and the subadvisers' use of these types of client commission arrangements to obtain proprietary and third-party research products and services was consistent with regulatory requirements and guidelines and was likely to benefit each Janus Henderson Fund. The Trustees also concluded that, other than the services provided by Janus Capital and its affiliates and subadvisers pursuant to the agreements and the fees to be paid by each Janus Henderson Fund therefor, the Janus Henderson Funds and Janus Capital and the subadvisers may potentially benefit from their relationship with each other in other ways. They concluded that Janus Capital and its affiliates share directly in economies of scale through the lower charges of third-party service providers that are based in part on the combined scale of the Janus Henderson Funds and other clients serviced by Janus Capital and its affiliates. They also concluded that Janus Capital and/or the subadvisers benefit from the receipt of research products and services acquired through commissions paid on portfolio transactions of the Janus Henderson Funds and that the Janus Henderson Funds benefit from Janus Capital's and/or the subadvisers' receipt of those products and services as well as research products and services acquired through commissions paid by other clients of Janus Capital and/or other clients of the subadvisers. They further concluded that the success of any Janus Henderson Fund could attract other business to Janus Capital, the subadvisers or other Janus Henderson funds, and that the success of Janus Capital and the subadvisers could enhance Janus Capital's and the subadvisers' ability to serve the Janus Henderson Funds.

#### **LIQUIDITY RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Janus Henderson Funds (other than the money market funds) have adopted and implemented a written liquidity risk management program (the "LRMP") as required by Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Liquidity Rule"). Rule 22e-4, requires open-end funds to adopt and implement a written liquidity risk management program that is reasonably designed to assess and manage liquidity risk, which is the risk that a fund could not meet redemption requests without significant dilution of remaining investors' interest in the fund. The LRMP

## **Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**

### **Additional Information (unaudited)**

incorporates the following elements: (i) assessment, management, and periodic review of liquidity risk; (ii) classification of portfolio investments; (iii) the establishment and monitoring of a highly liquid investment minimum, as applicable; (iv) a 15% limitation on a Portfolio's illiquid investments; (v) redemptions in-kind; and (vi) board oversight.

The Trustees have designated Janus Capital Management LLC, the Portfolio's investment adviser ("Janus Capital"), as the Program Administrator for the LRMP responsible for administering the LRMP and carrying out the specific responsibilities of the LRMP. A working group comprised of various groups within Janus Capital's business is responsible for administering the LRMP and carrying out the specific responsibilities of different aspects of the LRMP.

The Liquidity Rule requires the Trustees to review at least annually a written report provided by the Program Administrator that addresses the operation of the LRMP and assesses its adequacy and the effectiveness of its implementation, including, if applicable, the operation of the highly liquid investment minimum, and any material changes to the LRMP (the "Program Administrator Report"). During the semi-annual period ended June 30, 2020, the Program Administrator provided the Program Administrator Report to the Trustees which covered the operation of the LRMP from December 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019 (the "Reporting Period"). No significant liquidity events impacting the Portfolio were noted in the Program Administrator Report, and the Portfolio was able to process redemptions during the normal course of business during the Reporting Period. In addition, the Program Administrator expressed its belief in the Program Administrator Report that:

- the LRMP is reasonably designed and adequate to assess and manage the Portfolio's liquidity risk, taking into account the Portfolio's particular risks and circumstances, and includes policies and procedures reasonably designed to implement each required component of the Liquidity Rule; and
- the LRMP, including the Highly Liquid Investment Minimum where applicable, was implemented and operated effectively to achieve the goal of assessing and managing the Portfolio's liquidity risk.

There can be no assurance that the LRMP will achieve its objectives in the future. Please refer to your Fund's prospectus for more information regarding the risks to which an investment in the Fund may be subject.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)

### Management Commentary

The Management Commentary in this report includes valuable insight as well as statistical information to help you understand how your Portfolio's performance and characteristics stack up against those of comparable indices.

If the Portfolio invests in foreign securities, this report may include information about country exposure. Country exposure is based primarily on the country of risk. A company may be allocated to a country based on other factors such as location of the company's principal office, the location of the principal trading market for the company's securities, or the country where a majority of the company's revenues are derived.

Please keep in mind that the opinions expressed in the Management Commentary are just that: opinions. They are a reflection based on best judgment at the time this report was compiled, which was June 30, 2020. As the investing environment changes, so could opinions. These views are unique and are not necessarily shared by fellow employees or by Janus Henderson in general.

### Performance Overviews

Performance overview graphs compare the performance of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment in the Portfolio with one or more widely used market indices. When comparing the performance of the Portfolio with an index, keep in mind that market indices are not available for investment and do not reflect deduction of expenses.

Average annual total returns are quoted for a Portfolio with more than one year of performance history. Average annual total return is calculated by taking the growth or decline in value of an investment over a period of time, including reinvestment of dividends and distributions, then calculating the annual compounded percentage rate that would have produced the same result had the rate of growth been constant throughout the period. Average annual total return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Portfolio distributions or redemptions of Portfolio shares.

Cumulative total returns are quoted for a Portfolio with less than one year of performance history. Cumulative total return is the growth or decline in value of an investment over time, independent of the period of time involved. Cumulative total return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Portfolio distributions or redemptions of Portfolio shares.

Pursuant to federal securities rules, expense ratios shown in the performance chart reflect subsidized (if applicable) and unsubsidized ratios. The total annual fund operating expenses ratio is gross of any fee waivers, reflecting the Portfolio's unsubsidized expense ratio. The net annual fund operating expenses ratio (if applicable) includes contractual waivers of Janus Capital and reflects the Portfolio's subsidized expense ratio. Ratios may be higher or lower than those shown in the "Financial Highlights" in this report.

### Schedule of Investments

Following the performance overview section is the Portfolio's Schedule of Investments. This schedule reports the types of securities held in the Portfolio on the last day of the reporting period. Securities are usually listed by type (common stock, corporate bonds, U.S. Government obligations, etc.) and by industry classification (banking, communications, insurance, etc.). Holdings are subject to change without notice.

The value of each security is quoted as of the last day of the reporting period. The value of securities denominated in foreign currencies is converted into U.S. dollars.

If the Portfolio invests in foreign securities, it will also provide a summary of investments by country. This summary reports the Portfolio exposure to different countries by providing the percentage of securities invested in each country. The country of each security represents the country of risk. The Portfolio's Schedule of Investments relies upon the industry group and country classifications published by Barclays and/or MSCI Inc.

Tables listing details of individual forward currency contracts, futures, written options, swaptions, and swaps follow the Portfolio's Schedule of Investments (if applicable).

### Statement of Assets and Liabilities

This statement is often referred to as the "balance sheet." It lists the assets and liabilities of the Portfolio on the last day of the reporting period.

## **Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**

### **Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)**

The Portfolio's assets are calculated by adding the value of the securities owned, the receivable for securities sold but not yet settled, the receivable for dividends declared but not yet received on securities owned, and the receivable for Portfolio shares sold to investors but not yet settled. The Portfolio's liabilities include payables for securities purchased but not yet settled, Portfolio shares redeemed but not yet paid, and expenses owed but not yet paid. Additionally, there may be other assets and liabilities such as unrealized gain or loss on forward currency contracts.

The section entitled "Net Assets Consist of" breaks down the components of the Portfolio's net assets. Because the Portfolio must distribute substantially all earnings, you will notice that a significant portion of net assets is shareholder capital.

The last section of this statement reports the net asset value ("NAV") per share on the last day of the reporting period. The NAV is calculated by dividing the Portfolio's net assets for each share class (assets minus liabilities) by the number of shares outstanding.

#### **Statement of Operations**

This statement details the Portfolio's income, expenses, realized gains and losses on securities and currency transactions, and changes in unrealized appreciation or depreciation of Portfolio holdings.

The first section in this statement, entitled "Investment Income," reports the dividends earned from securities and interest earned from interest-bearing securities in the Portfolio.

The next section reports the expenses incurred by the Portfolio, including the advisory fee paid to the investment adviser, transfer agent fees and expenses, and printing and postage for mailing statements, financial reports and prospectuses. Expense offsets and expense reimbursements, if any, are also shown.

The last section lists the amounts of realized gains or losses from investment and foreign currency transactions, and changes in unrealized appreciation or depreciation of investments and foreign currency-denominated assets and liabilities. The Portfolio will realize a gain (or loss) when it sells its position in a particular security. A change in unrealized gain (or loss) refers to the change in net appreciation or depreciation of the Portfolio during the reporting period. "Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments" is affected both by changes in the market value of Portfolio holdings and by gains (or losses) realized during the reporting period.

#### **Statements of Changes in Net Assets**

These statements report the increase or decrease in the Portfolio's net assets during the reporting period. Changes in the Portfolio's net assets are attributable to investment operations, dividends and distributions to investors, and capital share transactions. This is important to investors because it shows exactly what caused the Portfolio's net asset size to change during the period.

The first section summarizes the information from the Statement of Operations regarding changes in net assets due to the Portfolio's investment operations. The Portfolio's net assets may also change as a result of dividend and capital gains distributions to investors. If investors receive their dividends and/or distributions in cash, money is taken out of the Portfolio to pay the dividend and/or distribution. If investors reinvest their dividends and/or distributions, the Portfolio's net assets will not be affected. If you compare the Portfolio's "Net Decrease from Dividends and Distributions" to "Reinvested Dividends and Distributions," you will notice that dividends and distributions have little effect on the Portfolio's net assets. This is because the majority of the Portfolio's investors reinvest their dividends and/or distributions.

The reinvestment of dividends and distributions is included under "Capital Share Transactions." "Capital Shares" refers to the money investors contribute to the Portfolio through purchases or withdrawals via redemptions. The Portfolio's net assets will increase and decrease in value as investors purchase and redeem shares from the Portfolio.

#### **Financial Highlights**

This schedule provides a per-share breakdown of the components that affect the Portfolio's NAV for current and past reporting periods as well as total return, asset size, ratios, and portfolio turnover rate.

The first line in the table reflects the NAV per share at the beginning of the reporting period. The next line reports the net investment income/(loss) per share. Following is the per share total of net gains/(losses), realized and unrealized. Per share dividends and distributions to investors are then subtracted to arrive at the NAV per share at the end of the period. The next line reflects the total return for the period. The total return may include adjustments in accordance with

## **Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**

### **Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)**

generally accepted accounting principles required at the period end for financial reporting purposes. As a result, the total return may differ from the total return reflected for individual shareholder transactions. Also included are ratios of expenses and net investment income to average net assets.

The Portfolio's expenses may be reduced through expense offsets and expense reimbursements. The ratios shown reflect expenses before and after any such offsets and reimbursements.

The ratio of net investment income/(loss) summarizes the income earned less expenses, divided by the average net assets of the Portfolio during the reporting period. Do not confuse this ratio with the Portfolio's yield. The net investment income ratio is not a true measure of the Portfolio's yield because it does not take into account the dividends distributed to the Portfolio's investors.

The next figure is the portfolio turnover rate, which measures the buying and selling activity in the Portfolio. Portfolio turnover is affected by market conditions, changes in the asset size of the Portfolio, fluctuating volume of shareholder purchase and redemption orders, the nature of the Portfolio's investments, and the investment style and/or outlook of the portfolio manager(s) and/or investment personnel. A 100% rate implies that an amount equal to the value of the entire portfolio was replaced once during the fiscal year; a 50% rate means that an amount equal to the value of half the portfolio is traded in a year; and a 200% rate means that an amount equal to the value of the entire portfolio is traded every six months.



# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio Notes

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio Notes

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio Notes

## Knowledge Shared

At Janus Henderson, we believe in the sharing of expert insight for better investment and business decisions. We call this ethos Knowledge Shared.

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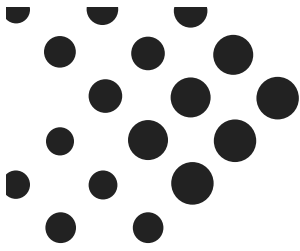
**Janus Henderson**  
INVESTORS

*This report is submitted for the general information of shareholders of the Portfolio. It is not an offer or solicitation for the Portfolio and is not authorized for distribution to prospective investors unless preceded or accompanied by an effective prospectus.*

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P I M C O

PIMCO VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST

# Semiannual Report

June 30, 2020

PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)



Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, paper copies of the Portfolio's annual and semi-annual shareholder reports will no longer be sent by mail from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports from the insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a website, and the insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a website link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from the insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by the insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from the insurance company. You should contact the insurance company if you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports. Your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all portfolio companies available under your contract at the insurance company.

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### Dear PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust Shareholder,

We hope that you and your family are staying safe and healthy during these challenging times. We continue to work tirelessly to navigate markets and manage the assets that you have entrusted with us. Following this letter is the PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust Semiannual Report, which covers the six-month reporting period ended June 30, 2020. On the subsequent pages, you will find specific details regarding investment results and discussion of the factors that most affected performance during the reporting period.

### For the six-month reporting period ended June 30, 2020

The coronavirus took its toll on the U.S. economy, as it entered its first recession since the 2008 financial crisis. Looking back, U.S. gross domestic product ("GDP") grew at a revised annual pace of 2.6% and 2.4% during the third and fourth quarters of 2019, respectively. The pandemic then caused the economy to significantly weaken, as annualized GDP growth in the first quarter of 2020 was -5.0%. The Commerce Department's initial estimate for second quarter annualized GDP growth — released after the reporting period ended — was -32.9%. This represented the sharpest quarterly decline on record.

The Federal Reserve (the "Fed") took unprecedented actions to support the economy and keep markets functioning properly. In early March 2020, the Fed lowered the federal funds rate to a range between 1.00% and 1.25%. Later in the month, the Fed lowered the rate to a range between 0.00% and 0.25%. On March 23, the Fed announced, "It has become clear that our economy will face severe disruptions. Aggressive efforts must be taken across the public and private sectors to limit the losses to jobs and incomes and to promote a swift recovery once the disruptions abate." The Fed's efforts included the ability to make unlimited purchases of Treasury and mortgage securities. It also announced that, for the first time, it would purchase existing corporate bonds on the open market. In addition, the U.S. government passed a \$2 trillion fiscal stimulus bill to aid the economy in March.

In its June 2020 *World Economic Outlook Update*, the International Monetary Fund ("IMF") stated that it expects the U.S. economy to contract 8.0% in 2020, compared to the 2.3% GDP expansion in 2019. Elsewhere, the IMF has also stated that it anticipates that 2020 GDP growth in the eurozone, U.K. and Japan will be -10.2%, -10.2% and -5.8%, respectively. For comparison purposes, the GDP of these economies expanded 1.3%, 1.4% and 0.7%, respectively, in 2019.

Against this backdrop, central banks around the world took a number of aggressive actions. In Europe, the European Central Bank (the "ECB") unveiled a new €750 billion bond-buying program, which was subsequently expanded by another €600 billion in June 2020. In March, the Bank of England reduced its key lending rate to 0.10% — a record low. Finally, in July — after the reporting period ended — the European Union agreed on a \$2.06 trillion spending package to bolster its economy. Elsewhere, the Bank of Japan maintained its short-term interest rates at -0.1%, while increasing the target for its holdings of corporate bonds to ¥4.2 trillion from ¥3.2 trillion. Japan's central bank also doubled its purchases of exchange-traded stock funds. Meanwhile, in May 2020, the Japanese government doubled its stimulus measures with a ¥117 trillion package.

Both short- and long-term U.S. Treasury yields fell sharply during the reporting period. In our view, this was due to a combination of declining global growth given the coronavirus, the Fed's accommodative monetary policy and periods of extreme investor risk aversion. The yield on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note was 0.66% at the end of the reporting period, versus 1.92% on December 31, 2019. The Bloomberg Barclays Global Treasury Index (USD Hedged), which tracks fixed-rate, local currency government debt of investment grade countries, including both developed and emerging markets, returned 4.30%. Meanwhile, the Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Credit Index (USD Hedged), a widely used index of global investment grade credit bonds, returned 3.43%. Riskier fixed income asset classes, including high yield corporate bonds and emerging market debt, generated weaker results. The ICE BofAML Developed Markets High Yield Constrained Index (USD Hedged), a widely used index of below investment grade bonds, returned -4.64%, whereas emerging market external debt, as represented by the JPMorgan Emerging Markets



Bond Index (EMBI) Global (USD Hedged), returned -1.87%. Emerging market local bonds, as represented by the JPMorgan Government Bond Index-Emerging Markets Global Diversified Index (Unhedged), returned -6.89%.

Global equities generated weak results, driven by a sharp selloff in February and March 2020. We believe this was largely due to concerns over the impact of the coronavirus. In March 2020, the U.S. equity market ended its 11-year bull market run, and then posted the fastest fall on record from its all-time high to bear market territory. However, global equities recouped a portion of their losses in April, May and June 2020, in our view because investor sentiment improved given significant stimulus efforts from central banks around the world. All told, during the six-months ended June 30, 2020, U.S. equities, as represented by the S&P 500 Index, returned -3.08% and global equities, as represented by the MSCI World Index, returned -5.77%. Meanwhile, Japanese equities, as represented by the Nikkei 225 Index (in JPY), returned -4.74% and European equities, as represented by the MSCI Europe Index (in EUR), returned -12.83%. Finally, emerging market equities, as measured by the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, returned -9.78%.

Commodity prices were extremely volatile and generally moved lower. When the reporting period began, Brent crude oil was approximately \$66 a barrel. It ended the reporting period at roughly \$41 a barrel after briefly trading below \$15. Elsewhere, copper prices also fell, whereas gold prices moved higher.

Finally, there were periods of volatility in the foreign exchange markets, due in part, in our view, to signs of moderating global growth, trade conflicts and changing central bank monetary policies, along with a number of geopolitical events. The U.S. dollar returned 6.46% versus the British pound, but the U.S. dollar fell 0.63% and 0.19% versus the yen and the euro, respectively.

Thank you for the assets you have placed with us. We deeply value your trust, and we will continue to work diligently to meet your broad investment needs.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Strelow", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter G. Strelow  
Chairman of the Board  
PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Unless otherwise noted, index returns reflect the reinvestment of income distributions and capital gains, if any, but do not reflect fees, brokerage commissions or other expenses of investing. It is not possible to invest directly in an unmanaged index.

## Important Information About the PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)

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PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust (the "Trust") is an open-end management investment company that includes the PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (the "Portfolio"). The Portfolio is only available as a funding vehicle under variable life insurance policies or variable annuity contracts issued by insurance companies ("Variable Contracts"). Individuals may not purchase shares of the Portfolio directly. Shares of the Portfolio also may be sold to qualified pension and retirement plans outside of the separate account context.

We believe that bond funds have an important role to play in a well-diversified investment portfolio. It is important to note, however, that in an environment where interest rates may trend upward, rising rates would negatively impact the performance of most bond funds, and fixed income securities and other instruments held by the Portfolio are likely to decrease in value. A wide variety of factors can cause interest rates or yields of U.S. Treasury securities (or yields of other types of bonds) to rise (e.g., central bank monetary policies, inflation rates, general economic conditions, etc.). In addition, changes in interest rates can be sudden and unpredictable, and there is no guarantee that management will anticipate such movement accurately. The Portfolio may lose money as a result of movements in interest rates.

As of the date of this report, interest rates in the United States and many parts of the world, including certain European countries, are at or near historically low levels. Thus, the Portfolio currently faces a heightened level of risk associated with rising interest rates and/or bond yields. This could be driven by a variety of factors, including but not limited to central bank monetary policies, changing inflation or real growth rates, general economic conditions, increasing bond issuances or reduced market demand for low yielding investments. Further, while bond markets have steadily grown over the past three decades, dealer inventories of corporate bonds are near historic lows in relation to market size. As a result, there has been a significant reduction in the ability of dealers to "make markets."

Bond funds and individual bonds with a longer duration (a measure used to determine the sensitivity of a security's price to changes in interest rates) tend to be more sensitive to changes in interest rates, usually making them more volatile than securities or funds with shorter durations. All of the factors mentioned above, individually or collectively, could lead to increased volatility and/or lower liquidity in the fixed income markets or negatively impact the Portfolio's performance or cause the Portfolio to incur losses. As a result, the Portfolio may experience increased shareholder redemptions which, among other things, could further reduce the net assets of the Portfolio.

The Portfolio may be subject to various risks as described in the Portfolio's prospectus and in the Principal Risks in the Notes to Financial Statements.

Classifications of the Portfolio's portfolio holdings in this report are made according to financial reporting standards. The classification of a particular portfolio holding as shown in the Allocation Breakdown and Schedule of Investments sections of this report may differ from the classification used for the Portfolio's compliance calculations, including those used in the Portfolio's prospectus, investment objectives, regulatory, and other investment limitations and policies, which may be based on different asset class, sector or geographical classifications. The Portfolio is separately monitored for compliance with respect to prospectus and regulatory requirements.

The geographical classification of foreign (non-U.S.) securities in this report, if any, are classified by the country of incorporation of a holding. In certain instances, a security's country of incorporation may be different from its country of economic exposure.

Beginning in January 2020, global financial markets have experienced and may continue to experience significant volatility resulting from the spread of a novel coronavirus known as COVID-19. The outbreak of COVID-19 has resulted in travel and border restrictions, quarantines, supply chain disruptions, lower consumer demand and general market uncertainty. The effects of COVID-19 have and may continue to adversely affect the global economy, the economies of certain nations and individual issuers, all of which may negatively impact the Portfolio's performance. In addition, COVID-19 and governmental responses to COVID-19 may negatively impact the capabilities of the Portfolio's service providers and disrupt the Portfolio's operations.

The United States presidential administration's enforcement of tariffs on goods from other countries, with a focus on China, has contributed to international trade tensions and may impact portfolio securities.

The Portfolio may have significant exposure to issuers in the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union may impact Portfolio returns. The withdrawal may cause substantial volatility in foreign exchange markets, lead to weakness in the exchange rate of the British pound, result in a sustained period of market uncertainty, and destabilize some or all of the other European Union member countries and/or the Eurozone.

The Portfolio may invest in certain instruments that rely in some fashion upon the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"). LIBOR is an average interest rate, determined by the ICE Benchmark Administration, that banks charge one another for the use of short-term money. The United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority, which regulates LIBOR, has announced plans to phase out the use of LIBOR by the end of 2021. The transition may result in a reduction in the value of certain instruments held by the Portfolio or a reduction in the effectiveness of related Portfolio transactions such as hedges. There

remains uncertainty regarding future utilization of LIBOR and the nature of any replacement rate (e.g., the Secured Overnight Financing Rate, which is intended to replace U.S. dollar LIBOR and measures the cost of overnight borrowings through repurchase agreement transactions collateralized with U.S. Treasury securities), and any potential effects of the transition away from LIBOR on the Portfolio or on certain instruments in which the Portfolio invests are not known and could result in losses to the Portfolio.

Under the direction of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA”) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“FHLMC”) have entered into a joint initiative to develop a common securitization platform for the issuance of a uniform mortgage-backed security (the “Single Security Initiative”) that aligns the characteristics of FNMA and FHLMC certificates. The Single Security Initiative was implemented on June 3, 2019, and the effects it may have on the market for mortgage-backed securities are uncertain.

On the Portfolio Summary page in this Shareholder Report, the Average Annual Total Return table and Cumulative Returns chart measure performance assuming that any dividend and capital gain distributions were reinvested. The Cumulative Returns chart reflects only

The following table discloses the inception dates of the Portfolio and its share classes along with the Portfolio’s diversification status as of period end:

Portfolio Name	Portfolio Inception	Institutional Class	Administrative Class	Advisor Class	Diversification Status
PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)	02/16/99	04/10/00	02/16/99	04/30/14	Non-diversified

An investment in the Portfolio is not a bank deposit and is not guaranteed or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. It is possible to lose money on investments in the Portfolio.

The Trustees are responsible generally for overseeing the management of the Trust. The Trustees authorize the Trust to enter into service agreements with the Adviser, the Distributor, the Administrator and other service providers in order to provide, and in some cases authorize service providers to procure through other parties, necessary or desirable services on behalf of the Trust and the Portfolio. Shareholders are not parties to or third-party beneficiaries of such service agreements. Neither this Portfolio’s prospectus nor summary prospectus, the Trust’s Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”), any contracts filed as exhibits to the Trust’s registration statement, nor any other communications, disclosure documents or regulatory filings (including this report) from or on behalf of the Trust or the Portfolio creates a contract between or among any shareholder of the Portfolio, on the one hand, and the Trust, the Portfolio, a service provider to the Trust or the Portfolio, and/or the Trustees or officers of the Trust, on the other hand. The Trustees (or the Trust and its officers, service providers or other delegates acting under authority of the Trustees)

Administrative Class performance. Performance may vary by share class based on each class’s expense ratios. The Portfolio measures its performance against at least one broad-based securities market index (“benchmark index”). The benchmark index does not take into account fees, expenses, or taxes. The Portfolio’s past performance, before and after taxes, is not necessarily an indication of how the Portfolio will perform in the future. There is no assurance that the Portfolio, even if the Portfolio has experienced high or unusual performance for one or more periods, will experience similar levels of performance in the future. High performance is defined as a significant increase in either 1) the Portfolio’s total return in excess of that of the Portfolio’s benchmark between reporting periods or 2) the Portfolio’s total return in excess of the Portfolio’s historical returns between reporting periods. Unusual performance is defined as a significant change in the Portfolio’s performance as compared to one or more previous reporting periods. Historical performance for the Portfolio or a share class thereof may have been positively impacted by fee waivers or expense limitations in place during some or all of the periods shown, if applicable. Future performance (including total return or yield) and distributions may be negatively impacted by the expiration or reduction of any such fee waivers or expense limitations.

may amend the most recent prospectus or use a new prospectus, summary prospectus or SAI with respect to the Portfolio or the Trust, and/or amend, file and/or issue any other communications, disclosure documents or regulatory filings, and may amend or enter into any contracts to which the Trust or the Portfolio is a party, and interpret the investment objective(s), policies, restrictions and contractual provisions applicable to the Portfolio, without shareholder input or approval, except in circumstances in which shareholder approval is specifically required by law (such as changes to fundamental investment policies) or where a shareholder approval requirement is specifically disclosed in the Trust’s then-current prospectus or SAI.

PIMCO has adopted written proxy voting policies and procedures (“Proxy Policy”) as required by Rule 206(4)-6 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. The Proxy Policy has been adopted by the Trust as the policies and procedures that PIMCO will use when voting proxies on behalf of the Portfolio. A description of the policies and procedures that PIMCO uses to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities of the Portfolio, and information about how the Portfolio voted proxies relating to portfolio securities held during the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30, are available without charge, upon request, by calling the Trust at (888) 87-PIMCO, on the

## Important Information About the PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

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Portfolio's website at [www.pimco.com/pvit](http://www.pimco.com/pvit), and on the Securities and Exchange Commission's ("SEC") website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

The Portfolio files portfolio holdings information with the SEC on Form N-PORT within 60 days of the end of each fiscal quarter. The Portfolio's complete schedule of securities holdings as of the end of each fiscal quarter will be made available to the public on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) and on PIMCO's website at [www.pimco.com/pvit](http://www.pimco.com/pvit), and will be made available, upon request by calling PIMCO at (888) 87-PIMCO. Prior to its use of Form N-PORT, the Portfolio filed its complete schedule of its portfolio holdings with the SEC on Form N-Q, which is available online at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

The SEC adopted a rule that, beginning in 2021, generally will allow shareholder reports to be delivered to investors by providing access to such reports online free of charge and by mailing a notice that the report is electronically available. Pursuant to the rule, investors may still elect to receive a complete shareholder report in the mail. Instructions for electing to receive paper copies of the Portfolio's shareholder reports going forward may be found on the front cover of this report.

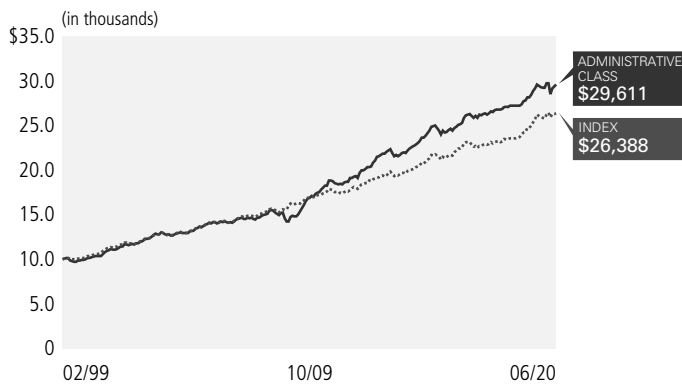
In November 2019, the SEC published a proposed rulemaking related to the use of derivatives and certain other transactions by registered investment companies. If the proposal is adopted in substantially the same form as it was proposed, these requirements could limit the ability of a Portfolio to use derivatives and reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions as part of its investment strategies. Any new requirements, if adopted, may increase the cost of the Portfolio's investments and cost of doing business, which could adversely affect investors.

In April 2020, the SEC issued a proposed rulemaking setting forth a proposed framework for fair valuation of fund investments. If the proposal is adopted in substantially the same form as it was proposed, the rule would set forth requirements for good faith determinations of fair value, establish conditions under which a market quotation is considered readily available for purposes of the definition of "value" under the Investment Company Act of 1940, and address the roles and responsibilities of a portfolio's board of trustees and investment adviser with respect to fair valuation of fund investments. The impact that any such requirements may have on the Portfolio is uncertain.

On August 5, 2020, the SEC proposed changes to the mutual fund and ETF shareholder report and registration statement disclosure requirements and the registered fund advertising rules, which, if adopted, will change the disclosures provided to shareholders.

# PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)

## Cumulative Returns Through June 30, 2020



\$10,000 invested at the end of the month when the Portfolio's Administrative Class commenced operations.

## Geographic Breakdown as of June 30, 2020<sup>§</sup>

United States	47.0%
Japan	10.2%
United Kingdom	9.2%
China	6.8%
Denmark	3.5%
Spain	3.0%
Cayman Islands	2.3%
Italy	1.9%
France	1.7%
South Korea	1.4%
Australia	1.3%
Qatar	1.2%
Short-Term Instruments <sup>†</sup>	1.1%
Germany	1.1%
Other	8.3%

<sup>†</sup> % of Investments, at value.

<sup>§</sup> Geographic Breakdown and % of investments exclude securities sold short and financial derivative Instruments, if any.

<sup>‡</sup> Includes Central Funds Used for Cash Management Purposes.

## Investment Objective and Strategy Overview

PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) seeks maximum total return, consistent with preservation of capital and prudent investment management, by investing under normal circumstances at least 80% of its assets in Fixed Income Instruments that are economically tied to at least three non-U.S. countries. The Portfolio's investments in Fixed Income Instruments may be represented by forwards or derivatives such as options, futures contracts or swap agreements. "Fixed Income Instruments" include bonds, debt securities and other similar instruments issued by various U.S. and non-U.S. public- or private-sector entities. The Portfolio will normally limit its foreign currency exposure (from non-U.S. dollar-denominated securities or currencies) to 20% of its total assets. Portfolio strategies may change from time to time. Please refer to the Portfolio's current prospectus for more information regarding the Portfolio's strategy.

## Portfolio Insights

The following affected performance (on a gross basis) during the reporting period:

- » Overweight exposure to duration in the U.S. contributed to relative performance, as yields fell.
- » Underweight exposure to investment-grade corporate credit overall contributed to relative performance, as spreads widened, particularly in the first half of the reporting period.
- » A curve flattening bias in the Eurozone, mainly an overweight exposure to the 10 year portion of the curve relative to an underweight exposure to front-end yields (such as the 2 to 3 year portion of the curve), contributed to relative performance, as the yield curve flattened — shown by the euro swaps curve with 10 year Eurozone yields falling by more than shorter term yields.
- » Modest exposure to a basket of high-carry emerging market currencies such as the Brazilian real and Russian ruble during the first half of the reporting period detracted from relative performance, as these currencies depreciated relative to the U.S. dollar
- » Positions in non-Agency mortgage-backed securities detracted from performance as these securities underperformed like duration U.S. Treasuries.
- » Underweight to duration in the U.K. detracted from relative performance as yields fell.

## Average Annual Total Return for the period ended June 30, 2020

	6 Months*	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years	Inception <sup>≈</sup>
PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) Institutional Class	1.32%	2.71%	4.47%	5.10%	5.58%
PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) Administrative Class	1.25%	2.56%	4.31%	4.95%	5.20%
PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) Advisor Class	1.20%	2.46%	4.21%	—	4.29%
Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate ex-USD (USD Hedged) Index <sup>‡</sup>	2.28%	4.00%	4.49%	4.20%	4.65% <sup>♦</sup>

All Portfolio returns are net of fees and expenses and include applicable fee waivers and/or expense limitations. Absent any applicable fee waivers and/or expense limitations, performance would have been lower and there can be no assurance that any such waivers or limitations will continue in the future.

\* Cumulative return.

<sup>≈</sup> For class inception dates please refer to the Important Information.

<sup>♦</sup> Average annual total return since 02/28/1999.

<sup>‡</sup> Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate ex-USD (USD Hedged) Index provides a broad-based measure of the global investment-grade fixed income markets. The major components of this index are the Pan-European Aggregate and the Asian-Pacific Aggregate Indices. The index also includes Eurodollar and Euro-Yen corporate bonds and Canadian Government securities.

It is not possible to invest directly in an unmanaged index.

Performance quoted represents past performance. Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than performance shown. Investment return and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate. Shares may be worth more or less than original cost when redeemed. The Portfolio's performance does not reflect the deduction of additional charges and expenses imposed in connection with investing in Variable Contracts, which will reduce returns. Differences in the Portfolio's performance versus the index and related attribution information with respect to particular categories of securities or individual positions may be attributable, in part, to differences in the prices of individual positions (which may be sourced from different pricing vendors or other sources) used by the Portfolio and the index. For performance current to the most recent month-end, visit [www.pimco.com/pvit](http://www.pimco.com/pvit) or via (888) 87-PIMCO.

The Portfolio's total annual operating expense ratio in effect as of period end were 0.86% for Institutional Class shares, 1.01% for Administrative Class shares, and 1.11% for Advisor Class shares. Details regarding any changes to the Portfolio's operating expenses, subsequent to period end, can be found in the Portfolio's current prospectus, as supplemented.

## Expense Example PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)

### Example

As a shareholder of the Portfolio, you incur two types of costs: (1) transaction costs and (2) ongoing costs, including investment advisory fees, supervisory and administrative fees, distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees (if applicable), and other Portfolio expenses. The Example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Portfolio and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds.

The Expense Example does not reflect any fees or other expenses imposed by the Variable Contracts. If it did, the expenses reflected in the Expense Example would be higher. The Example is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the period and held from January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020 unless noted otherwise in the table and footnotes below.

### Actual Expenses

The information in the table under the heading "Actual" provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use this information, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.60), then multiply the result by the number in the appropriate row for your share class, in the column titled "Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during this period.

### Hypothetical Example for Comparison Purposes

The information in the table under the heading "Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)" provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the Portfolio's actual expense ratio and an assumed rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Portfolio's actual return. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Portfolio and other portfolios. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other portfolios.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transactional costs. Therefore, the information under the heading "Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)" is useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different portfolios. In addition, if these transactional costs were included, your costs would have been higher.

Expense ratios may vary period to period because of various factors, such as an increase in expenses that are not covered by the investment advisory fees and supervisory and administrative fees, such as fees and expenses of the independent trustees and their counsel, extraordinary expenses and interest expense.

	Actual			Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)			Net Annualized Expense Ratio**
	Beginning Account Value (01/01/20)	Ending Account Value (06/30/20)	Expenses Paid During Period*	Beginning Account Value (01/01/20)	Ending Account Value (06/30/20)	Expenses Paid During Period*	
Institutional Class	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,013.20	\$ 4.08	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,020.67	\$ 4.10	0.82%
Administrative Class	1,000.00	1,012.50	4.83	1,000.00	1,019.93	4.84	0.97
Advisor Class	1,000.00	1,012.00	5.32	1,000.00	1,019.44	5.34	1.07

\* Expenses Paid During Period are equal to the net annualized expense ratio for the class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 181/366 (to reflect the one-half year period). Overall fees and expenses of investing in the Portfolio will be higher because the example does not reflect variable contract fees and expenses.

\*\* Net Annualized Expense Ratio is reflective of any applicable contractual fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements or voluntary fee waivers. Details regarding fee waivers, if any, can be found in Note 9, Fees and Expenses, in the Notes to Financial Statements.

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# Financial Highlights PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)

Selected Per Share Data for the Year or Period Ended <sup>^</sup> :	Investment Operations				Less Distributions <sup>(c)</sup>			Net Asset Value End of Year or Period <sup>(a)</sup>
	Net Asset Value Beginning of Year or Period <sup>(a)</sup>	Net Investment Income (Loss) <sup>(b)</sup>	Net Realized/Unrealized Gain (Loss)	Total	From Net Investment Income	From Net Realized Capital Gain	Total	
<b>Institutional Class</b>								
01/01/2020 - 06/30/2020+	\$ 11.32	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.15	\$ (0.64)	\$ 0.00	\$ (0.64)	\$ 10.83
12/31/2019	10.84	0.22	0.55	0.77	(0.21)	(0.08)	(0.29)	11.32
12/31/2018	10.79	0.20	0.05	0.25	(0.16)	(0.04)	(0.20)	10.84
12/31/2017	11.02	0.15	0.17	0.32	(0.55)	0.00	(0.55)	10.79
12/31/2016	10.54	0.16	0.54	0.70	(0.18)	(0.04)	(0.22)	11.02
12/31/2015	10.90	0.13	(0.09)	0.04	(0.35)	(0.05)	(0.40)	10.54
<b>Administrative Class</b>								
01/01/2020 - 06/30/2020+	11.32	0.09	0.05	0.14	(0.63)	0.00	(0.63)	10.83
12/31/2019	10.84	0.21	0.55	0.76	(0.20)	(0.08)	(0.28)	11.32
12/31/2018	10.79	0.18	0.05	0.23	(0.14)	(0.04)	(0.18)	10.84
12/31/2017	11.02	0.13	0.17	0.30	(0.53)	0.00	(0.53)	10.79
12/31/2016	10.54	0.14	0.54	0.68	(0.16)	(0.04)	(0.20)	11.02
12/31/2015	10.90	0.10	(0.07)	0.03	(0.34)	(0.05)	(0.39)	10.54
<b>Advisor Class</b>								
01/01/2020 - 06/30/2020+	11.32	0.08	0.05	0.13	(0.62)	0.00	(0.62)	10.83
12/31/2019	10.84	0.19	0.56	0.75	(0.19)	(0.08)	(0.27)	11.32
12/31/2018	10.79	0.17	0.05	0.22	(0.13)	(0.04)	(0.17)	10.84
12/31/2017	11.02	0.12	0.17	0.29	(0.52)	0.00	(0.52)	10.79
12/31/2016	10.54	0.13	0.54	0.67	(0.15)	(0.04)	(0.19)	11.02
12/31/2015	10.90	0.10	(0.08)	0.02	(0.33)	(0.05)	(0.38)	10.54

<sup>^</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than \$0.01 or 0.01%.

+ Unaudited

\* Annualized

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes adjustments required by U.S. GAAP and may differ from net asset values and performance reported elsewhere by the Portfolio.

<sup>(b)</sup> Per share amounts based on average number of shares outstanding during the year or period.

<sup>(c)</sup> The tax characterization of distributions is determined in accordance with Federal income tax regulations. The actual tax characterization of distributions paid is determined at the end of the fiscal year. See Note 2, Distributions to Shareholders, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.



## Ratios/Supplemental Data

## Ratios to Average Net Assets

Total Return <sup>(a)</sup>	Net Assets End of Year or Period (000s)	Expenses	Expenses Excluding Waivers	Expenses Excluding Interest Expense	Expenses Excluding Interest Expense and Waivers	Net Investment Income (Loss)	Portfolio Turnover Rate
1.32%	\$ 21,720	0.82%*	0.82%*	0.75%*	0.75%*	1.62%*	221%
7.17	9,105	0.86	0.86	0.75	0.75	1.98	272
2.27	7,483	0.81	0.81	0.75	0.75	1.85	185
2.92	6,705	0.78	0.78	0.75	0.75	1.37	158
6.63	5,045	0.78	0.78	0.75	0.75	1.46	330
0.44	3,001	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.15	302
1.25	72,437	0.97*	0.97*	0.90*	0.90*	1.54*	221
7.01	79,540	1.01	1.01	0.90	0.90	1.83	272
2.12	78,640	0.96	0.96	0.90	0.90	1.70	185
2.76	76,989	0.93	0.93	0.90	0.90	1.21	158
6.48	64,537	0.93	0.93	0.90	0.90	1.31	330
0.29	73,278	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	302
1.20	457,020	1.07*	1.07*	1.00*	1.00*	1.44*	221
6.90	477,388	1.11	1.11	1.00	1.00	1.73	272
2.02	444,881	1.06	1.06	1.00	1.00	1.59	185
2.66	431,545	1.03	1.03	1.00	1.00	1.11	158
6.37	341,567	1.03	1.03	1.00	1.00	1.21	330
0.19	221,379	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.90	302

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

(Amounts in thousands<sup>1</sup>, except per share amounts)

<b>Assets:</b>	
<i>Investments, at value</i>	
Investments in securities*	\$ 841,525
Investments in Affiliates	2,325
<i>Financial Derivative Instruments</i>	
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	675
Over the counter	3,264
Cash	9
Deposits with counterparty	5,944
Foreign currency, at value	3,457
Receivable for investments sold	14,624
Receivable for investments sold on a delayed-delivery basis	100
Receivable for TBA investments sold	336,532
Receivable for Portfolio shares sold	636
Interest and/or dividends receivable	3,605
Dividends receivable from Affiliates	1
Other assets	7
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,212,704</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
<i>Borrowings &amp; Other Financing Transactions</i>	
Payable for reverse repurchase agreements	\$ 63,996
Payable for sale-buyback transactions	1,922
Payable for short sales	40,815
<i>Financial Derivative Instruments</i>	
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	439
Over the counter	7,583
Payable for investments purchased	14,482
Payable for investments in Affiliates purchased	1
Payable for investments purchased on a delayed-delivery basis	47
Payable for TBA investments purchased	530,123
Deposits from counterparty	1,315
Payable for Portfolio shares redeemed	369
Accrued investment advisory fees	110
Accrued supervisory and administrative fees	220
Accrued distribution fees	92
Accrued servicing fees	9
Other liabilities	4
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>661,527</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 551,177</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of:</b>	
Paid in capital	\$ 548,573
Distributable earnings (accumulated loss)	2,604
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 551,177</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>	
Institutional Class	\$ 21,720
Administrative Class	72,437
Advisor Class	457,020
<b>Shares Issued and Outstanding:</b>	
Institutional Class	2,005
Administrative Class	6,686
Advisor Class	42,182
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share Outstanding<sup>(a)</sup>:</b>	
Institutional Class	\$ 10.83
Administrative Class	10.83
Advisor Class	10.83
Cost of investments in securities	\$ 824,342
Cost of investments in Affiliates	\$ 2,322
Cost of foreign currency held	\$ 3,522
Proceeds received on short sales	\$ 40,746
Cost or premiums of financial derivative instruments, net	\$ 1,836
* Includes repurchase agreements of:	\$ 5,529

<sup>1</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes adjustments required by U.S. GAAP and may differ from net asset values and performance reported elsewhere by the Portfolio.

# Statement of Operations PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)

(Amounts in thousands <sup>†</sup> )	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)
<b>Investment Income:</b>	
Interest, net of foreign taxes*	\$ 6,630
Dividends	6
Dividends from Investments in Affiliates	185
Total Income	6,821
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Investment advisory fees	680
Supervisory and administrative fees	1,360
Servicing fees - Administrative Class	55
Distribution and/or servicing fees - Advisor Class	574
Trustee fees	7
Interest expense	188
Miscellaneous expense	2
Total Expenses	2,866
Waiver and/or Reimbursement by PIMCO	(0)
Net Expenses	2,866
<b>Net Investment Income (Loss)</b>	<b>3,955</b>
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss):</b>	
Investments in securities	4,792
Investments in Affiliates	(456)
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared financial derivative instruments	(4,211)
Over the counter financial derivative instruments	2,613
Short sales	(870)
Foreign currency	979
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>2,847</b>
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation):</b>	
Investments in securities	(23)
Investments in Affiliates	70
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared financial derivative instruments	818
Over the counter financial derivative instruments	(2,210)
Short sales	87
Foreign currency assets and liabilities	(26)
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>(1,284)</b>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>\$ 5,518</b>
* Foreign tax withholdings	\$ 29

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

## Statements of Changes in Net Assets PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)

(Amounts in thousands <sup>†</sup> )	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets from:</b>		
<b>Operations:</b>		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 3,955	\$ 9,697
Net realized gain (loss)	2,847	11,428
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(1,284)	15,591
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>5,518</b>	<b>36,716</b>
<b>Distributions to Shareholders:</b>		
From net investment income and/or net realized capital gains		
Institutional Class	(915)	(216)
Administrative Class	(4,080)	(2,042)
Advisor Class	(24,772)	(10,887)
<b>Total Distributions<sup>(a)</sup></b>	<b>(29,767)</b>	<b>(13,145)</b>
<b>Portfolio Share Transactions:</b>		
Net increase (decrease) resulting from Portfolio share transactions*	9,393	11,458
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>(14,856)</b>	<b>35,029</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Beginning of period	566,033	531,004
End of period	\$ 551,177	\$ 566,033

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

\* See Note 13, Shares of Beneficial Interest, in the Notes to Financial Statements.

<sup>(a)</sup> The tax characterization of distributions is determined in accordance with Federal income tax regulations. The actual tax characterization of distributions paid is determined at the end of the fiscal year. See Note 2, Distributions to Shareholders, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

# Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

(Amounts in thousands\*, except number of shares, contracts and units, if any)

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES 152.7%</b>						
<b>ARGENTINA 0.0%</b>						
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.0%</b>						
<b>YPF S.A.</b> 33.088% (BADLARPP + 6.000%) due 03/04/2021 ~	ARS 3,810	\$ 35				
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.0%</b>						
<b>Argentina Government International Bond</b> 3.375% due 01/15/2023 ^^(d)	EUR 200	88				
26.415% (BADLARPP + 2.000%) due 04/03/2022 ~	ARS 8,070	70				
<b>Autonomous City of Buenos Aires Argentina</b> 29.825% (BADLARPP + 5.000%) due 01/23/2022 ~	70	1				
		159				
<b>Total Argentina (Cost \$734)</b>		<b>194</b>				
<b>AUSTRALIA 2.0%</b>						
<b>ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES 0.0%</b>						
<b>Driver Australia Trust</b> 1.735% due 07/21/2026	AUD 316	218				
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>						
<b>Sydney Airport Finance Co. Pty. Ltd.</b> 3.900% due 03/22/2023	\$ 300	313				
<b>NON-AGENCY MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES 0.3%</b>						
<b>Pepper Residential Securities Trust</b> 1.121% due 03/12/2061 •	830	828				
<b>RESIMAC Bastille Trust</b> 1.104% due 09/05/2057 •	989	985				
		1,813				
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.6%</b>						
<b>New South Wales Treasury Corp.</b> 2.000% due 03/20/2031	AUD 1,100	801				
3.000% due 02/20/2030	1,900	1,512				
<b>Northern Territory Treasury Corp.</b> 2.000% due 04/21/2031	800	560				
<b>Queensland Treasury Corp.</b> 1.750% due 08/21/2031	1,300	920				
3.500% due 08/21/2030	2,300	1,910				
<b>South Australia Government Financing Authority</b> 1.750% due 05/24/2032	800	558				
2.750% due 05/24/2030	500	388				
<b>Treasury Corp. of Victoria</b> 1.500% due 11/20/2030	1,400	980				
2.500% due 10/22/2029	200	153				
4.250% due 12/20/2032	1,200	1,085				
<b>Western Australian Treasury Corp.</b> 2.750% due 07/24/2029	200	156				
		9,023				
<b>Total Australia (Cost \$11,061)</b>		<b>11,367</b>				
<b>BRAZIL 0.4%</b>						
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.4%</b>						
<b>Petrobras Global Finance BV</b> 5.093% due 01/15/2030	\$ 1,878	1,874				
6.125% due 01/17/2022	102	107				
<b>Total Brazil (Cost \$2,055)</b>		<b>1,981</b>				
<b>CANADA 1.4%</b>						
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.3%</b>						
<b>Air Canada Pass-Through Trust</b> 3.300% due 07/15/2031	\$ 92	\$ 84				
<b>Fairfax Financial Holdings Ltd.</b> 2.750% due 03/29/2028	EUR 500	584				
<b>HSBC Bank Canada</b> 3.300% due 11/28/2021	\$ 1,200	1,246				
		1,914				
<b>NON-AGENCY MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES 0.3%</b>						
<b>Canadian Mortgage Pools</b> 0.825% (CDOR01 + 0.300%) due 07/01/2020 ~	CAD 157	116				
0.825% (CDOR01 + 0.300%) due 08/01/2020 ~	134	98				
<b>Real Estate Asset Liquidity Trust</b> 2.381% due 02/12/2055 ~	493	360				
2.867% due 02/12/2055 ~	1,000	725				
3.072% due 08/12/2053	465	349				
		1,648				
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.8%</b>						
<b>Canada Government Real Return Bond</b> 1.500% due 12/01/2044 (g)	470	475				
<b>Province of Ontario</b> 2.600% due 06/02/2027	3,500	2,838				
6.200% due 06/02/2031	100	110				
<b>Province of Quebec</b> 3.000% due 09/01/2023	1,100	872				
		4,295				
<b>Total Canada (Cost \$7,726)</b>		<b>7,857</b>				
<b>CAYMAN ISLANDS 3.6%</b>						
<b>ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES 2.1%</b>						
<b>Cent CLO Ltd.</b> 2.289% due 10/15/2026 •	\$ 1,400	1,383				
<b>Dryden Senior Loan Fund</b> 2.119% due 10/15/2027 •	1,168	1,158				
<b>Evans Grove CLO Ltd.</b> 1.291% due 05/28/2028 •	297	294				
<b>LCM LP</b> 2.175% due 10/20/2027 •	1,400	1,376				
<b>Marathon CLO Ltd.</b> 1.244% due 11/21/2027 •	1,187	1,177				
<b>Mountain View CLO Ltd.</b> 2.019% due 10/15/2026 •	149	147				
2.266% due 10/16/2029 •	1,500	1,467				
<b>Octagon Investment Partners Ltd.</b> 2.319% due 01/15/2026 •	12	12				
<b>Symphony CLO Ltd.</b> 2.261% due 07/14/2026 •	1,207	1,196				
<b>THL Credit Wind River CLO Ltd.</b> 2.099% due 01/15/2026 •	333	332				
<b>Tralelee CLO Ltd.</b> 2.245% due 10/20/2028 •	1,300	1,281				
<b>Venture CLO Ltd.</b> 2.099% due 04/15/2027 •	298	292				
<b>WhiteHorse Ltd.</b> 2.065% due 04/17/2027 •	124	123				
<b>Zais CLO Ltd.</b> 2.369% due 04/15/2028 •	1,383	1,370				
		11,608				
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 1.5%</b>						
<b>CIFI Holdings Group Co. Ltd.</b> 7.625% due 02/28/2023	300	315				
<b>COUNTRY GARDEN HOLDINGS CO. LTD.</b> 7.125% due 04/25/2022						
	\$ 200	\$ 211				
<b>KSA Sukuk Ltd.</b> 2.894% due 04/20/2022						
	500	515				
<b>QNB Finance Ltd.</b> 1.556% (US0003M + 1.000%) due 05/02/2022 ~						
	1,000	990				
1.713% (US0003M + 1.350%) due 05/31/2021 ~	4,500	4,526				
<b>Sands China Ltd.</b> 4.600% due 08/08/2023						
	300	317				
5.125% due 08/08/2025	200	217				
5.400% due 08/08/2028	500	554				
<b>Sunac China Holdings Ltd.</b> 7.875% due 02/15/2022						
	200	206				
<b>Tencent Holdings Ltd.</b> 3.595% due 01/19/2028						
	200	219				
		8,070				
<b>Total Cayman Islands (Cost \$19,717)</b>		<b>19,678</b>				
<b>CHINA 10.4%</b>						
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 10.4%</b>						
<b>China Development Bank</b> 3.050% due 08/25/2026	CNY 28,000	3,908				
3.180% due 04/05/2026	20,800	2,931				
3.500% due 08/13/2026	28,700	4,105				
3.680% due 02/26/2026	81,400	11,762				
3.740% due 09/10/2025	10,200	1,480				
3.800% due 01/25/2036	5,000	713				
4.040% due 04/10/2027	38,200	5,627				
4.040% due 07/06/2028	17,300	2,557				
4.150% due 10/26/2025	2,600	385				
4.240% due 08/24/2027	67,700	10,090				
4.880% due 02/09/2028	31,400	4,881				
<b>China Government Bond</b> 2.740% due 08/04/2026						
	43,800	6,192				
2.950% due 06/16/2023	2,200	316				
3.220% due 12/06/2025	2,200	319				
3.290% due 10/18/2023	6,500	942				
3.820% due 11/02/2027	7,300	1,102				
4.400% due 12/12/2046	500	81				
<b>Total China (Cost \$57,677)</b>		<b>57,391</b>				
<b>DENMARK 5.3%</b>						
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 5.3%</b>						
<b>Jyske Realkredit A/S</b> 1.000% due 10/01/2050	DKK 43,276	6,477				
1.500% due 10/01/2050	2,577	397				
2.000% due 10/01/2047	3,393	534				
2.500% due 10/01/2047	19	3				
<b>Nordea Kredit Realkreditaktieselskab</b> 1.000% due 10/01/2050						
	47,366	7,080				
1.500% due 10/01/2037	592	92				
1.500% due 10/01/2050	5,433	833				
2.000% due 10/01/2050	1,434	223				
<b>Nykredit Realkredit A/S</b> 0.087% due 10/01/2022 •						
	EUR 1,400	1,582				
1.000% due 10/01/2050	DKK 35,337	5,260				
1.500% due 10/01/2037	1,254	196				
1.500% due 10/01/2050	40,251	6,186				
2.000% due 10/01/2050	1,560	243				
2.500% due 10/01/2036	114	18				
2.500% due 10/01/2047	9	1				
<b>Realkredit Danmark A/S</b> 2.500% due 04/01/2036						
	67	11				
2.500% due 04/01/2047	20	3				
<b>Total Denmark (Cost \$28,651)</b>		<b>29,139</b>				
<b>FINLAND 1.1%</b>						
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.1%</b>						
<b>Finland Government Bond</b> 0.500% due 04/15/2026 (I)	EUR 2,600	3,091				

# Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
0.875% due 09/15/2025 (I)	EUR 2,700	\$ 3,259
<b>Total Finland (Cost \$6,147)</b>		<b>6,350</b>
<b>FRANCE 2.6%</b>		
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 2.6%</b>		
<b>France Government International Bond</b>		
1.500% due 05/25/2050	EUR 800	1,133
2.000% due 05/25/2048 (I)	7,400	11,536
3.250% due 05/25/2045 (I)	800	1,491
<b>Total France (Cost \$10,523)</b>		<b>14,160</b>
<b>GERMANY 1.7%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 1.7%</b>		
<b>Deutsche Bank AG</b>		
1.913% (US0003M + 0.815%) due 01/22/2021 ~	\$ 1,300	1,291
2.625% due 02/12/2026	EUR 600	708
2.700% due 07/13/2020	\$ 600	600
3.150% due 01/22/2021	500	503
3.961% due 11/26/2025 •	1,400	1,470
4.250% due 10/14/2021	1,800	1,848
<b>IHO Verwaltungs GmbH (3.875% Cash or 4.625% PIK)</b>		
3.875% due 05/15/2027 (c)	EUR 200	222
<b>IHO Verwaltungs GmbH (6.000% Cash or 6.750% PIK)</b>		
6.000% due 05/15/2027 (c)	\$ 900	917
<b>Volkswagen Bank GmbH</b>		
1.250% due 08/01/2022	EUR 400	451
<b>Volkswagen Leasing GmbH</b>		
0.250% due 02/16/2021	1,000	1,123
<b>Total Germany (Cost \$8,998)</b>		<b>9,133</b>
<b>GUERNSEY, CHANNEL ISLANDS 0.2%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.2%</b>		
<b>Credit Suisse Group Funding Guernsey Ltd.</b>		
3.800% due 06/09/2023	\$ 800	862
<b>Total Guernsey, Channel Islands (Cost \$799)</b>		<b>862</b>
<b>INDIA 0.1%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>		
<b>Shriram Transport Finance Co. Ltd.</b>		
5.950% due 10/24/2022	\$ 500	459
<b>State Bank of India</b>		
4.000% due 01/24/2022	200	205
<b>Total India (Cost \$706)</b>		<b>664</b>
<b>IRELAND 1.2%</b>		
<b>ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES 0.9%</b>		
<b>Arbour CLO DAC</b>		
0.870% due 01/15/2030 •	EUR 1,200	1,339
<b>Aurium CLO DAC</b>		
0.670% due 04/16/2030 •	500	557
<b>Black Diamond CLO Designated Activity Co.</b>		
0.650% due 10/03/2029 •	643	718
<b>CVC Cordatus Loan Fund Ltd.</b>		
0.970% due 04/22/2030 •	800	896
<b>Toro European CLO DAC</b>		
0.900% due 10/15/2030 •	1,300	1,443
		4,953
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.3%</b>		
<b>AerCap Ireland Capital DAC</b>		
4.625% due 10/30/2020	\$ 800	803
<b>AIB Group PLC</b>		
4.750% due 10/12/2023	200	216

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>SumitG Guaranteed Secured Obligation Issuer DAC</b>		
2.251% due 11/02/2020	\$ 400	\$ 402
		1,421
<b>Total Ireland (Cost \$6,443)</b>		<b>6,374</b>
<b>ISRAEL 0.3%</b>		
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.3%</b>		
<b>Israel Government International Bond</b>		
3.250% due 01/17/2028	\$ 200	227
3.800% due 05/13/2060	1,100	1,280
4.125% due 01/17/2048	300	373
<b>Total Israel (Cost \$1,658)</b>		<b>1,880</b>
<b>ITALY 2.9%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 1.0%</b>		
<b>Banca Carige SpA</b>		
1.218% (EUR003M + 1.500%) due 05/25/2022 ~	EUR 1,600	1,809
1.539% due 10/25/2021 •	1,600	1,810
<b>Intesa Sanpaolo SpA</b>		
7.000% due 01/19/2021 •(h)(i)	200	224
<b>UniCredit SpA</b>		
7.500% due 06/03/2026 •(h)(i)	200	236
7.830% due 12/04/2023	\$ 1,200	1,389
		5,468
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.9%</b>		
<b>Italy Buoni Poliennali Del Tesoro</b>		
0.350% due 11/01/2021	EUR 2,600	2,938
1.650% due 12/01/2030	400	464
1.750% due 07/01/2024 (I)	3,000	3,536
2.450% due 09/01/2050	1,100	1,301
2.950% due 09/01/2038	1,200	1,576
<b>Italy Government International Bond</b>		
6.000% due 08/04/2028	GBP 400	617
		10,432
<b>Total Italy (Cost \$15,118)</b>		<b>15,900</b>
<b>JAPAN 15.6%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 1.9%</b>		
<b>Central Nippon Expressway Co. Ltd.</b>		
1.014% (US0003M + 0.540%) due 08/04/2020 ~	\$ 2,600	2,602
2.091% due 09/14/2021	700	709
<b>Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance Co.</b>		
5.100% due 04/26/2048 •	200	233
<b>Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc.</b>		
2.950% due 03/01/2021	230	234
3.455% due 03/02/2023	600	641
<b>Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.</b>		
1.195% (US0003M + 0.880%) due 09/11/2022 ~	700	702
1.315% (US0003M + 1.000%) due 09/11/2024 ~	900	894
3.922% due 09/11/2024 •	500	541
<b>ORIX Corp.</b>		
3.250% due 12/04/2024	200	216
<b>Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.</b>		
1.993% (US0003M + 1.680%) due 03/09/2021 ~	600	606
2.130% due 07/08/2030 (b)	1,200	1,205
<b>Takeda Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd.</b>		
1.125% due 11/21/2022	EUR 500	572
2.050% due 03/31/2030 (b)	\$ 400	397
3.175% due 07/09/2050 (b)	800	807
		10,359

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 13.7%</b>		
<b>Japan Bank for International Cooperation</b>		
1.750% due 10/17/2024	\$ 500	\$ 524
3.250% due 07/20/2023	700	758
3.375% due 10/31/2023	300	328
<b>Japan Government International Bond</b>		
0.100% due 03/10/2028 (g)	JPY 454,469	4,194
0.100% due 03/20/2029	2,400,000	22,470
0.100% due 06/20/2029	610,000	5,705
0.100% due 03/20/2030	360,000	3,358
0.300% due 06/20/2046	620,000	5,428
0.500% due 09/20/2046	402,000	3,697
0.500% due 03/20/2049	258,000	2,345
0.700% due 12/20/2048	772,000	7,396
1.200% due 09/20/2035	1,340,000	14,118
1.300% due 06/20/2035	340,000	3,626
<b>Tokyo Metropolitan Government</b>		
2.000% due 05/17/2021	\$ 700	709
2.500% due 06/08/2022	600	622
		75,278
<b>Total Japan (Cost \$85,560)</b>		<b>85,637</b>
<b>KUWAIT 0.6%</b>		
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.6%</b>		
<b>Kuwait International Government Bond</b>		
3.500% due 03/20/2027	\$ 2,800	3,131
<b>Total Kuwait (Cost \$2,781)</b>		<b>3,131</b>
<b>LITHUANIA 0.3%</b>		
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.3%</b>		
<b>Lithuania Government International Bond</b>		
1.100% due 04/26/2027	EUR 600	719
6.125% due 03/09/2021	\$ 1,000	1,039
<b>Total Lithuania (Cost \$1,727)</b>		<b>1,758</b>
<b>LUXEMBOURG 0.3%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.3%</b>		
<b>Aroundtown S.A.</b>		
1.625% due 01/31/2028	EUR 700	802
5.375% due 03/21/2029	\$ 200	227
<b>Blackstone Property Partners Europe Holdings SARL</b>		
1.400% due 07/06/2022	EUR 400	454
<b>Emerald Bay S.A.</b>		
0.000% due 10/08/2020 (f)	289	318
<b>Total Luxembourg (Cost \$1,809)</b>		<b>1,801</b>
<b>MALAYSIA 0.7%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.2%</b>		
<b>Petronas Capital Ltd.</b>		
3.500% due 04/21/2030	\$ 300	334
4.550% due 04/21/2050	200	254
4.800% due 04/21/2060	200	276
		864
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.5%</b>		
<b>Malaysia Government International Bond</b>		
3.502% due 05/31/2027	MYR 1,700	418
3.906% due 07/15/2026	3,900	972
<b>Malaysia Government Investment Issue</b>		
3.655% due 10/15/2024	2,200	537
4.130% due 07/09/2029	2,200	561
4.369% due 10/31/2028	1,300	336
		2,824
<b>Total Malaysia (Cost \$3,478)</b>		<b>3,688</b>

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)		PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)		PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>MEXICO 0.1%</b>			<b>POLAND 0.3%</b>			<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 2.1%</b>		
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.1%</b>			<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.3%</b>			<b>Korea Government International Bond</b>		
<b>Mexico Government International Bond</b>			<b>Poland Government International Bond</b>			2.125% due 06/10/2027 KRW 1,225,000 \$ 1,079		
4.750% due 04/27/2032	\$ 200	\$ 221	2.250% due 04/25/2022	PLN 6,600	\$ 1,735	2.375% due 12/10/2027	1,350,000	1,211
5.000% due 04/27/2051	300	324	<b>Total Poland (Cost \$1,670)</b>		<b>1,735</b>	2.375% due 12/10/2028	5,820,000	5,236
<b>Total Mexico (Cost \$473)</b>		<b>545</b>				2.625% due 06/10/2028	2,450,000	2,242
<b>MULTINATIONAL 0.1%</b>			<b>QATAR 1.9%</b>			5.500% due 03/10/2028 1,350,000 1,468		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>			<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.9%</b>			<b>Korea Hydro &amp; Nuclear Power Co. Ltd.</b>		
<b>Preferred Term Securities Ltd.</b>			<b>Qatar Government International Bond</b>			3.750% due 07/25/2023 \$ 200 217		
0.699% (US0003M + 0.400%) due 06/23/2035 ~	\$ 794	710	3.375% due 03/14/2024	\$ 400	429	<b>Total South Korea (Cost \$12,032)</b>		
<b>Total Multinational (Cost \$605)</b>		<b>710</b>	3.750% due 04/16/2030	400	456	<b>11,453</b>		
<b>NETHERLANDS 1.1%</b>			<b>SAUDI ARABIA 1.4%</b>			<b>SPAIN 4.5%</b>		
<b>ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES 0.3%</b>			<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>			<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>		
<b>Dryden Euro CLO BV</b>			<b>Saudi Arabian Oil Co.</b>			<b>Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria S.A.</b>		
0.880% due 01/15/2030 •	EUR 1,200	1,342	2.750% due 04/16/2022	\$ 400	409	5.875% due 09/24/2023 •(h)(i) EUR 200 219		
<b>Penta CLO BV</b>			<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.3%</b>			<b>Banco Santander S.A.</b>		
0.790% due 08/04/2028 •	452	506	<b>Saudi Government International Bond</b>			3.848% due 04/12/2023 \$ 200 213		
		1,848	2.375% due 10/26/2021	2,400	2,439	2.225% due 04/25/2023 EUR 200 227		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.8%</b>			<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>			<b>Merlin Properties Socimi S.A.</b>		
<b>Cooperatieve Rabobank UA</b>			<b>Saudi Government International Bond</b>			2.225% due 04/25/2023		
3.125% due 04/26/2021	\$ 400	409	2.375% due 03/04/2023	1,000	1,045	<b>659</b>		
<b>Enel Finance International NV</b>			<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.3%</b>			<b>SHARES</b>		
2.650% due 09/10/2024	1,300	1,360	<b>Saudi Government International Bond</b>			<b>PREFERRED SECURITIES 0.3%</b>		
2.875% due 05/25/2022	1,100	1,138	2.875% due 10/26/2026	400	433	<b>Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria S.A.</b>		
<b>Mondelez International Holdings Netherlands BV</b>			<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.3%</b>			8.875% due 04/14/2021 •(h)(i) 1,000,000 1,164		
2.000% due 10/28/2021	500	509	3.625% due 03/04/2028	500	551	<b>Banco Santander S.A.</b>		
<b>NXP BV</b>			<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.3%</b>			5.250% due 09/29/2023 •(h)(i) 200,000 213		
4.125% due 06/01/2021	800	824	4.000% due 04/17/2025	1,900	2,111	6.250% due 09/11/2021 •(h)(i) 400,000 432		
<b>Vonovia Finance BV</b>			<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.3%</b>			<b>1,809</b>		
5.000% due 10/02/2023	100	108	4.375% due 04/16/2029	400	466	<b>PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)</b>		
		4,348	<b>Total Saudi Arabia (Cost \$6,968)</b>		<b>7,454</b>	<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 4.1%</b>		
<b>SHARES</b>			<b>SINGAPORE 0.5%</b>			<b>Autonomous Community of Catalonia</b>		
<b>PREFERRED SECURITIES 0.0%</b>			<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.5%</b>			4.220% due 04/26/2035 \$ 200 282		
<b>Stichting AK Rabobank Certificaten</b>			<b>BOC Aviation Ltd.</b>			4.900% due 09/15/2021 1,000 1,185		
0.000% due 12/29/2049 (h)	150,000	180	2.375% due 09/15/2021	\$ 1,000	1,001	<b>Spain Government International Bond</b>		
<b>Total Netherlands (Cost \$6,245)</b>		<b>6,376</b>	3.500% due 09/18/2027	300	310	0.250% due 07/30/2024 2,200 2,519		
<b>PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)</b>			<b>DBS Bank Ltd.</b>			1.250% due 10/31/2030 5,400 6,548		
<b>NORWAY 0.1%</b>			<b>Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp. Ltd.</b>			1.400% due 07/30/2028 (I) 5,200 6,392		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>			<b>0.836% (US0003M + 0.450%) due 05/17/2021 ~</b>			1.450% due 04/30/2029 (I) 2,200 2,717		
<b>DNB Boligkreditt A/S</b>			<b>PSA Treasury Pte. Ltd.</b>			2.700% due 10/31/2048 400 608		
3.250% due 06/28/2023	\$ 500	539	2.500% due 04/12/2026	400	428	2.900% due 10/31/2046 1,600 2,494		
<b>Total Norway (Cost \$499)</b>		<b>539</b>	<b>Total Singapore (Cost \$2,769)</b>		<b>2,856</b>	<b>22,745</b>		
<b>PERU 0.8%</b>			<b>SINGAPORE 0.5%</b>			<b>Total Spain (Cost \$23,737)</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>			<b>SLOVENIA 0.3%</b>			<b>25,213</b>		
<b>Banco de Credito del Peru</b>			<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.3%</b>			<b>SUPRANATIONAL 0.1%</b>		
4.650% due 09/17/2024	PEN 1,900	552	<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.3%</b>			<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>		
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.7%</b>			<b>Slovenia Government International Bond</b>			<b>European Investment Bank</b>		
<b>Peru Government International Bond</b>			5.250% due 02/18/2024 \$ 1,419 1,637			0.500% due 06/21/2023 AUD 500 343		
5.350% due 08/12/2040	1,100	312	<b>Total Slovenia (Cost \$1,470)</b>		<b>1,637</b>	0.500% due 08/10/2023 400 275		
5.940% due 02/12/2029	800	261				<b>Total Supranational (Cost \$695)</b>		
6.350% due 08/12/2028	9,400	3,143	<b>SOUTH AFRICA 0.1%</b>			<b>618</b>		
		3,716	<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.1%</b>			<b>SWEDEN 0.1%</b>		
<b>Total Peru (Cost \$4,152)</b>		<b>4,268</b>	<b>South Africa Government International Bond</b>			<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>		
<b>SWITZERLAND 0.6%</b>			4.850% due 09/30/2029 \$ 500 475			<b>Stadshypotek AB</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.6%</b>			<b>Total South Africa (Cost \$500)</b>			2.500% due 04/05/2022 \$ 300 311		
<b>Credit Suisse AG</b>						<b>Total Sweden (Cost \$300)</b>		
0.750% due 09/17/2021	EUR 200	228	<b>SOUTH KOREA 2.2%</b>			<b>311</b>		
6.500% due 08/08/2023 (i)	\$ 200	219	<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>			<b>SWITZERLAND 0.6%</b>		
<b>PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)</b>			<b>Kookmin Bank</b>			<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.6%</b>		
<b>219</b>			2.125% due 10/21/2020 \$ 400 402			<b>Credit Suisse AG</b>		









	MARKET VALUE (0005)
Total Investments 153.1% (Cost \$826,664)	\$ 843,850
Financial Derivative Instruments (m)(o) (0.7)% (Cost or Premiums, net \$1,836)	(4,083)
Other Assets and Liabilities, net (52.4)%	(288,590)
Net Assets 100.0%	\$ 551,177

**NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS:**

- \* A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.
- ^ Security is in default.
- ~ Variable or Floating rate security. Rate shown is the rate in effect as of period end. Certain variable rate securities are not based on a published reference rate and spread, rather are determined by the issuer or agent and are based on current market conditions. Reference rate is as of reset date, which may vary by security. These securities may not indicate a reference rate and/or spread in their description.
- Rate shown is the rate in effect as of period end. The rate may be based on a fixed rate, a capped rate or a floor rate and may convert to a variable or floating rate in the future. These securities do not indicate a reference rate and spread in their description.
- b Coupon represents a rate which changes periodically based on a predetermined schedule or event. Rate shown is the rate in effect as of period end.
- (a) Security is an Interest Only ("IO") or IO Strip.
- (b) When-issued security.
- (c) Payment in-kind security.
- (d) Security is not accruing income as of the date of this report.
- (e) Coupon represents a weighted average yield to maturity.
- (f) Zero coupon security.
- (g) Principal amount of security is adjusted for inflation.
- (h) Perpetual maturity; date shown, if applicable, represents next contractual call date.
- (i) Contingent convertible security.

**(j) RESTRICTED SECURITIES:**

Issuer Description	Coupon	Maturity Date	Acquisition Date	Cost	Market Value	Market Value as Percentage of Net Assets
Morgan Stanley	0.959%	02/03/2023	01/30/2020	\$ 2,502	\$ 2,365	0.43%

**BORROWINGS AND OTHER FINANCING TRANSACTIONS****(k) REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS:**

Counterparty	Lending Rate	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Principal Amount	Collateralized By	Collateral (Received)	Repurchase Agreements, at Value	Repurchase Agreement Proceeds to be Received
FICC	0.000%	06/30/2020	07/01/2020	\$ 5,529	U.S. Treasury Notes 1.875% due 04/30/2022	\$ (5,640)	\$ 5,529	\$ 5,529
<b>Total Repurchase Agreements</b>						<b>\$ (5,640)</b>	<b>\$ 5,529</b>	<b>\$ 5,529</b>

**REVERSE REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS:**

Counterparty	Borrowing Rate <sup>(1)</sup>	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Amount Borrowed <sup>(1)</sup>	Payable for Reverse Repurchase Agreements
BOM	0.190%	06/02/2020	07/02/2020	\$ (2,385)	\$ (2,385)
BOS	0.180	06/30/2020	07/01/2020	(2,766)	(2,766)
BPS	(0.410)	05/27/2020	08/20/2020	EUR (10,665)	(11,978)
	(0.380)	05/27/2020	08/20/2020	(8,036)	(9,025)
	(0.300)	03/25/2020	08/20/2020	(3,274)	(3,675)
	0.240	05/28/2020	08/12/2020	GBP (3,185)	(3,948)
BSN	0.240	04/13/2020	07/13/2020	\$ (12,638)	(12,645)
IND	0.200	06/12/2020	07/13/2020	(12,125)	(12,126)
JML	(0.400)	05/27/2020	08/20/2020	EUR (2,315)	(2,600)
MBC	(0.300)	03/30/2020	08/20/2020	(2,537)	(2,848)
<b>Total Reverse Repurchase Agreements</b>					<b>\$ (63,996)</b>

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

### SALE-BUYBACK TRANSACTIONS:

Counterparty	Borrowing Rate <sup>(1)</sup>	Borrowing Date	Maturity Date	Amount Borrowed <sup>(1)</sup>	Payable for Sale-Buyback Transactions
UBS	0.200%	05/20/2020	07/20/2020	\$ (1,921)	\$ (1,922)
<b>Total Sale-Buyback Transactions</b>					<b>\$ (1,922)</b>

### SHORT SALES:

Description	Coupon	Maturity Date	Principal Amount	Proceeds	Payable for Short Sales <sup>(2)</sup>
Canada (1.2)%					
Sovereign Issues (1.2)%					
Canada Government International Bond	2.750%	12/01/2048	CAD 6,100	\$ (6,442)	\$ (6,468)
United States (6.2)%					
U.S. Government Agencies (6.2)%					
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	3.000%	08/01/2050	\$ 12,800	(13,455)	(13,459)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	3.000	09/01/2050	19,500	(20,427)	(20,468)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	3.500	07/01/2035	400	(422)	(420)
Total United States				(34,304)	(34,347)
<b>Total Short Sales (7.4)%</b>				<b>\$ (40,746)</b>	<b>\$ (40,815)</b>

### BORROWINGS AND OTHER FINANCING TRANSACTIONS SUMMARY

The following is a summary by counterparty of the market value of Borrowings and Other Financing Transactions and collateral pledged/(received) as of June 30, 2020:

Counterparty	Repurchase Agreement Proceeds to be Received	Payable for Reverse Repurchase Agreements	Payable for Sale-Buyback Transactions	Payable for Short Sales <sup>(2)</sup>	Total Borrowings and Other Financing Transactions	Collateral Pledged/(Received)	Net Exposure <sup>(3)</sup>
Global/Master Repurchase Agreement							
BOM	\$ 0	\$ (2,385)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (2,385)	\$ 2,379	\$ (6)
BOS	0	(2,766)	0	0	(2,766)	2,760	(6)
BPS	0	(28,626)	0	0	(28,626)	28,545	(81)
BSN	0	(12,645)	0	0	(12,645)	12,827	182
FICC	5,529	0	0	0	5,529	(5,640)	(111)
IND	0	(12,126)	0	0	(12,126)	12,147	21
JML	0	(2,600)	0	0	(2,600)	2,615	15
MBC	0	(2,848)	0	0	(2,848)	2,947	99
Master Securities Forward Transaction Agreement							
TDM	0	0	0	(6,468)	(6,468)	0	(6,468)
UBS	0	0	(1,922)	0	(1,922)	1,923	1
<b>Total Borrowings and Other Financing Transactions</b>	<b>\$ 5,529</b>	<b>\$ (63,996)</b>	<b>\$ (1,922)</b>	<b>\$ (6,468)</b>			

### CERTAIN TRANSFERS ACCOUNTED FOR AS SECURED BORROWINGS

#### Remaining Contractual Maturity of the Agreements

	Overnight and Continuous	Up to 30 days	31-90 days	Greater Than 90 days	Total
<b>Reverse Repurchase Agreements</b>					
Sovereign Issues	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (34,074)	\$ 0	\$ (34,074)
U.S. Treasury Obligations	(2,766)	(27,156)	0	0	(29,922)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (2,766)</b>	<b>\$ (27,156)</b>	<b>\$ (34,074)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (63,996)</b>
<b>Sale-Buyback Transactions</b>					
U.S. Treasury Obligations	0	(1,922)	0	0	(1,922)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (1,922)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (1,922)</b>
<b>Total Borrowings</b>	<b>\$ (2,766)</b>	<b>\$ (29,078)</b>	<b>\$ (34,074)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (65,918)</b>
<b>Payable for reverse repurchase agreements and sale-buyback financing transactions</b>					<b>\$ (65,918)</b>

(1) Securities with an aggregate market value of \$67,100 have been pledged as collateral under the terms of the above master agreements as of June 30, 2020.

- (1) The average amount of borrowings outstanding during the period ended June 30, 2020 was \$(62,328) at a weighted average interest rate of 0.209%. Average borrowings may include reverse repurchase agreements and sale-buyback transactions, if held during the period.
- (2) Payable for short sales includes \$18 of accrued interest.
- (3) Net Exposure represents the net receivable/(payable) that would be due from/to the counterparty in the event of default. Exposure from borrowings and other financing transactions can only be netted across transactions governed under the same master agreement with the same legal entity. See Note 8, Master Netting Arrangements, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

**(m) FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS: EXCHANGE-TRADED OR CENTRALLY CLEARED****PURCHASED OPTIONS:****OPTIONS ON EXCHANGE-TRADED FUTURES CONTRACTS**

Description	Strike Price	Expiration Date	# of Contracts	Notional Amount	Cost	Market Value
Put - CBOT U.S. Treasury 5-Year Note September 2020 Futures	\$ 111.750	08/21/2020	52	\$ 52	\$ 0	\$ 0
Put - CBOT U.S. Treasury 5-Year Note September 2020 Futures	112.750	08/21/2020	4	4	0	0
Call - CBOT U.S. Treasury 10-Year Note September 2020 Futures	175.000	08/21/2020	60	60	1	1
Call - CBOT U.S. Treasury 10-Year Note September 2020 Futures	179.000	08/21/2020	44	44	0	0
Call - CME 90-Day Eurodollar June 2022 Futures	99.750	06/13/2022	38	95	9	23
Call - CME 90-Day Eurodollar March 2022 Futures	99.750	03/14/2022	21	53	5	11
<b>Total Purchased Options</b>					<b>\$ 15</b>	<b>\$ 35</b>

**FUTURES CONTRACTS:****LONG FUTURES CONTRACTS**

Description	Expiration Month	# of Contracts	Notional Amount	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Variation Margin	
					Asset	Liability
Australia Government 3-Year Note September Futures	09/2020	242	\$ 19,549	\$ 8	\$ 0	\$ (3)
Call Options Strike @ EUR 116.000 on Euro-Schatz Bond September 2020 Futures <sup>(1)</sup>	08/2020	202	1	0	0	0
Euro-Bobl September Futures	09/2020	132	20,018	69	0	(10)
Euro-BTP Italy Government Bond September Futures	09/2020	269	43,484	941	166	(36)
Euro-Buxl 30-Year Bond September Futures	09/2020	18	4,448	77	0	(22)
Euro-OAT France Government 10-Year Bond September Futures	09/2020	10	1,884	25	0	(1)
Japan Government 10-Year Bond September Futures	09/2020	3	4,222	2	0	(5)
U.S. Treasury 5-Year Note September Futures	09/2020	56	7,042	16	0	(2)
U.S. Treasury Ultra Long-Term Bond September Futures	09/2020	1	218	1	0	(1)
United Kingdom Long Gilt September Futures	09/2020	51	8,698	(7)	14	(10)
				\$ 1,132	\$ 180	\$ (90)

**SHORT FUTURES CONTRACTS**

Description	Expiration Month	# of Contracts	Notional Amount	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Variation Margin	
					Asset	Liability
Australia Government 10-Year Bond September Futures	09/2020	7	\$ (719)	\$ (11)	\$ 1	\$ (1)
Canada Government 10-Year Bond September Futures	09/2020	80	(9,064)	(15)	20	0
Euro-Bund 10-Year Bond September Futures	09/2020	169	(33,516)	(305)	34	0
Euro-Schatz September Futures	09/2020	202	(25,450)	(9)	6	0
U.S. Treasury 10-Year Note September Futures	09/2020	171	(23,798)	(66)	27	0
				\$ (406)	\$ 88	\$ (1)
<b>Total Futures Contracts</b>				<b>\$ 726</b>	<b>\$ 268</b>	<b>\$ (91)</b>

**SWAP AGREEMENTS:****CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS ON CORPORATE ISSUES - BUY PROTECTION<sup>(2)</sup>**

Reference Entity	Fixed (Pay) Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Implied Credit Spread at June 30, 2020 <sup>(4)</sup>	Notional Amount <sup>(5)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Market Value <sup>(6)</sup>	Variation Margin	
									Asset	Liability
BASF SE	(1.000)%	Quarterly	12/20/2020	0.078%	EUR 200	\$ (6)	\$ 5	\$ (1)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Reynolds American, Inc.	(1.000)	Quarterly	12/20/2020	0.040	\$ 700	(15)	12	(3)	0	0
United Utilities PLC	(1.000)	Quarterly	12/20/2020	0.080	EUR 200	(5)	4	(1)	0	0
						\$ (26)	\$ 21	\$ (5)	\$ 0	\$ 0

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

### CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS ON CORPORATE ISSUES - SELL PROTECTION<sup>(3)</sup>

Reference Entity	Fixed Receive Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Implied Credit Spread at June 30, 2020 <sup>(4)</sup>	Notional Amount <sup>(5)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/(Depreciation)	Market Value <sup>(6)</sup>	Variation Margin	
									Asset	Liability
Berkshire Hathaway, Inc.	1.000%	Quarterly	12/20/2022	0.134%	\$ 700	\$ 13	\$ 2	\$ 15	\$ 0	\$ 0
Daimler AG	1.000	Quarterly	12/20/2020	0.320	EUR 200	5	(4)	1	0	0
Shell International Finance BV	1.000	Quarterly	12/20/2026	0.802	500	18	(11)	7	0	(1)
Tesco PLC	1.000	Quarterly	06/20/2022	0.296	800	0	13	13	0	0
Tesco PLC	1.000	Quarterly	06/20/2025	0.833	400	(13)	17	4	0	0
						\$ 23	\$ 17	\$ 40	\$ 0	\$ (1)

### CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS ON CREDIT INDICES - BUY PROTECTION<sup>(2)</sup>

Index/Tranches	Fixed (Pay) Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Notional Amount <sup>(5)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/(Depreciation)	Market Value <sup>(6)</sup>	Variation Margin	
								Asset	Liability
CDX.IG-33 10-Year Index	(1.000)%	Quarterly	12/20/2029	\$ 41,500	\$ 110	\$ 267	\$ 377	\$ 0	\$ (68)
CDX.IG-34 10-Year Index	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2030	2,600	38	(13)	25	0	(8)
iTraxx Europe Main 31 10-Year Index	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2029	EUR 10,900	(80)	71	(9)	0	(66)
					\$ 68	\$ 325	\$ 393	\$ 0	\$ (142)

### INTEREST RATE SWAPS - BASIS SWAPS

Pay Floating Rate Index	Receive Floating Rate Index	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Notional Amount	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/(Depreciation)	Market Value	Variation Margin	
								Asset	Liability
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(7)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.091%	Quarterly	03/18/2022	\$ 132,700	\$ (1)	\$ (13)	\$ (14)	\$ 0	\$ (1)
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(7)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.084%	Quarterly	04/26/2022	30,400	0	(2)	(2)	0	(1)
3-Month USD-LIBOR	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.084%	Quarterly	06/12/2022	5,100	0	1	1	0	(1)
3-Month USD-LIBOR	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.070%	Quarterly	06/12/2022	3,900	0	2	2	0	(1)
3-Month USD-LIBOR	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.085%	Quarterly	06/19/2022	19,800	(1)	5	4	0	(2)
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(7)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.073%	Quarterly	04/27/2023	17,000	0	4	4	1	0
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(7)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.070%	Quarterly	03/07/2024	4,300	0	2	2	0	0
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(7)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.088%	Quarterly	09/06/2024	12,700	1	2	3	1	0
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(7)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.105%	Quarterly	09/27/2024	12,700	0	(1)	(1)	0	0
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(7)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.102%	Quarterly	10/04/2024	10,100	0	(1)	(1)	0	0
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(7)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.088%	Quarterly	05/23/2029	4,800	0	3	3	0	0
					\$ (1)	\$ 2	\$ 1	\$ 2	\$ (6)

### INTEREST RATE SWAPS

Pay/Receive Floating Rate	Floating Rate Index	Fixed Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Notional Amount	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/(Depreciation)	Market Value	Variation Margin	
									Asset	Liability
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	1-Day GBP-SONIO Compounded-OIS	0.905%	Quarterly	12/03/2039	GBP 1,300	\$ 0	\$ (99)	\$ (99)	\$ 2	\$ 0
Pay	1-Year BRL-CDI	8.880	Maturity	01/04/2021	BRL 800	1	13	14	0	0
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.270	Semi-Annual	03/03/2022	CAD 3,800	0	32	32	0	0
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.500	Semi-Annual	06/17/2022	1,300	6	12	18	0	0
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.220	Semi-Annual	03/03/2025	6,000	0	95	95	0	(4)
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.500	Semi-Annual	06/17/2025	3,200	(26)	113	87	0	(2)
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	2.500	Semi-Annual	06/19/2029	11,900	309	873	1,182	0	(17)
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.713	Semi-Annual	10/02/2029	3,100	1	153	154	0	(5)
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.900	Semi-Annual	12/18/2029	8,200	109	400	509	0	(13)
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.500	Semi-Annual	06/17/2030	11,700	(88)	497	409	0	(15)
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.750	Semi-Annual	12/16/2046	600	(86)	123	37	0	(2)
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	2.750	Semi-Annual	12/18/2048	7,100	89	1,680	1,769	0	(34)
Pay <sup>(7)</sup>	3-Month GBP-LIBOR	1.080	Quarterly	12/03/2039	GBP 1,300	0	109	109	5	0
Pay	3-Month SEK-STIBOR	1.000	Annual	06/19/2029	SEK 13,200	51	45	96	2	0
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	2.750	Semi-Annual	12/19/2020	\$ 46,900	319	(904)	(585)	0	(3)
Pay <sup>(7)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.450	Semi-Annual	08/10/2021	21,200	243	13	256	2	0
Pay <sup>(7)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.450	Semi-Annual	08/13/2021	21,200	244	12	256	2	0
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.500	Semi-Annual	12/18/2021	10,500	38	(238)	(200)	0	(1)
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	2.500	Semi-Annual	12/18/2021	15,900	(221)	(321)	(542)	0	(1)
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.540	Semi-Annual	02/26/2022	8,900	(21)	(216)	(237)	0	(1)
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.305	Semi-Annual	08/21/2023	6,950	0	(225)	(225)	1	0
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.298	Semi-Annual	08/25/2024	5,950	0	(181)	(181)	2	0
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.249	Semi-Annual	08/31/2024	7,050	0	(204)	(204)	2	0
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.360	Semi-Annual	09/17/2024	4,450	0	(143)	(143)	1	0
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.500	Semi-Annual	12/18/2024	5,800	31	(346)	(315)	1	0
Pay	3-Month USD-LIBOR	2.500	Semi-Annual	12/18/2024	1,200	118	1	119	0	0

Pay/Receive	Floating Rate	Floating Rate Index	Fixed Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Notional Amount	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/(Depreciation)	Market Value	Variation Margin		
										Asset	Liability	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR		1.250%	Semi-Annual	06/17/2025	\$ 11,800	\$ (492)	\$ (54)	\$ (546)	\$ 5	\$ 0	
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR		1.000	Semi-Annual	12/16/2025	3,500	(105)	(6)	(111)	2	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR		2.250	Semi-Annual	06/20/2028	25,100	1,360	(4,794)	(3,434)	36	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR		1.500	Semi-Annual	12/18/2029	6,900	117	(693)	(576)	14	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR		1.625	Semi-Annual	01/06/2030	9,500	(185)	(759)	(944)	18	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR		2.000	Semi-Annual	01/15/2030	9,400	(44)	(1,242)	(1,286)	21	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR		1.250	Semi-Annual	06/17/2030	10,200	(554)	(63)	(617)	21	0	
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR		1.000	Semi-Annual	12/16/2030	2,300	(65)	(7)	(72)	5	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR		1.500	Semi-Annual	06/17/2050	4,800	(887)	130	(757)	43	0	
Pay	3-Month ZAR-JIBAR		7.250	Quarterly	06/20/2023	ZAR 7,600	4	35	39	0	0	
Receive	6-Month AUD-BBR-BBSW		1.250	Semi-Annual	06/17/2030	AUD 5,000	(107)	(31)	(138)	0	(5)	
Pay	6-Month CHF-LIBOR		0.530	Annual	06/30/2025	CHF 9,500	0	4	4	4	0	
Pay	6-Month CHF-LIBOR		0.050	Annual	03/16/2026	1,400	(24)	76	52	1	0	
Pay	6-Month CZK-PRIBOR		1.913	Annual	01/30/2029	CZK 13,900	0	63	63	2	0	
Pay <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR		0.339	Annual	12/11/2021	EUR 3,300	0	3	3	2	0	
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR		0.300	Annual	12/15/2022	26,200	(41)	(30)	(71)	0	(3)	
Pay <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR		0.150	Annual	12/15/2025	40,500	311	172	483	21	0	
Pay <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR		1.310	Annual	06/19/2029	3,600	119	179	298	4	0	
Pay <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR		0.250	Annual	12/15/2030	47,700	1,993	329	2,322	72	0	
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR		0.000	Annual	09/16/2050	2,400	52	(48)	4	3	0	
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR		0.600	Annual	12/15/2050	2,500	(463)	(49)	(512)	4	0	
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month GBP-LIBOR		0.500	Semi-Annual	12/16/2030	GBP 4,800	(23)	(61)	(84)	0	(14)	
Pay <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month GBP-LIBOR		0.250	Semi-Annual	12/16/2022	13,100	9	23	32	10	0	
Pay <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month GBP-LIBOR		0.500	Semi-Annual	12/16/2025	19,300	214	106	320	26	0	
Receive <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month GBP-LIBOR		0.672	Semi-Annual	02/26/2031	1,000	0	(38)	(38)	0	(3)	
Receive	6-Month GBP-LIBOR		0.500	Semi-Annual	06/17/2050	3,400	56	(173)	(117)	0	(19)	
Pay <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month GBP-LIBOR		0.500	Semi-Annual	12/16/2050	3,900	38	97	135	21	0	
Pay <sup>(7)</sup>	6-Month GBP-LIBOR		0.722	Semi-Annual	02/26/2051	350	0	40	40	2	0	
Pay	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		0.380	Semi-Annual	06/18/2028	JPY 164,000	47	(1)	46	0	(2)	
Pay	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		0.200	Semi-Annual	06/19/2029	1,170,000	185	(12)	173	0	(12)	
Pay	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		0.035	Semi-Annual	11/29/2029	60,000	8	(8)	0	0	(1)	
Pay	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		0.400	Semi-Annual	06/19/2039	130,881	(2)	44	42	0	(5)	
Pay	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		0.500	Semi-Annual	06/19/2049	20,000	(1)	11	10	0	(1)	
Pay	6-Month PLN-WIBOR		2.405	Annual	01/30/2029	PLN 1,700	0	59	59	1	0	
Pay	28-Day MXN-TIIE		7.278	Lunar	03/22/2022	MXN 21,800	(5)	52	47	1	0	
Pay	28-Day MXN-TIIE		7.317	Lunar	03/23/2022	18,100	(3)	42	39	1	0	
Pay	28-Day MXN-TIIE		5.825	Lunar	01/12/2023	27,400	(95)	135	40	1	0	
Pay	UKRPI		3.386	Maturity	01/15/2030	GBP 800	0	16	16	0	(5)	
Pay	UKRPI		3.436	Maturity	02/15/2030	500	0	11	11	0	(3)	
Pay	UKRPI		3.450	Maturity	02/15/2030	1,400	2	34	36	0	(9)	
Pay	UKRPI		3.453	Maturity	02/15/2030	2,800	0	72	72	0	(19)	
								\$ 2,536	\$ (5,042)	\$ (2,506)	\$ 361	\$ (199)
<b>Total Swap Agreements</b>								<b>\$ 2,600</b>	<b>\$ (4,677)</b>	<b>\$ (2,077)</b>	<b>\$ 363</b>	<b>\$ (348)</b>

#### FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS: EXCHANGE-TRADED OR CENTRALLY CLEARED SUMMARY

The following is a summary of the market value and variation margin of Exchange-Traded or Centrally Cleared Financial Derivative Instruments as of June 30, 2020:

	Financial Derivative Assets				Financial Derivative Liabilities			
	Market Value	Variation Margin			Market Value	Variation Margin		
		Purchased Options	Asset <sup>(8)</sup>			Written Options	Liability	
			Futures	Swap Agreements			Total	Futures
<b>Total Exchange-Traded or Centrally Cleared</b>	<b>\$ 35</b>	<b>\$ 268</b>	<b>\$ 372</b>	<b>\$ 675</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (91)</b>	<b>\$ (348)</b>	<b>\$ (439)</b>

(n) Securities with an aggregate market value of \$5,542 and cash of \$5,944 have been pledged as collateral for exchange-traded and centrally cleared financial derivative instruments as of June 30, 2020. See Note 8, Master Netting Arrangements, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

(1) Future styled option.

(2) If the Portfolio is a buyer of protection and a credit event occurs, as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement, the Portfolio will either (i) receive from the seller of protection an amount equal to the notional amount of the swap and deliver the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index or (ii) receive a net settlement amount in the form of cash, securities or other deliverable obligations equal to the notional amount of the swap less the recovery value of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index.

(3) If the Portfolio is a seller of protection and a credit event occurs, as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement, the Portfolio will either (i) pay to the buyer of protection an amount equal to the notional amount of the swap and take delivery of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index or (ii) pay a net settlement amount in the form of cash, securities or other deliverable obligations equal to the notional amount of the swap less the recovery value of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index.

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

- (4) Implied credit spreads, represented in absolute terms, utilized in determining the market value of credit default swap agreements on sovereign issues as of period end serve as indicators of the current status of the payment/performance risk and represent the likelihood or risk of default for the credit derivative. The implied credit spread of a particular referenced entity reflects the cost of buying/selling protection and may include upfront payments required to be made to enter into the agreement. Wider credit spreads represent a deterioration of the referenced entity's credit soundness and a greater likelihood or risk of default or other credit event occurring as defined under the terms of the agreement.
- (5) The maximum potential amount the Portfolio could be required to pay as a seller of credit protection or receive as a buyer of credit protection if a credit event occurs as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement.
- (6) The prices and resulting values for credit default swap agreements serve as indicators of the current status of the payment/performance risk and represent the likelihood of an expected liability (or profit) for the credit derivative should the notional amount of the swap agreement be closed/sold as of the period end. Increasing market values, in absolute terms when compared to the notional amount of the swap, represent a deterioration of the underlying referenced instrument's credit soundness and a greater likelihood or risk of default or other credit event occurring as defined under the terms of the agreement.
- (7) This instrument has a forward starting effective date.
- (8) Unsettled variation margin asset of \$9 for closed swap agreements is outstanding at period end.

### (o) FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS: OVER THE COUNTER

#### FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS:

Counterparty	Settlement Month	Currency to be Delivered	Currency to be Received	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	
				Asset	Liability
BOA	07/2020	RUB 168,684	\$ 2,431	\$ 65	\$ 0
	07/2020	\$ 18,869	JPY 2,016,150	0	(197)
	07/2020	90	RUB 7,027	8	0
	07/2020	266	ZAR 5,043	25	0
	07/2020	ZAR 12,400	\$ 837	124	0
	08/2020	JPY 2,016,150	18,877	197	0
	08/2020	\$ 99	RUB 6,845	0	(3)
	09/2020	CNH 315,812	\$ 44,080	0	(408)
	09/2020	IDR 43,524	3	0	0
	09/2020	ILS 955	278	2	0
BPS	07/2020	DKK 1,960	285	0	(10)
	07/2020	GBP 3,433	4,382	128	0
	07/2020	\$ 968	AUD 1,406	2	0
	07/2020	582	CAD 784	0	(4)
	07/2020	12,488	EUR 11,080	11	(50)
	07/2020	698	RUB 48,407	0	(19)
	07/2020	657	ZAR 12,400	55	0
	08/2020	EUR 829	\$ 929	0	(3)
	08/2020	\$ 106	RUB 7,418	0	(2)
	09/2020	CNH 30,513	\$ 4,239	0	(59)
BRC	09/2020	HKD 2,687	342	0	(5)
	09/2020	IDR 8,819,040	608	10	0
	09/2020	MYR 12,225	2,847	5	0
	07/2020	DKK 174,036	25,398	0	(842)
	07/2020	MXN 26,289	1,178	35	0
CBK	07/2020	\$ 564	GBP 455	0	(1)
	09/2020	3,765	HKD 29,527	43	0
	12/2020	1,155	MXN 26,289	0	(34)
	07/2020	CAD 841	\$ 612	0	(8)
	07/2020	EUR 1,257	1,411	0	(1)
	07/2020	PEN 10,648	3,095	89	0
	07/2020	SEK 490	52	0	(1)
	07/2020	\$ 2,947	CHF 2,790	1	(3)
	07/2020	6,755	DKK 44,704	12	(27)
	07/2020	664	EUR 586	0	(6)
FBF	07/2020	1,052	MXN 26,289	91	0
	07/2020	2,725	PEN 9,544	0	(31)
	07/2020	79	ZAR 1,438	4	0
	08/2020	PEN 3,751	\$ 1,098	40	0
	08/2020	\$ 390	JPY 42,085	0	0
	08/2020	743	NOK 7,235	9	0
	08/2020	876	PEN 3,089	0	(4)
	08/2020	146	RUB 10,023	0	(6)
	09/2020	CNH 63,859	\$ 8,963	0	(32)
	09/2020	KRW 13,433,816	10,904	0	(299)
	09/2020	PEN 2,794	817	28	0
	09/2020	\$ 553	CNH 3,976	7	0
	10/2020	DKK 44,704	\$ 6,769	27	(12)
	12/2020	PEN 6,454	1,826	11	0
	09/2020	HKD 3,683	475	0	0
09/2020	\$ 1,150	IDR 16,324,096	0	(42)	



Counterparty	Settlement Month	Currency to be Delivered	Currency to be Received	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)		
				Asset	Liability	
GLM	07/2020	CAD	4,212	\$ 3,094	\$ 0	\$ (8)
	07/2020	DKK	3,090	454	0	(12)
	07/2020	GBP	28,961	35,722	0	(164)
	07/2020	\$	2,589	CAD 3,500	0	(11)
	07/2020		1,200	MXN 29,913	97	0
	07/2020		385	RUB 29,123	24	0
	08/2020		126	8,704	0	(4)
	09/2020	CNH	3,851	\$ 542	0	0
	09/2020	\$	269	CNH 1,914	1	0
HUS	07/2020	AUD	7,740	\$ 5,352	10	0
	07/2020	CAD	816	609	8	0
	07/2020	EUR	5,463	6,142	7	(3)
	07/2020	GBP	577	731	16	0
	07/2020	NOK	7,065	727	0	(7)
	07/2020	NZD	3,988	2,568	0	(6)
	07/2020	PEN	2,978	867	26	0
	07/2020	\$	1,584	AUD 2,302	4	0
	07/2020		1,229	CAD 1,676	6	0
	07/2020		494	CHF 468	0	0
	07/2020		2,331	EUR 2,071	0	(4)
	07/2020		1,455	NOK 13,775	0	(24)
	07/2020		305	RUB 21,295	0	(7)
	07/2020		1,137	SEK 10,500	0	(10)
	07/2020	ZAR	160	\$ 8	0	(1)
	08/2020	CAD	926	676	0	(6)
	08/2020	GBP	32,516	39,876	0	(424)
	08/2020	SEK	3,625	387	0	(2)
	09/2020	CNY	70,158	9,783	0	(108)
	09/2020	PLN	2,999	764	5	0
09/2020	\$	8,187	CNH 58,783	99	0	
JPM	07/2020	CAD	376	\$ 276	0	(1)
	07/2020	RUB	4,226	61	2	0
	07/2020	\$	3,136	DKK 20,705	0	(14)
	07/2020		2,000	JPY 215,400	0	(5)
	07/2020		109	ZAR 1,985	5	0
	07/2020	ZAR	8,832	\$ 505	0	(4)
	08/2020	RUB	16,722	240	6	0
	08/2020	\$	200	RUB 13,958	0	(5)
	09/2020	IDR	6,594,986	\$ 454	6	0
	10/2020	DKK	20,705	3,143	14	0
10/2020	\$	343	DKK 2,280	1	0	
MYI	07/2020	AUD	14,447	\$ 9,586	0	(384)
	07/2020	CHF	5,178	5,395	0	(70)
	07/2020	DKK	2,190	320	0	(10)
	07/2020	NOK	615	63	0	0
	07/2020	SEK	10,010	1,073	0	(2)
	07/2020	\$	10,746	AUD 16,202	439	(4)
	07/2020		5,141	CAD 7,022	32	0
	07/2020		10,216	DKK 67,715	7	(14)
	07/2020		1,231	EUR 1,087	0	(10)
	07/2020		23,569	JPY 2,521,184	0	(219)
	07/2020		5,322	NZD 8,216	0	(20)
	08/2020	CAD	7,022	\$ 5,141	0	(32)
	08/2020	JPY	2,521,184	23,579	220	0
	08/2020	\$	1,073	SEK 10,010	2	0
	09/2020	PLN	3,835	\$ 975	5	0
	10/2020	DKK	90,917	13,750	21	(7)
	06/2021	\$	38	EUR 30	0	(4)
SCX	07/2020	EUR	46,888	\$ 52,187	0	(491)
	07/2020	NOK	6,095	629	0	(5)
	07/2020	\$	11,506	AUD 16,724	36	0
	07/2020		2,031	CAD 2,731	0	(19)
	08/2020	AUD	16,724	\$ 11,507	0	(37)
	08/2020	EUR	38,599	43,383	0	(14)
	08/2020	\$	629	NOK 6,095	5	0
	09/2020	HKD	27,161	\$ 3,456	0	(47)
SOG	07/2020	\$	3,678	DKK 24,413	3	0
	10/2020	DKK	24,413	\$ 3,685	0	(3)
SSB	07/2020	\$	51	CAD 70	1	0

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

Counterparty	Settlement Month	Currency to be Delivered		Currency to be Received		Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)		
						Asset	Liability	
TOR	07/2020	AUD	14,447	\$	9,602	\$	0	\$ (368)
	07/2020	CAD	11,663		8,467		0	(124)
	07/2020	JPY	7,924,541		73,612		220	0
	07/2020	RUB	69		1		0	0
	07/2020	\$	2,786	CAD	3,802		15	0
	07/2020		15,260	JPY	1,632,193		0	(143)
	08/2020	CAD	3,802	\$	2,786		0	(15)
	08/2020	JPY	1,632,193		15,266		144	0
UAG	07/2020	CAD	2,053		1,533		21	0
	07/2020	JPY	212,116		1,968		4	0
	07/2020	\$	210	EUR	185		0	(2)
	07/2020		16,387	JPY	1,751,731		0	(163)
	07/2020		528	RUB	37,674		8	(8)
	08/2020	JPY	1,751,731	\$	16,394		164	0
	08/2020	\$	256	RUB	18,134		0	(2)
<b>Total Forward Foreign Currency Contracts</b>						<b>\$ 2,713</b>	<b>\$ (5,156)</b>	

### PURCHASED OPTIONS:

#### FOREIGN CURRENCY OPTIONS

Counterparty	Description	Strike Price	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Cost	Market Value
GLM	Call - OTC EUR versus USD	\$ 1.163	09/15/2020	2,402	\$ 16	\$ 9
	Call - OTC EUR versus USD	1.163	01/29/2021	2,447	32	32
					<b>\$ 48</b>	<b>\$ 41</b>

#### INTEREST RATE SWAPPTIONS

Counterparty	Description	Floating Rate Index	Pay/Receive Floating Rate	Exercise Rate	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Cost	Market Value
BOA	Put - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	2.175%	09/15/2021	1,900	\$ 78	\$ 19
DUB	Put - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	2.300	12/21/2021	800	32	9
FBF	Put - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	1.733	08/26/2021	2,000	148	44
GLM	Put - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month GBP-LIBOR	Receive	0.860	02/26/2021	800	49	22
MYC	Put - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	1.752	08/23/2021	1,700	126	36
	Put - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	2.300	12/21/2021	1,300	51	14
							<b>\$ 484</b>	<b>\$ 144</b>
<b>Total Purchased Options</b>							<b>\$ 532</b>	<b>\$ 185</b>

### WRITTEN OPTIONS:

#### CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPPTIONS ON CREDIT INDICES

Counterparty	Description	Buy/Sell Protection	Exercise Rate	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value	
BOA	Put - OTC CDX.HY-34 5-Year Index	Sell	93.000%	08/19/2020	400	\$ (4)	\$ (5)	
	Call - OTC CDX.HY-34 5-Year Index	Buy	104.000	08/19/2020	400	(2)	(1)	
	Call - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index	Buy	0.600	08/19/2020	1,100	(1)	(1)	
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index	Sell	1.100	08/19/2020	1,100	(2)	(1)	
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index	Sell	1.150	08/19/2020	1,200	(2)	(1)	
	Call - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index	Buy	0.550	09/16/2020	800	(1)	0	
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index	Sell	1.100	09/16/2020	800	(2)	(2)	
	Call - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Buy	0.475	09/16/2020	1,200	(1)	(1)	
	Call - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Buy	0.500	09/16/2020	650	(1)	0	
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Sell	1.000	09/16/2020	1,200	(2)	(2)	
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Sell	1.100	09/16/2020	650	(1)	(1)	
	BPS	Put - OTC CDX.HY-34 5-Year Index	Sell	92.000	08/19/2020	400	(3)	(4)
		Call - OTC CDX.HY-34 5-Year Index	Buy	105.000	08/19/2020	400	(2)	(1)
		Call - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index	Buy	0.600	08/19/2020	1,000	(1)	(1)
Call - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index		Buy	0.625	08/19/2020	1,000	(1)	(1)	
Put - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index		Sell	1.100	08/19/2020	2,200	(3)	(3)	
Put - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index		Sell	1.200	08/19/2020	1,000	(1)	(1)	
Call - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index		Buy	0.500	09/16/2020	1,850	(1)	(1)	
Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index		Sell	1.100	09/16/2020	1,850	(3)	(3)	

Counterparty	Description	Buy/Sell Protection	Exercise Rate	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value
DUB	Call - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Buy	0.550%	08/19/2020	1,600	\$ (2)	\$ (2)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Sell	1.000	08/19/2020	1,600	(1)	(1)
	Call - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Buy	0.500	10/21/2020	1,400	(1)	(1)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Sell	1.200	10/21/2020	1,400	(3)	(3)
FBF	Call - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index	Buy	0.550	09/16/2020	1,300	(1)	(1)
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index	Sell	1.200	09/16/2020	1,300	(2)	(2)
GST	Call - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index	Buy	0.600	08/19/2020	1,100	(1)	(1)
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-34 5-Year Index	Sell	1.100	08/19/2020	1,100	(2)	(1)
	Call - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Buy	0.500	09/16/2020	2,500	(2)	(2)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Sell	1.100	09/16/2020	2,500	(4)	(4)
JPM	Call - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Buy	0.500	10/21/2020	1,300	(1)	(1)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 33 5-Year Index	Sell	1.200	10/21/2020	1,300	(3)	(3)
						\$ (57)	\$ (52)

## FOREIGN CURRENCY OPTIONS

Counterparty	Description	Strike Price	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value	
GLM	Put - OTC EUR versus USD	\$ 1.105	09/15/2020	2,402	\$ (16)	\$ (16)	
	Put - OTC EUR versus USD	1.093	01/29/2021	2,447	(32)	(29)	
						\$ (48)	\$ (45)

## INTEREST RATE SWAPPTIONS

Counterparty	Description	Floating Rate Index	Pay/Receive Floating Rate	Exercise Rate	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value
BOA	Put - OTC 3-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	1.880%	09/15/2021	15,800	\$ (78)	\$ (1)
DUB	Put - OTC 3-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	2.020	12/21/2021	6,900	(31)	(1)
FBF	Put - OTC 3-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	1.399	08/26/2021	16,600	(147)	(3)
GLM	Call - OTC 1-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	1.450	08/06/2020	21,200	(30)	(256)
	Call - OTC 1-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	1.450	08/11/2020	21,200	(30)	(256)
	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month GBP-LIBOR	Pay	0.780	02/26/2021	2,250	(47)	(16)
	Call - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR	Receive	0.000	08/27/2020	700	(22)	(23)
	Call - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR	Receive	0.000	08/28/2020	1,100	(44)	(37)
JPM	Call - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR	Receive	0.000	08/25/2020	300	(9)	(10)
MYC	Put - OTC 3-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	1.448	08/23/2021	14,100	(126)	(2)
	Put - OTC 3-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	2.020	12/21/2021	11,000	(51)	(1)
	Call - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR	Receive	0.000	08/24/2020	600	(20)	(19)
						\$ (635)	\$ (625)	

## INTEREST RATE-CAPPED OPTIONS

Counterparty	Description	Exercise Rate	Floating Rate Index	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value
MYC	Call - OTC 1-Year Interest Rate Floor <sup>(2)</sup>	0.000%	3-Month USD-LIBOR	10/07/2022	9,500	\$ (10)	\$ (15)
	Call - OTC 1-Year Interest Rate Floor <sup>(2)</sup>	0.000	3-Month USD-LIBOR	10/08/2022	5,250	(5)	(8)
						\$ (15)	\$ (23)

## OPTIONS ON SECURITIES

Counterparty	Description	Strike Price	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value
FAR	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.000% due 07/01/2050	\$ 101.000	07/07/2020	1,400	\$ (10)	\$ (1)
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.000% due 08/01/2050	100.422	08/06/2020	600	(5)	(3)
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.000% due 08/01/2050	100.625	08/06/2020	400	(3)	(2)
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.500% due 08/01/2050	102.219	08/06/2020	300	(1)	0
JPM	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.000% due 07/01/2050	100.398	07/07/2020	800	(5)	0
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.000% due 07/01/2050	100.457	07/07/2020	1,700	(12)	0
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.000% due 07/01/2050	100.723	07/07/2020	1,800	(12)	(1)
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.000% due 08/01/2050	100.438	08/06/2020	1,100	(9)	(5)
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.000% due 08/01/2050	100.641	08/06/2020	400	(3)	(2)
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.500% due 07/01/2050	100.789	07/07/2020	1,800	(12)	(1)
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.500% due 07/01/2050	100.867	07/07/2020	1,400	(9)	(1)
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.500% due 07/01/2050	102.504	07/07/2020	2,200	(10)	0

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

Counterparty	Description	Strike Price	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.500% due 07/01/2050	\$ 102.531	07/07/2020	1,000	\$ (4)	\$ 0
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.500% due 08/01/2050	102.094	08/06/2020	200	(1)	0
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.500% due 08/01/2050	102.133	08/06/2020	3,400	(13)	(3)
	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.500% due 08/01/2050	102.563	08/06/2020	600	(3)	(1)
					\$ (112)	\$ (20)
<b>Total Written Options</b>					<b>\$ (867)</b>	<b>\$ (765)</b>

### SWAP AGREEMENTS:

#### CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS ON SOVEREIGN ISSUES - BUY PROTECTION<sup>(3)</sup>

Counterparty	Reference Entity	Fixed (Pay) Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Implied Credit Spread at June 30, 2020 <sup>(5)</sup>	Notional Amount <sup>(6)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation	Swap Agreements, at Value <sup>(7)</sup>	
									Asset	Liability
BOA	Japan Government International Bond	(1.000)%	Quarterly	06/20/2022	0.060%	\$ 200	\$ (7)	\$ 3	\$ 0	\$ (4)
BPS	Japan Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2022	0.060	1,700	(61)	29	0	(32)
	South Korea Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.161	3,000	(73)	(3)	0	(76)
BRC	China Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.238	800	(15)	(3)	0	(18)
	Japan Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2022	0.060	1,200	(41)	18	0	(23)
	South Korea Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.161	2,000	(51)	0	0	(51)
CBK	Japan Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2022	0.060	1,000	(35)	16	0	(19)
GST	China Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.238	1,600	(31)	(6)	0	(37)
	Japan Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2022	0.060	1,700	(60)	28	0	(32)
HUS	South Korea Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.161	800	(20)	0	0	(20)
JPM	South Korea Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.161	200	(5)	0	0	(5)
							\$ (399)	\$ 82	\$ 0	\$ (317)

#### CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS ON SOVEREIGN ISSUES - SELL PROTECTION<sup>(4)</sup>

Counterparty	Reference Entity	Fixed Receive Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Implied Credit Spread at June 30, 2020 <sup>(5)</sup>	Notional Amount <sup>(6)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation	Swap Agreements, at Value <sup>(7)</sup>	
									Asset	Liability
GST	South Africa Government International Bond	1.000%	Quarterly	06/20/2024	2.786%	\$ 900	\$ (40)	\$ (20)	\$ 0	\$ (60)
JPM	South Africa Government International Bond	1.000	Quarterly	06/20/2023	2.511	400	(20)	2	0	(18)
							\$ (60)	\$ (18)	\$ 0	\$ (78)

### CROSS-CURRENCY SWAPS

Counterparty	Receive	Pay	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date <sup>(8)</sup>	Notional Amount of Currency Received	Notional Amount of Currency Delivered	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation	Swap Agreements, at Value		
									Asset	Liability	
CBK	Floating rate equal to 3-Month AUD-LIBOR plus 0.420% based on the notional amount of currency received	Floating rate equal to 3-Month USD-LIBOR based on the notional amount of currency delivered		Maturity	07/31/2029	AUD 4,200	\$ 2,898	\$ 1	\$ 14	\$ 15	\$ 0
GLM	Floating rate equal to 3-Month AUD-LIBOR plus 0.423% based on the notional amount of currency received	Floating rate equal to 3-Month USD-LIBOR based on the notional amount of currency delivered		Maturity	08/01/2029	4,100	2,829	(16)	32	16	0
							\$ (15)	\$ 46	\$ 31	\$ 0	

### INTEREST RATE SWAPS

Counterparty	Pay/Receive Floating Rate	Floating Rate Index	Fixed Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Notional Amount	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation	Swap Agreements, at Value	
									Asset	Liability
BPS	Pay	3-Month ILS-TELBOR	0.455%	Annual	05/18/2027	ILS 4,600	\$ 0	\$ 9	\$ 9	\$ 0
	Pay	3-Month ILS-TELBOR	1.786	Annual	05/01/2029	1,400	0	46	46	0
CBK	Pay	3-Month ILS-TELBOR	1.755	Annual	04/29/2029	2,100	0	67	67	0
GLM	Pay	3-Month ILS-TELBOR	1.780	Annual	04/22/2029	1,800	0	59	59	0
	Pay	3-Month ILS-TELBOR	1.779	Annual	04/30/2029	1,800	0	59	59	0

Counterparty	Pay/Receive Floating Rate	Floating Rate Index	Fixed Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Notional Amount	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Swap Agreements, at Value	
									Asset	Liability
HUS	Pay	3-Month ILS-TELBOR	1.785%	Annual	04/25/2029	ILS 800	\$ 0	\$ 26	\$ 26	\$ 0
JPM	Pay	3-Month ILS-TELBOR	1.775	Annual	04/25/2029	2,100	1	68	69	0
							\$ 1	\$ 334	\$ 335	\$ 0

## TOTAL RETURN SWAPS ON INTEREST RATE INDICES

Counterparty	Pay/Receive <sup>(9)</sup>	Underlying Reference	# of Units	Financing Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Notional Amount	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Swap Agreements, at Value	
										Asset	Liability
BPS	Receive	iBoxx USD Liquid Investment Grade Index	N/A	0.306% (3-Month USD-LIBOR plus a specified spread)	Maturity	12/21/2020	\$ 4,900	\$ 14	\$ (20)	\$ 0	\$ (6)
JPM	Receive	iBoxx USD Liquid Investment Grade Index	N/A	0.306% (3-Month USD-LIBOR plus a specified spread)	Maturity	09/21/2020	5,500	0	(1,247)	0	(1,247)
	Receive	iBoxx USD Liquid Investment Grade Index	N/A	0.306% (3-Month USD-LIBOR plus a specified spread)	Maturity	12/21/2020	3,700	10	(20)	0	(10)
MYC	Receive	iBoxx USD Liquid Investment Grade Index	N/A	0.306% (3-Month USD-LIBOR plus a specified spread)	Maturity	12/21/2020	1,600	5	(9)	0	(4)
							\$ 29	\$ (1,296)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (1,267)
<b>Total Swap Agreements</b>							<b>\$ (444)</b>	<b>\$ (852)</b>	<b>\$ 366</b>	<b>\$ (1,662)</b>	

## FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS: OVER THE COUNTER SUMMARY

The following is a summary by counterparty of the market value of OTC financial derivative instruments and collateral pledged/(received) as of June 30, 2020:

Counterparty	Financial Derivative Assets				Financial Derivative Liabilities				Net Market Value of OTC Derivatives	Collateral Pledged/ (Received)	Net Exposure <sup>(10)</sup>
	Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	Purchased Options	Swap Agreements	Total Over the Counter	Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	Written Options	Swap Agreements	Total Over the Counter			
BOA	\$ 421	\$ 19	\$ 0	\$ 440	\$ (608)	\$ (16)	\$ (4)	\$ (628)	\$ (188)	\$ 282	\$ 94
BPS	211	0	55	266	(152)	(15)	(114)	(281)	(15)	0	(15)
BRC	78	0	0	78	(877)	0	(92)	(969)	(891)	897	6
CBK	319	0	82	401	(430)	0	(19)	(449)	(48)	0	(48)
DUB	0	9	0	9	0	(8)	0	(8)	1	(10)	(9)
FAR	0	0	0	0	0	(6)	0	(6)	(6)	0	(6)
FBF	0	44	0	44	(42)	(6)	0	(48)	(4)	(40)	(44)
GLM	122	63	134	319	(199)	(633)	0	(832)	(513)	329	(184)
GST	0	0	0	0	0	(8)	(129)	(137)	(137)	0	(137)
HUS	181	0	26	207	(602)	0	(20)	(622)	(415)	0	(415)
JPM	34	0	69	103	(29)	(28)	(1,280)	(1,337)	(1,234)	1,140	(94)
MYC	0	50	0	50	0	(45)	(4)	(49)	1	(445)	(444)
MYI	726	0	0	726	(776)	0	0	(776)	(50)	0	(50)
SCX	41	0	0	41	(613)	0	0	(613)	(572)	531	(41)
SOG	3	0	0	3	(3)	0	0	(3)	0	0	0
SSB	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
TOR	379	0	0	379	(650)	0	0	(650)	(271)	342	71
UAG	197	0	0	197	(175)	0	0	(175)	22	0	22
<b>Total Over the Counter</b>	<b>\$ 2,713</b>	<b>\$ 185</b>	<b>\$ 366</b>	<b>\$ 3,264</b>	<b>\$ (5,156)</b>	<b>\$ (765)</b>	<b>\$ (1,662)</b>	<b>\$ (7,583)</b>			

(p) Securities with an aggregate market value of \$3,520 have been pledged as collateral for financial derivative instruments as governed by International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. master agreements as of June 30, 2020.

(1) Notional Amount represents the number of contracts.

(2) The underlying instrument has a forward starting effective date. See Note 2, Securities Transactions and Investment Income, in the Notes to Financial Statements for further information.

(3) If the Portfolio is a buyer of protection and a credit event occurs, as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement, the Portfolio will either (i) receive from the seller of protection an amount equal to the notional amount of the swap and deliver the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index or (ii) receive a net settlement amount in the form of cash, securities or other deliverable obligations equal to the notional amount of the swap less the recovery value of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index.

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

- (4) If the Portfolio is a seller of protection and a credit event occurs, as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement, the Portfolio will either (i) pay to the buyer of protection an amount equal to the notional amount of the swap and take delivery of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index or (ii) pay a net settlement amount in the form of cash, securities or other deliverable obligations equal to the notional amount of the swap less the recovery value of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index.
- (5) Implied credit spreads, represented in absolute terms, utilized in determining the market value of credit default swap agreements on sovereign issues as of period end serve as indicators of the current status of the payment/performance risk and represent the likelihood or risk of default for the credit derivative. The implied credit spread of a particular referenced entity reflects the cost of buying/selling protection and may include upfront payments required to be made to enter into the agreement. Wider credit spreads represent a deterioration of the referenced entity's credit soundness and a greater likelihood or risk of default or other credit event occurring as defined under the terms of the agreement.
- (6) The maximum potential amount the Portfolio could be required to pay as a seller of credit protection or receive as a buyer of credit protection if a credit event occurs as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement.
- (7) The prices and resulting values for credit default swap agreements serve as indicators of the current status of the payment/performance risk and represent the likelihood of an expected liability (or profit) for the credit derivative should the notional amount of the swap agreement be closed/sold as of the period end. Increasing market values, in absolute terms when compared to the notional amount of the swap, represent a deterioration of the underlying referenced instrument's credit soundness and a greater likelihood or risk of default or other credit event occurring as defined under the terms of the agreement.
- (8) At the maturity date, the notional amount of the currency received will be exchanged back for the notional amount of the currency delivered.
- (9) Receive represents that the Portfolio receives payments for any positive net return on the underlying reference. The Portfolio makes payments for any negative net return on such underlying reference. Pay represents that the Portfolio receives payments for any negative net return on the underlying reference. The Portfolio makes payments for any positive net return on such underlying reference.
- (10) Net Exposure represents the net receivable/(payable) that would be due from/to the counterparty in the event of default. Exposure from OTC financial derivative instruments can only be netted across transactions governed under the same master agreement with the same legal entity. See Note 8, Master Netting Arrangements, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

### FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

The following is a summary of the fair valuation of the Portfolio's derivative instruments categorized by risk exposure. See Note 7, Principal Risks, in the Notes to Financial Statements on risks of the Portfolio.

Fair Values of Financial Derivative Instruments on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of June 30, 2020:

	Derivatives not accounted for as hedging instruments					
	Commodity Contracts	Credit Contracts	Equity Contracts	Foreign Exchange Contracts	Interest Rate Contracts	Total
<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Assets</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Purchased Options	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 35	\$ 35
Futures	0	0	0	0	268	268
Swap Agreements	0	9	0	0	363	372
	\$ 0	\$ 9	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 666	\$ 675
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,713	\$ 0	\$ 2,713
Purchased Options	0	0	0	41	144	185
Swap Agreements	0	0	0	31	335	366
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,785	\$ 479	\$ 3,264
	\$ 0	\$ 9	\$ 0	\$ 2,785	\$ 1,145	\$ 3,939
<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Liabilities</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Futures	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 91	\$ 91
Swap Agreements	0	143	0	0	205	348
	\$ 0	\$ 143	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 296	\$ 439
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,156	\$ 0	\$ 5,156
Written Options	0	52	0	45	668	765
Swap Agreements	0	395	0	0	1,267	1,662
	\$ 0	\$ 447	\$ 0	\$ 5,201	\$ 1,935	\$ 7,583
	\$ 0	\$ 590	\$ 0	\$ 5,201	\$ 2,231	\$ 8,022

The effect of Financial Derivative Instruments on the Statement of Operations for the period ended June 30, 2020:

	Derivatives not accounted for as hedging instruments					Total
	Commodity Contracts	Credit Contracts	Equity Contracts	Foreign Exchange Contracts	Interest Rate Contracts	
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss) on Financial Derivative Instruments</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Purchased Options	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 67	\$ 67
Written Options	0	0	0	0	15	15
Futures	0	0	0	0	(1,337)	(1,337)
Swap Agreements	0	(1,730)	0	0	(1,226)	(2,956)
	\$ 0	\$ (1,730)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (2,481)	\$ (4,211)
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 465	\$ 0	\$ 465
Purchased Options	0	0	0	3	(90)	(87)
Written Options	0	25	0	77	267	369
Swap Agreements	0	(66)	0	(111)	2,043	1,866
	\$ 0	\$ (41)	\$ 0	\$ 434	\$ 2,220	\$ 2,613
	\$ 0	\$ (1,771)	\$ 0	\$ 434	\$ (261)	\$ (1,598)
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) on Financial Derivative Instruments</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Purchased Options	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 28	\$ 28
Written Options	0	0	0	0	(20)	(20)
Futures	0	0	0	0	831	831
Swap Agreements	0	1,169	0	0	(1,190)	(21)
	\$ 0	\$ 1,169	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (351)	\$ 818
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (749)	\$ 0	\$ (749)
Purchased Options	0	0	0	(31)	(666)	(697)
Written Options	0	(6)	0	(68)	330	256
Swap Agreements	0	3	0	(146)	(877)	(1,020)
	\$ 0	\$ (3)	\$ 0	\$ (994)	\$ (1,213)	\$ (2,210)
	\$ 0	\$ 1,166	\$ 0	\$ (994)	\$ (1,564)	\$ (1,392)

## FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The following is a summary of the fair valuations according to the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Portfolio's assets and liabilities:

Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value at	Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value at
				06/30/2020					06/30/2020
<b>Investments in Securities, at Value</b>									
Argentina					Germany				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	\$ 0	\$ 35	\$ 0	\$ 35	Corporate Bonds & Notes	\$ 0	\$ 9,133	\$ 0	\$ 9,133
Sovereign Issues	0	159	0	159	Guernsey, Channel Islands				
Australia					Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	862	0	862
Asset-Backed Securities	0	218	0	218	India				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	313	0	313	Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	664	0	664
Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	0	1,813	0	1,813	Ireland				
Sovereign Issues	0	9,023	0	9,023	Asset-Backed Securities	0	4,953	0	4,953
Brazil					Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	1,421	0	1,421
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	1,981	0	1,981	Israel				
Canada					Sovereign Issues	0	1,880	0	1,880
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	1,914	0	1,914	Italy				
Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	0	1,648	0	1,648	Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	5,468	0	5,468
Sovereign Issues	0	4,295	0	4,295	Sovereign Issues	0	10,432	0	10,432
Cayman Islands					Japan				
Asset-Backed Securities	0	11,608	0	11,608	Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	10,359	0	10,359
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	8,070	0	8,070	Sovereign Issues	0	75,278	0	75,278
China					Kuwait				
Sovereign Issues	0	57,391	0	57,391	Sovereign Issues	0	3,131	0	3,131
Denmark					Lithuania				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	29,139	0	29,139	Sovereign Issues	0	1,758	0	1,758
Finland					Luxembourg				
Sovereign Issues	0	6,350	0	6,350	Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	1,801	0	1,801
France					Malaysia				
Sovereign Issues	0	14,160	0	14,160	Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	864	0	864
					Sovereign Issues	0	2,824	0	2,824

**Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)** June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair	Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair
				Value at 06/30/2020					Value at 06/30/2020
Mexico					United States				
Sovereign Issues	\$ 0	\$ 545	\$ 0	\$ 545	Asset-Backed Securities	\$ 0	\$ 36,691	\$ 0	\$ 36,691
Multinational					Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	55,767	0	55,767
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	710	0	710	Loan Participations and Assignments	0	919	0	919
Netherlands					Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	0	9,740	0	9,740
Asset-Backed Securities	0	1,848	0	1,848	Preferred Securities	0	1,465	0	1,465
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	4,348	0	4,348	U.S. Government Agencies	0	248,605	0	248,605
Preferred Securities	0	180	0	180	U.S. Treasury Obligations	0	43,680	0	43,680
Norway					Short-Term Instruments				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	539	0	539	Repurchase Agreements	0	5,529	0	5,529
Peru					Argentina Treasury Bills	0	13	0	13
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	552	0	552	U.S. Treasury Bills	0	1,361	0	1,361
Sovereign Issues	0	3,716	0	3,716		\$ 0	\$ 841,525	\$ 0	\$ 841,525
Poland					<b>Investments in Affiliates, at Value</b>				
Sovereign Issues	0	1,735	0	1,735	Short-Term Instruments				
Qatar					Central Funds Used for Cash	\$ 2,325	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,325
Sovereign Issues	0	10,392	0	10,392	Management Purposes				
Saudi Arabia						\$ 2,325	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,325
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	409	0	409	<b>Total Investments</b>	\$ 2,325	\$ 841,525	\$ 0	\$ 843,850
Sovereign Issues	0	7,045	0	7,045					
Singapore					<b>Short Sales, at Value - Liabilities</b>				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	2,856	0	2,856	Canada				
Slovenia					Sovereign Issues	\$ 0	(6,468)	\$ 0	(6,468)
Sovereign Issues	0	1,637	0	1,637	United States				
South Africa					U.S. Government Agencies	0	(34,347)	0	(34,347)
Sovereign Issues	0	475	0	475		\$ 0	(40,815)	\$ 0	(40,815)
South Korea					<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Assets</b>				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	402	0	402	Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	303	363	0	666
Sovereign Issues	0	11,453	0	11,453	Over the counter	0	3,264	0	3,264
Spain						\$ 303	\$ 3,627	\$ 0	\$ 3,930
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	659	0	659	<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Liabilities</b>				
Preferred Securities	0	1,809	0	1,809	Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	(91)	(348)	0	(439)
Sovereign Issues	0	22,745	0	22,745	Over the counter	(3)	(7,580)	0	(7,583)
Supranational						\$ (94)	\$ (7,928)	\$ 0	\$ (8,022)
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	618	0	618	<b>Total Financial Derivative Instruments</b>	\$ 209	\$ (4,301)	\$ 0	\$ (4,092)
Sweden									
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	311	0	311	<b>Totals</b>	\$ 2,534	\$ 796,409	\$ 0	\$ 798,943
Switzerland									
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	3,456	0	3,456					
United Arab Emirates									
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	206	0	206					
Sovereign Issues	0	2,301	0	2,301					
United Kingdom									
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	44,314	0	44,314					
Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	0	24,048	0	24,048					
Preferred Securities	0	186	0	186					
Sovereign Issues	0	9,315	0	9,315					

There were no significant transfers into or out of Level 3 during the period ended June 30, 2020.



## 1. ORGANIZATION

PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust (the "Trust") is a Delaware statutory trust established under a trust instrument dated October 3, 1997. The Trust is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Act"), as an open-end management investment company. The Trust is designed to be used as an investment vehicle by separate accounts of insurance companies that fund variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies and by qualified pension and retirement plans. Information presented in these financial statements pertains to the Institutional Class, Administrative Class and Advisor Class shares of the PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (the "Portfolio") offered by the Trust. Pacific Investment Management Company LLC ("PIMCO") serves as the investment adviser (the "Adviser") for the Portfolio.

## 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Portfolio in the preparation of its financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP"). The Portfolio is treated as an investment company under the reporting requirements of U.S. GAAP. The functional and reporting currency for the Portfolio is the U.S. dollar. The preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of increases and decreases in net assets from operations during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**(a) Securities Transactions and Investment Income** Securities transactions are recorded as of the trade date for financial reporting purposes. Securities purchased or sold on a when-issued or delayed-delivery basis may be settled beyond a standard settlement period for the security after the trade date. Realized gains (losses) from securities sold are recorded on the identified cost basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date, except certain dividends from foreign securities where the ex-dividend date may have passed, which are recorded as soon as the Portfolio is informed of the ex-dividend date. Interest income, adjusted for the accretion of discounts and amortization of premiums, is recorded on the accrual basis from settlement date, with the exception of securities with a forward starting effective date, where interest income is recorded on the accrual basis from effective date. For convertible securities, premiums attributable to the conversion feature are not amortized. Estimated tax liabilities on certain foreign securities are recorded on an accrual basis and are reflected as components of interest income or net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments on the Statement of

Operations, as appropriate. Tax liabilities realized as a result of such security sales are reflected as a component of net realized gain (loss) on investments on the Statement of Operations. Paydown gains (losses) on mortgage-related and other asset-backed securities, if any, are recorded as components of interest income on the Statement of Operations. Income or short-term capital gain distributions received from registered investment companies, if any, are recorded as dividend income. Long-term capital gain distributions received from registered investment companies, if any, are recorded as realized gains.

Debt obligations may be placed on non-accrual status and related interest income may be reduced by ceasing current accruals and writing off interest receivable when the collection of all or a portion of interest has become doubtful based on consistently applied procedures. A debt obligation is removed from non-accrual status when the issuer resumes interest payments or when collectability of interest is probable.

**(b) Foreign Currency Translation** The market values of foreign securities, currency holdings and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars based on the current exchange rates each business day. Purchases and sales of securities and income and expense items denominated in foreign currencies, if any, are translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate in effect on the transaction date. The Portfolio does not separately report the effects of changes in foreign exchange rates from changes in market prices on securities held. Such changes are included in net realized gain (loss) and net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) from investments on the Statement of Operations. The Portfolio may invest in foreign currency-denominated securities and may engage in foreign currency transactions either on a spot (cash) basis at the rate prevailing in the currency exchange market at the time or through a forward foreign currency contract. Realized foreign exchange gains (losses) arising from sales of spot foreign currencies, currency gains (losses) realized between the trade and settlement dates on securities transactions and the difference between the recorded amounts of dividends, interest, and foreign withholding taxes and the U.S. dollar equivalent of the amounts actually received or paid are included in net realized gain (loss) on foreign currency transactions on the Statement of Operations. Net unrealized foreign exchange gains (losses) arising from changes in foreign exchange rates on foreign denominated assets and liabilities other than investments in securities held at the end of the reporting period are included in net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on foreign currency assets and liabilities on the Statement of Operations.

**(c) Multi-Class Operations** Each class offered by the Trust has equal rights as to assets and voting privileges (except that shareholders of a class have exclusive voting rights regarding any matter relating solely to that class of shares). Income and non-class specific expenses are

allocated daily to each class on the basis of the relative net assets. Realized and unrealized capital gains (losses) are allocated daily based on the relative net assets of each class of the Portfolio. Class specific expenses, where applicable, currently include supervisory and administrative and distribution and servicing fees. Under certain circumstances, the per share net asset value ("NAV") of a class of the Portfolio's shares may be different from the per share NAV of another class of shares as a result of the different daily expense accruals applicable to each class of shares.

**(d) Distributions to Shareholders** Distributions from net investment income, if any, are declared daily and distributed to shareholders monthly. In addition, the Portfolio distributes any net capital gains it earns from the sale of portfolio securities to shareholders no less frequently than annually.

Income distributions and capital gain distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations which may differ from U.S. GAAP. Differences between tax regulations and U.S. GAAP may cause timing differences between income and capital gain recognition. Further, the character of investment income and capital gains may be different for certain transactions under the two methods of accounting. As a result, income distributions and capital gain distributions declared during a fiscal period may differ significantly from the net investment income (loss) and realized gains (losses) reported on the Portfolio's annual financial statements presented under U.S. GAAP.

If the Portfolio estimates that a portion of its distribution may be comprised of amounts from sources other than net investment income in accordance with its policies and accounting practices, the Portfolio will notify shareholders of the estimated composition of such distribution through a Section 19 Notice. For these purposes, the Portfolio estimates the source or sources from which a distribution is paid, to the close of the period as of which it is paid, in reference to its internal accounting records and related accounting practices. If, based on such accounting records and practices, it is estimated that a particular distribution does not include capital gains or paid-in surplus or other capital sources, a Section 19 Notice generally would not be issued. It is important to note that differences exist between the Portfolio's daily internal accounting records and practices, the Portfolio's financial statements presented in accordance with U.S. GAAP, and recordkeeping practices under income tax regulations. For instance, the Portfolio's internal accounting records and practices may take into account, among other factors, tax-related characteristics of certain sources of distributions that differ from treatment under U.S. GAAP. Examples of such differences may include, among others, the treatment of paydowns on mortgage-backed securities purchased at a discount and periodic payments under interest rate swap contracts. Accordingly, among other consequences, it is possible that the Portfolio

may not issue a Section 19 Notice in situations where the Portfolio's financial statements prepared later and in accordance with U.S. GAAP and/or the final tax character of those distributions might later report that the sources of those distributions included capital gains and/or a return of capital. Final determination of a distribution's tax character will be provided to shareholders when such information is available.

Distributions classified as a tax basis return of capital at the Portfolio's fiscal year end, if any, are reflected on the Statements of Changes in Net Assets and have been recorded to paid in capital on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. In addition, other amounts have been reclassified between distributable earnings (accumulated loss) and paid in capital on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities to more appropriately conform U.S. GAAP to tax characterizations of distributions.

**(e) New Accounting Pronouncements** In March 2020, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued an Accounting Standards Update ("ASU"), ASU 2020-04, which provides optional guidance to ease the potential accounting burden associated with transitioning away from the London Interbank Offered Rate and other reference rates that are expected to be discontinued. The ASU is effective immediately upon release of the update on March 12, 2020 through December 31, 2022. At this time, management is evaluating implications of these changes on the financial statements.

### 3. INVESTMENT VALUATION AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

**(a) Investment Valuation Policies** The price of the Portfolio's shares is based on the Portfolio's NAV. The NAV of the Portfolio, or each of its share classes, as applicable, is determined by dividing the total value of portfolio investments and other assets, less any liabilities attributable to the Portfolio or class, by the total number of shares outstanding of the Portfolio or class.

On each day that the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") is open, Portfolio shares are ordinarily valued as of the close of regular trading (normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) ("NYSE Close"). Information that becomes known to the Portfolio or its agents after the time as of which NAV has been calculated on a particular day will not generally be used to retroactively adjust the price of a security or the NAV determined earlier that day. If regular trading on the NYSE closes earlier than scheduled, the Portfolio reserves the right to either (i) calculate its NAV as of the earlier closing time or (ii) calculate its NAV as of the normally scheduled close of regular trading on the NYSE for that day. The Portfolio generally does not calculate its NAV on days during which the NYSE is closed. However, if the NYSE is closed on a day it would normally be open for business, the Portfolio reserves the right to calculate its NAV as of the normally scheduled close of regular trading on the NYSE for that day or such other time that the Portfolio may determine.

For purposes of calculating a NAV, portfolio securities and other assets for which market quotes are readily available are valued at market value. Market value is generally determined on the basis of official closing prices or the last reported sales prices, or if no sales are reported, based on quotes obtained from established market makers or prices (including evaluated prices) supplied by the Portfolio's approved pricing services, quotation reporting systems and other third-party sources (together, "Pricing Services"). The Portfolio will normally use pricing data for domestic equity securities received shortly after the NYSE Close and does not normally take into account trading, clearances or settlements that take place after the NYSE Close. If market value pricing is used, a foreign (non-U.S.) equity security traded on a foreign exchange or on more than one exchange is typically valued using pricing information from the exchange considered by the Adviser to be the primary exchange. A foreign (non-U.S.) equity security will be valued as of the close of trading on the foreign exchange, or the NYSE Close, if the NYSE Close occurs before the end of trading on the foreign exchange. Domestic and foreign (non-U.S.) fixed income securities, non-exchange traded derivatives, and equity options are normally valued on the basis of quotes obtained from brokers and dealers or Pricing Services using data reflecting the earlier closing of the principal markets for those securities. Prices obtained from Pricing Services may be based on, among other things, information provided by market makers or estimates of market values obtained from yield data relating to investments or securities with similar characteristics. Certain fixed income securities purchased on a delayed-delivery basis are marked to market daily until settlement at the forward settlement date. Exchange-traded options, except equity options, futures and options on futures are valued at the settlement price determined by the relevant exchange. Swap agreements are valued on the basis of bid quotes obtained from brokers and dealers or market-based prices supplied by Pricing Services. The Portfolio's investments in open-end management investment companies, other than exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), are valued at the NAVs of such investments. Open-end management investment companies may include affiliated funds.

If a foreign (non-U.S.) equity security's value has materially changed after the close of the security's primary exchange or principal market but before the NYSE Close, the security may be valued at fair value based on procedures established and approved by the Board of Trustees of the Trust (the "Board"). Foreign (non-U.S.) equity securities that do not trade when the NYSE is open are also valued at fair value. With respect to foreign (non-U.S.) equity securities, the Portfolio may determine the fair value of investments based on information provided by Pricing Services and other third-party vendors, which may recommend fair value or adjustments with reference to other securities, indices or assets. In considering whether fair valuation is required and in determining fair values, the Portfolio may, among other things,

consider significant events (which may be considered to include changes in the value of U.S. securities or securities indices) that occur after the close of the relevant market and before the NYSE Close. The Portfolio may utilize modeling tools provided by third-party vendors to determine fair values of foreign (non-U.S.) securities. For these purposes, any movement in the applicable reference index or instrument ("zero trigger") between the earlier close of the applicable foreign market and the NYSE Close may be deemed to be a significant event, prompting the application of the pricing model (effectively resulting in daily fair valuations). Foreign exchanges may permit trading in foreign (non-U.S.) equity securities on days when the Trust is not open for business, which may result in the Portfolio's portfolio investments being affected when shareholders are unable to buy or sell shares.

Senior secured floating rate loans for which an active secondary market exists to a reliable degree are valued at the mean of the last available bid/ask prices in the market for such loans, as provided by a Pricing Service. Senior secured floating rate loans for which an active secondary market does not exist to a reliable degree are valued at fair value, which is intended to approximate market value. In valuing a senior secured floating rate loan at fair value, the factors considered may include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) the creditworthiness of the borrower and any intermediate participants, (b) the terms of the loan, (c) recent prices in the market for similar loans, if any, and (d) recent prices in the market for instruments of similar quality, rate, period until next interest rate reset and maturity.

Investments valued in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are converted to the U.S. dollar using exchange rates obtained from Pricing Services. As a result, the value of such investments and, in turn, the NAV of the Portfolio's shares may be affected by changes in the value of currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar. The value of investments traded in markets outside the United States or denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar may be affected significantly on a day that the Trust is not open for business. As a result, to the extent that the Portfolio holds foreign (non-U.S.) investments, the value of those investments may change at times when shareholders are unable to buy or sell shares and the value of such investments will be reflected in the Portfolio's next calculated NAV.

Investments for which market quotes or market based valuations are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by the Board or persons acting at their direction. The Board has adopted methods for valuing securities and other assets in circumstances where market quotes are not readily available, and has delegated to the Adviser the responsibility for applying the fair valuation methods. In the event that market quotes or market based valuations are not readily available, and the security or asset cannot be

valued pursuant to a Board approved valuation method, the value of the security or asset will be determined in good faith by the Board. Market quotes are considered not readily available in circumstances where there is an absence of current or reliable market-based data (e.g., trade information, bid/ask information, indicative market quotations (“Broker Quotes”), Pricing Services’ prices), including where events occur after the close of the relevant market, but prior to the NYSE Close, that materially affect the values of the Portfolio’s securities or assets. In addition, market quotes are considered not readily available when, due to extraordinary circumstances, the exchanges or markets on which the securities trade do not open for trading for the entire day and no other market prices are available. The Board has delegated, to the Adviser, the responsibility for monitoring significant events that may materially affect the values of the Portfolio’s securities or assets and for determining whether the value of the applicable securities or assets should be reevaluated in light of such significant events.

When the Portfolio uses fair valuation to determine the value of a portfolio security or other asset for purposes of calculating its NAV, such investments will not be priced on the basis of quotes from the primary market in which they are traded, but rather may be priced by another method that the Board or persons acting at their direction believe reflects fair value. Fair valuation may require subjective determinations about the value of a security. While the Trust’s policy is intended to result in a calculation of the Portfolio’s NAV that fairly reflects security values as of the time of pricing, the Trust cannot ensure that fair values determined by the Board or persons acting at their direction would accurately reflect the price that the Portfolio could obtain for a security if it were to dispose of that security as of the time of pricing (for instance, in a forced or distressed sale). The prices used by the Portfolio may differ from the value that would be realized if the securities were sold. The Portfolio’s use of fair valuation may also help to deter “stale price arbitrage” as discussed under the “Frequent or Excessive Purchases, Exchanges and Redemptions” section in the Portfolio’s prospectus.

**(b) Fair Value Hierarchy** U.S. GAAP describes fair value as the price that the Portfolio would receive to sell an asset or pay to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. It establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes inputs to valuation methods and requires disclosure of the fair value hierarchy, separately for each major category of assets and liabilities, that segregates fair value measurements into levels (Level 1, 2, or 3). The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risks associated with investing in those securities. Levels 1, 2, and 3 of the fair value hierarchy are defined as follows:

- Level 1 — Quoted prices in active markets or exchanges for identical assets and liabilities.
- Level 2 — Significant other observable inputs, which may include, but are not limited to, quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in markets that are active, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the assets or liabilities (such as interest rates, yield curves, volatilities, prepayment speeds, loss severities, credit risks and default rates) or other market corroborated inputs.
- Level 3 — Significant unobservable inputs based on the best information available in the circumstances, to the extent observable inputs are not available, which may include assumptions made by the Board or persons acting at their direction that are used in determining the fair value of investments.

In accordance with the requirements of U.S. GAAP, the amounts of transfers into and out of Level 3, if material, are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments for the Portfolio.

For fair valuations using significant unobservable inputs, U.S. GAAP requires a reconciliation of the beginning to ending balances for reported fair values that presents changes attributable to realized gain (loss), unrealized appreciation (depreciation), purchases and sales, accrued discounts (premiums), and transfers into and out of the Level 3 category during the period. The end of period value is used for the transfers between Levels of the Portfolio’s assets and liabilities. Additionally, U.S. GAAP requires quantitative information regarding the significant unobservable inputs used in the determination of fair value of assets or liabilities categorized as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy. In accordance with the requirements of U.S. GAAP, a fair value hierarchy, and if material, a Level 3 reconciliation and details of significant unobservable inputs, have been included in the Notes to Schedule of Investments for the Portfolio.

### **(c) Valuation Techniques and the Fair Value Hierarchy**

**Level 1 and Level 2 trading assets and trading liabilities, at fair value** The valuation methods (or “techniques”) and significant inputs used in determining the fair values of portfolio securities or other assets and liabilities categorized as Level 1 and Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

Fixed income securities including corporate, convertible and municipal bonds and notes, U.S. government agencies, U.S. treasury obligations, sovereign issues, bank loans, convertible preferred securities and non-U.S. bonds are normally valued on the basis of quotes obtained from brokers and dealers or Pricing Services that use broker-dealer quotations, reported trades or valuation estimates from their internal pricing models. The Pricing Services’ internal models use inputs that are

observable such as issuer details, interest rates, yield curves, prepayment speeds, credit risks/spreads, default rates and quoted prices for similar assets. Securities that use similar valuation techniques and inputs as described above are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Fixed income securities purchased on a delayed-delivery basis or as a repurchase commitment in a sale-buyback transaction are marked to market daily until settlement at the forward settlement date and are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Mortgage-related and asset-backed securities are usually issued as separate tranches, or classes, of securities within each deal. These securities are also normally valued by Pricing Services that use broker-dealer quotations, reported trades or valuation estimates from their internal pricing models. The pricing models for these securities usually consider tranche-level attributes, current market data, estimated cash flows and market-based yield spreads for each tranche, and incorporate deal collateral performance, as available. Mortgage-related and asset-backed securities that use similar valuation techniques and inputs as described above are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Common stocks, ETFs, exchange-traded notes and financial derivative instruments, such as futures contracts, rights and warrants, or options on futures that are traded on a national securities exchange, are stated at the last reported sale or settlement price on the day of valuation. To the extent these securities are actively traded and valuation adjustments are not applied, they are categorized as Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

Valuation adjustments may be applied to certain securities that are solely traded on a foreign exchange to account for the market movement between the close of the foreign market and the NYSE Close. These securities are valued using Pricing Services that consider the correlation of the trading patterns of the foreign security to the intraday trading in the U.S. markets for investments. Securities using these valuation adjustments are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. Preferred securities and other equities traded on inactive markets or valued by reference to similar instruments are also categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Investments in registered open-end investment companies (other than ETFs) will be valued based upon the NAVs of such investments and are categorized as Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy. Investments in unregistered open-end investment companies will be calculated based upon the NAVs of such investments and are considered Level 1 provided that the NAVs are observable, calculated daily and are the value at which both purchases and sales will be conducted.

Equity exchange-traded options and over the counter financial derivative instruments, such as forward foreign currency contracts and

options contracts derive their value from underlying asset prices, indices, reference rates, and other inputs or a combination of these factors. These contracts are normally valued on the basis of quotes obtained from a quotation reporting system, established market makers or Pricing Services (normally determined as of the NYSE Close).

Depending on the product and the terms of the transaction, financial derivative instruments can be valued by Pricing Services using a series of techniques, including simulation pricing models. The pricing models use inputs that are observed from actively quoted markets such as quoted prices, issuer details, indices, bid/ask spreads, interest rates, implied volatilities, yield curves, dividends and exchange rates.

Financial derivative instruments that use similar valuation techniques and inputs as described above are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Centrally cleared swaps and over the counter swaps derive their value from underlying asset prices, indices, reference rates, and other inputs or a combination of these factors. They are valued using a broker-dealer bid quotation or on market-based prices provided by Pricing Services (normally determined as of the NYSE Close). Centrally cleared swaps and over the counter swaps can be valued by Pricing Services using a series of techniques, including simulation pricing models. The pricing models may use inputs that are observed from actively quoted markets such as the overnight index swap rate, London Interbank Offered Rate forward rate, interest rates, yield curves and credit spreads. These securities are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

**Level 3 trading assets and trading liabilities, at fair value** When a fair valuation method is applied by the Adviser that uses significant unobservable inputs, investments will be priced by a method that the Board or persons acting at their direction believe reflects fair value and are categorized as Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

Short-term debt instruments (such as commercial paper) having a remaining maturity of 60 days or less may be valued at amortized cost, so long as the amortized cost value of such short-term debt instruments is approximately the same as the fair value of the instrument as determined without the use of amortized cost valuation. These securities are categorized as Level 2 or Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy depending on the source of the base price.

## 4. SECURITIES AND OTHER INVESTMENTS

### (a) Investments in Affiliates

The Portfolio may invest in the PIMCO Short Asset Portfolio and the PIMCO Short-Term Floating NAV Portfolio III ("Central Funds") to the extent permitted by the Act and rules thereunder. The Central Funds are registered investment companies created for use solely by the series of the Trust and other series of registered investment companies

## Notes to Financial Statements (Cont.)

advised by the Adviser, in connection with their cash management activities. The main investments of the Central Funds are money market and short maturity fixed income instruments. The Central Funds may incur expenses related to their investment activities, but do not pay Investment Advisory Fees or Supervisory and Administrative Fees to the Adviser. The Central Funds are considered to be affiliated with the Portfolio. A complete schedule of portfolio holdings for each affiliate fund is filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-PORT and is available at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). A copy of each affiliate fund's shareholder report is also available at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov), on the Portfolios' website at [www.pimco.com](http://www.pimco.com), or upon request, as applicable. The tables below show the Portfolio's transactions in and earnings from investments in the affiliated Funds for the period ended June 30, 2020 (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

### Investment in PIMCO Short Asset Portfolio

Market Value 12/31/2019	Purchases at Cost	Proceeds from Sales	Net Realized Gain (Loss)	Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)	Market Value 06/30/2020	Dividend Income <sup>(1)</sup>	Realized Net Capital Gain Distributions <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 28,888	\$ 176	\$ (28,379)	\$ (458)	\$ 70	\$ 297	\$ 176	\$ 0

### Investment in PIMCO Short-Term Floating NAV Portfolio III

Market Value 12/31/2019	Purchases at Cost	Proceeds from Sales	Net Realized Gain (Loss)	Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)	Market Value 06/30/2020	Dividend Income <sup>(1)</sup>	Realized Net Capital Gain Distributions <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 5,797	\$ 54,609	\$ (58,380)	\$ 2	\$ 0	\$ 2,028	\$ 9	\$ 0

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

<sup>(1)</sup> The tax characterization of distributions is determined in accordance with Federal income tax regulations and may contain a return of capital. The actual tax characterization of distributions received is determined at the end of the fiscal year of the affiliated fund. See Note 2, Distributions to Shareholders, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

#### (b) Investments in Securities

The Portfolio may utilize the investments and strategies described below to the extent permitted by the Portfolio's investment policies.

**Delayed-Delivery Transactions** involve a commitment by the Portfolio to purchase or sell securities for a predetermined price or yield, with payment and delivery taking place beyond the customary settlement period. When delayed-delivery transactions are outstanding, the Portfolio will designate or receive as collateral liquid assets in an amount sufficient to meet the purchase price or respective obligations. When purchasing a security on a delayed-delivery basis, the Portfolio assumes the rights and risks of ownership of the security, including the risk of price and yield fluctuations, and takes such fluctuations into account when determining its NAV. The Portfolio may dispose of or renegotiate a delayed-delivery transaction after it is entered into, which may result in a realized gain (loss). When the Portfolio has sold a security on a delayed-delivery basis, the Portfolio does not participate in future gains (losses) with respect to the security.

**Inflation-Indexed Bonds** are fixed income securities whose principal value is periodically adjusted by the rate of inflation. The interest rate on these bonds is generally fixed at issuance at a rate lower than typical bonds. Over the life of an inflation-indexed bond, however, interest will be paid based on a principal value which is adjusted for inflation. Any increase or decrease in the principal amount of an inflation-indexed bond will be included as interest income on the

Statement of Operations, even though investors do not receive their principal until maturity. Repayment of the original bond principal upon maturity (as adjusted for inflation) is guaranteed in the case of U.S. Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities. For bonds that do not provide a similar guarantee, the adjusted principal value of the bond repaid at maturity may be less than the original principal.

**Loans and Other Indebtedness, Loan Participations and Assignments** are direct debt instruments which are interests in amounts owed to lenders or lending syndicates by corporate, governmental, or other borrowers. The Portfolio's investments in loans may be in the form of participations in loans or assignments of all or a portion of loans from third parties or investments in or originations of loans by the Portfolio. A loan is often administered by a bank or other financial institution (the "agent") that acts as agent for all holders. The agent administers the terms of the loan, as specified in the loan agreement. The Portfolio may invest in multiple series or tranches of a loan, which may have varying terms and carry different associated risks. When the Portfolio purchases assignments from agents it acquires direct rights against the borrowers of the loans. These loans may include participations in bridge loans, which are loans taken out by borrowers for a short period (typically less than one year) pending arrangement of more permanent financing through, for example, the issuance of bonds, frequently high yield bonds issued for the purpose of acquisitions.

The types of loans and related investments in which the Portfolio may invest include, among others, senior loans, subordinated loans (including second lien loans, B-Notes and mezzanine loans), whole loans, commercial real estate and other commercial loans and structured loans. The Portfolio may originate loans or acquire direct interests in loans through primary loan distributions and/or in private transactions. In the case of subordinated loans, there may be significant indebtedness ranking ahead of the borrower's obligation to the holder of such a loan, including in the event of the borrower's insolvency. Mezzanine loans are typically secured by a pledge of an equity interest in the mortgage borrower that owns the real estate rather than an interest in a mortgage.

Investments in loans may include unfunded loan commitments, which are contractual obligations for funding. Unfunded loan commitments may include revolving credit facilities, which may obligate the Portfolio to supply additional cash to the borrower on demand. Unfunded loan commitments represent a future obligation in full, even though a percentage of the committed amount may not be utilized by the borrower. When investing in a loan participation, the Portfolio has the right to receive payments of principal, interest and any fees to which it is entitled only from the agent selling the loan agreement and only upon receipt of payments by the agent from the borrower. The Portfolio may receive a commitment fee based on the undrawn portion of the underlying line of credit portion of a loan. In certain circumstances, the Portfolio may receive a penalty fee upon the prepayment of a loan by a borrower. Fees earned or paid are recorded as a component of interest income or interest expense, respectively, on the Statement of Operations. Unfunded loan commitments are reflected as a liability on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

**Mortgage-Related and Other Asset-Backed Securities** directly or indirectly represent a participation in, or are secured by and payable from, loans on real property. Mortgage-related securities are created from pools of residential or commercial mortgage loans, including mortgage loans made by savings and loan institutions, mortgage bankers, commercial banks and others. These securities provide a monthly payment which consists of both interest and principal. Interest may be determined by fixed or adjustable rates. The rate of prepayments on underlying mortgages will affect the price and volatility of a mortgage-related security, and may have the effect of shortening or extending the effective duration of the security relative to what was anticipated at the time of purchase. The timely payment of principal and interest of certain mortgage-related securities is guaranteed with the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. Pools created and guaranteed by non-governmental issuers, including government-sponsored corporations, may be supported by various forms of insurance or guarantees, but there can be no assurance that private

insurers or guarantors can meet their obligations under the insurance policies or guarantee arrangements. Many of the risks of investing in mortgage-related securities secured by commercial mortgage loans reflect the effects of local and other economic conditions on real estate markets, the ability of tenants to make lease payments, and the ability of a property to attract and retain tenants. These securities may be less liquid and may exhibit greater price volatility than other types of mortgage-related or other asset-backed securities. Other asset-backed securities are created from many types of assets, including, but not limited to, auto loans, accounts receivable, such as credit card receivables and hospital account receivables, home equity loans, student loans, boat loans, mobile home loans, recreational vehicle loans, manufactured housing loans, aircraft leases, computer leases and syndicated bank loans.

**Collateralized Debt Obligations ("CDOs")** include Collateralized Bond Obligations ("CBOs"), Collateralized Loan Obligations ("CLOs") and other similarly structured securities. CBOs and CLOs are types of asset-backed securities. A CBO is a trust which is backed by a diversified pool of high risk, below investment grade fixed income securities. A CLO is a trust typically collateralized by a pool of loans, which may include, among others, domestic and foreign senior secured loans, senior unsecured loans, and subordinate corporate loans, including loans that may be rated below investment grade or equivalent unrated loans. The risks of an investment in a CDO depend largely on the type of the collateral securities and the class of the CDO in which the Portfolio invests. In addition to the normal risks associated with fixed income securities discussed elsewhere in this report and the Portfolio's prospectus and statement of additional information (e.g., prepayment risk, credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk, structural risk, legal risk and interest rate risk (which may be exacerbated if the interest rate payable on a structured financing changes based on multiples of changes in interest rates or inversely to changes in interest rates)), CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs carry additional risks including, but not limited to, (i) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments, (ii) the quality of the collateral may decline in value or default, (iii) the risk that the Portfolio may invest in CBOs, CLOs, or other CDOs that are subordinate to other classes, and (iv) the complex structure of the security may not be fully understood at the time of investment and may produce disputes with the issuer or unexpected investment results.

**Collateralized Mortgage Obligations ("CMOs")** are debt obligations of a legal entity that are collateralized by whole mortgage loans or private mortgage bonds and divided into classes. CMOs are structured into multiple classes, often referred to as "tranches", with each class bearing a different stated maturity and entitled to a different schedule for payments of principal and interest, including prepayments. CMOs

may be less liquid and may exhibit greater price volatility than other types of mortgage-related or asset-backed securities.

**Stripped Mortgage-Backed Securities** (“SMBS”) are derivative multi-class mortgage securities. SMBS are usually structured with two classes that receive different proportions of the interest and principal distributions on a pool of mortgage assets. An SMBS will have one class that will receive all of the interest (the interest-only or “IO” class), while the other class will receive the entire principal (the principal-only or “PO” class). Payments received for IOs are included in interest income on the Statement of Operations. Because no principal will be received at the maturity of an IO, adjustments are made to the cost of the security on a monthly basis until maturity. These adjustments are included in interest income on the Statement of Operations. Payments received for POs are treated as reductions to the cost and par value of the securities.

**Payment In-Kind Securities** may give the issuer the option at each interest payment date of making interest payments in either cash and/or additional debt securities. Those additional debt securities usually have the same terms, including maturity dates and interest rates, and associated risks as the original bonds. The daily market quotations of the original bonds may include the accrued interest (referred to as a dirty price) and require a pro rata adjustment from the unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments to interest receivable on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

**Perpetual Bonds** are fixed income securities with no maturity date but pay a coupon in perpetuity (with no specified ending or maturity date). Unlike typical fixed income securities, there is no obligation for perpetual bonds to repay principal. The coupon payments, however, are mandatory. While perpetual bonds have no maturity date, they may have a callable date in which the perpetuity is eliminated and the issuer may return the principal received on the specified call date. Additionally, a perpetual bond may have additional features, such as interest rate increases at periodic dates or an increase as of a predetermined point in the future.

**Restricted Investments** are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale and may generally be sold privately, but may be required to be registered or exempted from such registration before being sold to the public. Private placement securities are generally considered to be restricted except for those securities traded between qualified institutional investors under the provisions of Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. Disposal of restricted investments may involve time-consuming negotiations and expenses, and prompt sale at an acceptable price may be difficult to achieve. Restricted investments held by the Portfolio at June 30, 2020, as applicable, are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments.

**Securities Issued by U.S. Government Agencies or Government-Sponsored Enterprises** are obligations of and, in certain cases, guaranteed by, the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities. Some U.S. Government securities, such as Treasury bills, notes and bonds, and securities guaranteed by the Government National Mortgage Association, are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government; others, such as those of the Federal Home Loan Banks, are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Department of the Treasury (the “U.S. Treasury”); and others, such as those of the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA” or “Fannie Mae”), are supported by the discretionary authority of the U.S. Government to purchase the agency’s obligations. U.S. Government securities may include zero coupon securities which do not distribute interest on a current basis and tend to be subject to a greater risk than interest-paying securities of similar maturities.

Government-related guarantors (i.e., not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government) include FNMA and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“FHLMC” or “Freddie Mac”). FNMA is a government-sponsored corporation. FNMA purchases conventional (i.e., not insured or guaranteed by any government agency) residential mortgages from a list of approved seller/servicers which include state and federally chartered savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks, commercial banks and credit unions and mortgage bankers. Pass-through securities issued by FNMA are guaranteed as to timely payment of principal and interest by FNMA, but are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. FHLMC issues Participation Certificates (“PCs”), which are pass-through securities, each representing an undivided interest in a pool of residential mortgages. FHLMC guarantees the timely payment of interest and ultimate collection of principal, but PCs are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government.

In June 2019, under the Single Security Initiative, FNMA and FHLMC started issuing Uniform Mortgage Backed Securities in place of their current offerings of TBA-eligible securities. The Single Security Initiative seeks to support the overall liquidity of the TBA market and aligns the characteristics of FNMA and FHLMC certificates. The effects that the Single Security Initiative may have on the market for TBA and other mortgage-backed securities are uncertain.

Roll-timing strategies can be used where the Portfolio seeks to extend the expiration or maturity of a position, such as a TBA security on an underlying asset, by closing out the position before expiration and opening a new position with respect to substantially the same underlying asset with a later expiration date. TBA securities purchased or sold are reflected on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as an asset or liability, respectively.



**When-Issued Transactions** are purchases or sales made on a when-issued basis. These transactions are made conditionally because a security, although authorized, has not yet been issued in the market. Transactions to purchase or sell securities on a when-issued basis involve a commitment by the Portfolio to purchase or sell these securities for a predetermined price or yield, with payment and delivery taking place beyond the customary settlement period. The Portfolio may sell when-issued securities before they are delivered, which may result in a realized gain (loss).

## 5. BORROWINGS AND OTHER FINANCING TRANSACTIONS

The Portfolio may enter into the borrowings and other financing transactions described below to the extent permitted by the Portfolio's investment policies.

The following disclosures contain information on the Portfolio's ability to lend or borrow cash or securities to the extent permitted under the Act, which may be viewed as borrowing or financing transactions by the Portfolio. The location of these instruments in the Portfolio's financial statements is described below.

**(a) Repurchase Agreements** Under the terms of a typical repurchase agreement, the Portfolio purchases an underlying debt obligation (collateral) subject to an obligation of the seller to repurchase, and the Portfolio to resell, the obligation at an agreed-upon price and time. In an open maturity repurchase agreement, there is no pre-determined repurchase date and the agreement can be terminated by the Portfolio or counterparty at any time. The underlying securities for all repurchase agreements are held by the Portfolio's custodian or designated subcustodians under tri-party repurchase agreements and in certain instances will remain in custody with the counterparty. The market value of the collateral must be equal to or exceed the total amount of the repurchase obligations, including interest. Repurchase agreements, if any, including accrued interest, are included on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Interest earned is recorded as a component of interest income on the Statement of Operations. In periods of increased demand for collateral, the Portfolio may pay a fee for the receipt of collateral, which may result in interest expense to the Portfolio.

**(b) Reverse Repurchase Agreements** In a reverse repurchase agreement, the Portfolio delivers a security in exchange for cash to a financial institution, the counterparty, with a simultaneous agreement to repurchase the same or substantially the same security at an agreed upon price and date. In an open maturity reverse repurchase agreement, there is no pre-determined repurchase date and the agreement can be terminated by the Portfolio or counterparty at any time. The Portfolio is entitled to receive principal and interest payments, if any, made on the security delivered to the counterparty

during the term of the agreement. Cash received in exchange for securities delivered plus accrued interest payments to be made by the Portfolio to counterparties are reflected as a liability on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Interest payments made by the Portfolio to counterparties are recorded as a component of interest expense on the Statement of Operations. In periods of increased demand for the security, the Portfolio may receive a fee for use of the security by the counterparty, which may result in interest income to the Portfolio. The Portfolio will segregate assets determined to be liquid by the Adviser or will otherwise cover its obligations under reverse repurchase agreements.

**(c) Sale-Buybacks** A sale-buyback financing transaction consists of a sale of a security by the Portfolio to a financial institution, the counterparty, with a simultaneous agreement to repurchase the same or substantially the same security at an agreed-upon price and date. The Portfolio is not entitled to receive principal and interest payments, if any, made on the security sold to the counterparty during the term of the agreement. The agreed-upon proceeds for securities to be repurchased by the Portfolio are reflected as a liability on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The Portfolio will recognize net income represented by the price differential between the price received for the transferred security and the agreed-upon repurchase price. This is commonly referred to as the 'price drop'. A price drop consists of (i) the foregone interest and inflationary income adjustments, if any, the Portfolio would have otherwise received had the security not been sold and (ii) the negotiated financing terms between the Portfolio and counterparty. Foregone interest and inflationary income adjustments, if any, are recorded as components of interest income on the Statement of Operations. Interest payments based upon negotiated financing terms made by the Portfolio to counterparties are recorded as a component of interest expense on the Statement of Operations. In periods of increased demand for the security, the Portfolio may receive a fee for use of the security by the counterparty, which may result in interest income to the Portfolio. The Portfolio will segregate assets determined to be liquid by the Adviser or will otherwise cover its obligations under sale-buyback transactions.

**(d) Short Sales** Short sales are transactions in which the Portfolio sells a security that it may not own. The Portfolio may make short sales of securities to (i) offset potential declines in long positions in similar securities, (ii) to increase the flexibility of the Portfolio, (iii) for investment return, (iv) as part of a risk arbitrage strategy, and (v) as part of its overall portfolio management strategies involving the use of derivative instruments. When the Portfolio engages in a short sale, it may borrow the security sold short and deliver it to the counterparty. The Portfolio will ordinarily have to pay a fee or premium to borrow a security and be obligated to repay the lender of the security any

dividend or interest that accrues on the security during the period of the loan. Securities sold in short sale transactions and the dividend or interest payable on such securities, if any, are reflected as payable for short sales on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Short sales expose the Portfolio to the risk that it will be required to cover its short position at a time when the security or other asset has appreciated in value, thus resulting in losses to the Portfolio. A short sale is "against the box" if the Portfolio holds in its portfolio or has the right to acquire the security sold short, or securities identical to the security sold short, at no additional cost. The Portfolio will be subject to additional risks to the extent that it engages in short sales that are not "against the box." The Portfolio's loss on a short sale could theoretically be unlimited in cases where the Portfolio is unable, for whatever reason, to close out its short position.

**(e) Interfund Lending** In accordance with an exemptive order (the "Order") from the SEC, each Portfolio of the Trust may participate in a joint lending and borrowing facility for temporary purposes (the "Interfund Lending Program"), subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of the Order, and to the extent permitted by each Portfolio's investment policies and restrictions. Each Portfolio is currently permitted to borrow under the Interfund Lending Program. A lending portfolio may lend in aggregate up to 15% of its current net assets at the time of the interfund loan, but may not lend more than 5% of its net assets to any one borrowing portfolio through the Interfund Lending Program. A borrowing portfolio may not borrow through the Interfund Lending Program or from any other source if its total outstanding borrowings immediately after the borrowing would be more than 33 1/3% of its total assets (or any lower threshold provided for by the portfolio's investment restrictions). If a borrowing portfolio's total outstanding borrowings exceed 10% of its total assets, each of its outstanding interfund loans will be subject to collateralization of at least 102% of the outstanding principal value of the loan. All interfund loans are for temporary or emergency purposes and the interfund loan rate to be charged will be the average of the highest current overnight repurchase agreement rate available to a lending portfolio and the bank loan rate, as calculated according to a formula established by the Board.

On March 23, 2020, the SEC issued an exemptive order (the "Temporary Order") to provide temporary relief to each Portfolio of the Trust in relation to the Interfund Lending Program, and the Portfolios' Board of Trustees has authorized the Portfolios to rely on the Temporary Order. With respect to interfund lending, the Temporary Order permits, under certain conditions, a lending portfolio to lend in aggregate up to 25% of its current net assets at the time of the interfund loan and to make interfund loans with term limits of up to the expiration of the Temporary Order, notwithstanding the current

limit of seven business days under the Order. The SEC determined in June 2020 that the Temporary Order would not be extended after its expiration on June 30, 2020.

During the period ended June 30, 2020, the Portfolio did not participate in the Interfund Lending Program.

## 6. FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

The Portfolio may enter into the financial derivative instruments described below to the extent permitted by the Portfolio's investment policies.

The following disclosures contain information on how and why the Portfolio uses financial derivative instruments, and how financial derivative instruments affect the Portfolio's financial position, results of operations and cash flows. The location and fair value amounts of these instruments on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and the net realized gain (loss) and net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on the Statement of Operations, each categorized by type of financial derivative contract and related risk exposure, are included in a table in the Notes to Schedule of Investments. The financial derivative instruments outstanding as of period end and the amounts of net realized gain (loss) and net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on financial derivative instruments during the period, as disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments, serve as indicators of the volume of financial derivative activity for the Portfolio.

**(a) Forward Foreign Currency Contracts** may be engaged, in connection with settling planned purchases or sales of securities, to hedge the currency exposure associated with some or all of the Portfolio's securities or as part of an investment strategy. A forward foreign currency contract is an agreement between two parties to buy and sell a currency at a set price on a future date. The market value of a forward foreign currency contract fluctuates with changes in foreign currency exchange rates. Forward foreign currency contracts are marked to market daily, and the change in value is recorded by the Portfolio as an unrealized gain (loss). Realized gains (losses) are equal to the difference between the value of the contract at the time it was opened and the value at the time it was closed and are recorded upon delivery or receipt of the currency. These contracts may involve market risk in excess of the unrealized gain (loss) reflected on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. In addition, the Portfolio could be exposed to risk if the counterparties are unable to meet the terms of the contracts or if the value of the currency changes unfavorably to the U.S. dollar. To mitigate such risk, cash or securities may be exchanged as collateral pursuant to the terms of the underlying contracts.

**(b) Futures Contracts** are agreements to buy or sell a security or other asset for a set price on a future date and are traded on an exchange.

The Portfolio may use futures contracts to manage its exposure to the securities markets or to movements in interest rates and currency values. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts are the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the securities held by the Portfolio and the prices of futures contracts and the possibility of an illiquid market. Futures contracts are valued based upon their quoted daily settlement prices. Upon entering into a futures contract, the Portfolio is required to deposit with its futures broker an amount of cash, U.S. Government and Agency Obligations, or select sovereign debt, in accordance with the initial margin requirements of the broker or exchange. Futures contracts are marked to market daily and based on such movements in the price of the contracts, an appropriate payable or receivable for the change in value may be posted or collected by the Portfolio ("Futures Variation Margin"). Futures Variation Margins, if any, are disclosed within centrally cleared financial derivative instruments on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Gains (losses) are recognized but not considered realized until the contracts expire or close. Futures contracts involve, to varying degrees, risk of loss in excess of the Futures Variation Margin included within exchange traded or centrally cleared financial derivative instruments on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

**(c) Options Contracts** may be written or purchased to enhance returns or to hedge an existing position or future investment. The Portfolio may write call and put options on securities and financial derivative instruments it owns or in which it may invest. Writing put options tends to increase the Portfolio's exposure to the underlying instrument. Writing call options tends to decrease the Portfolio's exposure to the underlying instrument. When the Portfolio writes a call or put, an amount equal to the premium received is recorded and subsequently marked to market to reflect the current value of the option written. These amounts are included on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Premiums received from writing options which expire are treated as realized gains. Premiums received from writing options which are exercised or closed are added to the proceeds or offset against amounts paid on the underlying futures, swap, security or currency transaction to determine the realized gain (loss). Certain options may be written with premiums to be determined on a future date. The premiums for these options are based upon implied volatility parameters at specified terms. The Portfolio as a writer of an option has no control over whether the underlying instrument may be sold ("call") or purchased ("put") and as a result bears the market risk of an unfavorable change in the price of the instrument underlying the written option. There is the risk the Portfolio may not be able to enter into a closing transaction because of an illiquid market.

Purchasing call options tends to increase the Portfolio's exposure to the underlying instrument. Purchasing put options tends to decrease the

Portfolio's exposure to the underlying instrument. The Portfolio pays a premium which is included as an asset on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and subsequently marked to market to reflect the current value of the option. Premiums paid for purchasing options which expire are treated as realized losses. Certain options may be purchased with premiums to be determined on a future date. The premiums for these options are based upon implied volatility parameters at specified terms. The risk associated with purchasing put and call options is limited to the premium paid. Premiums paid for purchasing options which are exercised or closed are added to the amounts paid or offset against the proceeds on the underlying investment transaction to determine the realized gain (loss) when the underlying transaction is executed.

**Credit Default Swaptions** may be written or purchased to hedge exposure to the credit risk of an investment without making a commitment to the underlying instrument. A credit default swaption is an option to sell or buy credit protection on a specific reference by entering into a pre-defined swap agreement by some specified date in the future.

**Foreign Currency Options** may be written or purchased to be used as a short or long hedge against possible variations in foreign exchange rates or to gain exposure to foreign currencies.

**Interest Rate-Capped Options** may be written or purchased to enhance returns or for hedging opportunities. The purpose of purchasing interest rate-capped options is to protect the Portfolio from floating rate risk above a certain rate on a given notional exposure. A floor can be used to give downside protection to investments in interest rate linked products.

**Interest Rate Swaptions** may be written or purchased to enter into a pre-defined swap agreement or to shorten, extend, cancel or otherwise modify an existing swap agreement, by some specified date in the future. The writer of the swaption becomes the counterparty to the swap if the buyer exercises. The interest rate swaption agreement will specify whether the buyer of the swaption will be a fixed-rate receiver or a fixed-rate payer upon exercise.

**Options on Exchange-Traded Futures Contracts ("Futures Option")** may be written or purchased to hedge an existing position or future investment, for speculative purposes or to manage exposure to market movements. A Futures Option is an option contract in which the underlying instrument is a single futures contract.

**Options on Securities** may be written or purchased to enhance returns or to hedge an existing position or future investment. An option on a security uses a specified security as the underlying instrument for the option contract.

(d) **Swap Agreements** are bilaterally negotiated agreements between the Portfolio and a counterparty to exchange or swap investment cash flows, assets, foreign currencies or market-linked returns at specified, future intervals. Swap agreements may be privately negotiated in the over the counter market (“OTC swaps”) or may be cleared through a third party, known as a central counterparty or derivatives clearing organization (“Centrally Cleared Swaps”). The Portfolio may enter into asset, credit default, cross-currency, interest rate, total return, variance and other forms of swap agreements to manage its exposure to credit, currency, interest rate, commodity, equity and inflation risk. In connection with these agreements, securities or cash may be identified as collateral or margin in accordance with the terms of the respective swap agreements to provide assets of value and recourse in the event of default or bankruptcy/insolvency.

Centrally Cleared Swaps are marked to market daily based upon valuations as determined from the underlying contract or in accordance with the requirements of the central counterparty or derivatives clearing organization. Changes in market value, if any, are reflected as a component of net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on the Statement of Operations. Daily changes in valuation of centrally cleared swaps (“Swap Variation Margin”), if any, are disclosed within centrally cleared financial derivative instruments on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Centrally Cleared and OTC swap payments received or paid at the beginning of the measurement period are included on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and represent premiums paid or received upon entering into the swap agreement to compensate for differences between the stated terms of the swap agreement and prevailing market conditions (credit spreads, currency exchange rates, interest rates, and other relevant factors). Upfront premiums received (paid) are initially recorded as liabilities (assets) and subsequently marked to market to reflect the current value of the swap. These upfront premiums are recorded as realized gain (loss) on the Statement of Operations upon termination or maturity of the swap. A liquidation payment received or made at the termination of the swap is recorded as realized gain (loss) on the Statement of Operations. Net periodic payments received or paid by the Portfolio are included as part of realized gain (loss) on the Statement of Operations.

For purposes of applying certain of the Portfolio’s investment policies and restrictions, swap agreements, like other derivative instruments, may be valued by the Portfolio at market value, notional value or full exposure value. In the case of a credit default swap, in applying certain of the Portfolio’s investment policies and restrictions, the Portfolio will value the credit default swap at its notional value or its full exposure value (*i.e.*, the sum of the notional amount for the contract plus the market value), but may value the credit default swap at market value for purposes of applying certain of the Portfolio’s other investment

policies and restrictions. For example, the Portfolio may value credit default swaps at full exposure value for purposes of the Portfolio’s credit quality guidelines (if any) because such value in general better reflects the Portfolio’s actual economic exposure during the term of the credit default swap agreement. As a result, the Portfolio may, at times, have notional exposure to an asset class (before netting) that is greater or lesser than the stated limit or restriction noted in the Portfolio’s prospectus. In this context, both the notional amount and the market value may be positive or negative depending on whether the Portfolio is selling or buying protection through the credit default swap. The manner in which certain securities or other instruments are valued by the Portfolio for purposes of applying investment policies and restrictions may differ from the manner in which those investments are valued by other types of investors.

Entering into swap agreements involves, to varying degrees, elements of interest, credit, market and documentation risk in excess of the amounts recognized on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Such risks involve the possibility that there will be no liquid market for these agreements, that the counterparty to the agreements may default on its obligation to perform or disagree as to the meaning of contractual terms in the agreements and that there may be unfavorable changes in interest rates or the values of the asset upon which the swap is based.

The Portfolio’s maximum risk of loss from counterparty credit risk is the discounted net value of the cash flows to be received from the counterparty over the contract’s remaining life, to the extent that amount is positive. The risk may be mitigated by having a master netting arrangement between the Portfolio and the counterparty and by the posting of collateral to the Portfolio to cover the Portfolio’s exposure to the counterparty.

To the extent the Portfolio has a policy to limit the net amount owed to or to be received from a single counterparty under existing swap agreements, such limitation only applies to counterparties to OTC swaps and does not apply to centrally cleared swaps where the counterparty is a central counterparty or derivatives clearing organization.

**Credit Default Swap Agreements** on corporate, loan, sovereign, U.S. municipal or U.S. Treasury issues are entered into to provide a measure of protection against defaults of the issuers (*i.e.*, to reduce risk where the Portfolio owns or has exposure to the referenced obligation) or to take an active long or short position with respect to the likelihood of a particular issuer’s default. Credit default swap agreements involve one party making a stream of payments (referred to as the buyer of protection) to another party (the seller of protection) in exchange for the right to receive a specified return in the event that the referenced entity, obligation or index, as specified in the swap agreement,

undergoes a certain credit event. As a seller of protection on credit default swap agreements, the Portfolio will generally receive from the buyer of protection a fixed rate of income throughout the term of the swap provided that there is no credit event. As the seller, the Portfolio would effectively add leverage to its portfolio because, in addition to its total net assets, the Portfolio would be subject to investment exposure on the notional amount of the swap.

If the Portfolio is a seller of protection and a credit event occurs, as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement, the Portfolio will either (i) pay to the buyer of protection an amount equal to the notional amount of the swap and take delivery of the referenced obligation, other deliverable obligations or underlying securities comprising the referenced index or (ii) pay a net settlement amount in the form of cash or securities equal to the notional amount of the swap less the recovery value of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index. If the Portfolio is a buyer of protection and a credit event occurs, as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement, the Portfolio will either (i) receive from the seller of protection an amount equal to the notional amount of the swap and deliver the referenced obligation, other deliverable obligations or underlying securities comprising the referenced index or (ii) receive a net settlement amount in the form of cash or securities equal to the notional amount of the swap less the recovery value of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index. Recovery values are estimated by market makers considering either industry standard recovery rates or entity specific factors and considerations until a credit event occurs. If a credit event has occurred, the recovery value is determined by a facilitated auction whereby a minimum number of allowable broker bids, together with a specified valuation method, are used to calculate the settlement value. The ability to deliver other obligations may result in a cheapest-to-deliver option (the buyer of protection's right to choose the deliverable obligation with the lowest value following a credit event).

Credit default swap agreements on credit indices involve one party making a stream of payments to another party in exchange for the right to receive a specified return in the event of a write-down, principal shortfall, interest shortfall or default of all or part of the referenced entities comprising the credit index. A credit index is a basket of credit instruments or exposures designed to be representative of some part of the credit market as a whole. These indices are made up of reference credits that are judged by a poll of dealers to be the most liquid entities in the credit default swap market based on the sector of the index. Components of the indices may include, but are not limited to, investment grade securities, high yield securities, asset-backed securities, emerging markets, and/or various credit ratings within each sector. Credit indices are traded using credit default swaps with

standardized terms including a fixed spread and standard maturity dates. An index credit default swap references all the names in the index, and if there is a default, the credit event is settled based on that name's weight in the index. The composition of the indices changes periodically, usually every six months, and for most indices, each name has an equal weight in the index. The Portfolio may use credit default swaps on credit indices to hedge a portfolio of credit default swaps or bonds, which is less expensive than it would be to buy many credit default swaps to achieve a similar effect. Credit default swaps on indices are instruments for protecting investors owning bonds against default, and traders use them to speculate on changes in credit quality.

Implied credit spreads, represented in absolute terms, utilized in determining the market value of credit default swap agreements on corporate, loan, sovereign, U.S. municipal or U.S. Treasury issues as of period end, if any, are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments. They serve as an indicator of the current status of payment/performance risk and represent the likelihood or risk of default for the reference entity. The implied credit spread of a particular referenced entity reflects the cost of buying/selling protection and may include upfront payments required to be made to enter into the agreement. Wider credit spreads represent a deterioration of the referenced entity's credit soundness and a greater likelihood or risk of default or other credit event occurring as defined under the terms of the agreement. For credit default swap agreements on asset-backed securities and credit indices, the quoted market prices and resulting values serve as the indicator of the current status of the payment/performance risk. Increasing market values, in absolute terms when compared to the notional amount of the swap, represent a deterioration of the referenced entity's credit soundness and a greater likelihood or risk of default or other credit event occurring as defined under the terms of the agreement.

The maximum potential amount of future payments (undiscounted) that the Portfolio as a seller of protection could be required to make under a credit default swap agreement equals the notional amount of the agreement. Notional amounts of each individual credit default swap agreement outstanding as of period end for which the Portfolio is the seller of protection are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments. These potential amounts would be partially offset by any recovery values of the respective referenced obligations, upfront payments received upon entering into the agreement, or net amounts received from the settlement of buy protection credit default swap agreements entered into by the Portfolio for the same referenced entity or entities.

**Cross-Currency Swap Agreements** are entered into to gain or mitigate exposure to currency risk. Cross-currency swap agreements involve two parties exchanging two different currencies with an

agreement to reverse the exchange at a later date at specified exchange rates. The exchange of currencies at the inception date of the contract takes place at the current spot rate. The re-exchange at maturity may take place at the same exchange rate, a specified rate, or the then current spot rate. Interest payments, if applicable, are made between the parties based on interest rates available in the two currencies at the inception of the contract. The terms of cross-currency swap contracts may extend for many years. Cross-currency swaps are usually negotiated with commercial and investment banks. Some cross-currency swaps may not provide for exchanging principal cash flows, but only for exchanging interest cash flows.

**Interest Rate Swap Agreements** may be entered into to help hedge against interest rate risk exposure and to maintain the Portfolio's ability to generate income at prevailing market rates. The value of the fixed rate bonds that the Portfolio holds may decrease if interest rates rise. To help hedge against this risk and to maintain its ability to generate income at prevailing market rates, the Portfolio may enter into interest rate swap agreements. Interest rate swap agreements involve the exchange by the Portfolio with another party for their respective commitment to pay or receive interest on the notional amount of principal. Certain forms of interest rate swap agreements may include: (i) interest rate caps, under which, in return for a premium, one party agrees to make payments to the other to the extent that interest rates exceed a specified rate, or "cap", (ii) interest rate floors, under which, in return for a premium, one party agrees to make payments to the other to the extent that interest rates fall below a specified rate, or "floor", (iii) interest rate collars, under which a party sells a cap and purchases a floor or vice versa in an attempt to protect itself against interest rate movements exceeding given minimum or maximum levels, (iv) callable interest rate swaps, under which the buyer pays an upfront fee in consideration for the right to early terminate the swap transaction in whole, at zero cost and at a predetermined date and time prior to the maturity date, (v) spreadlocks, which allow the interest rate swap users to lock in the forward differential (or spread) between the interest rate swap rate and a specified benchmark, or (vi) basis swaps, under which two parties can exchange variable interest rates based on different segments of money markets.

**Total Return Swap Agreements** are entered into to gain or mitigate exposure to the underlying reference asset. Total return swap agreements involve commitments where single or multiple cash flows are exchanged based on the price of an underlying reference asset and on a fixed or variable interest rate. Total return swap agreements may involve commitments to pay interest in exchange for a market-linked return. One counterparty pays out the total return of a specific underlying reference asset, which may include a single security, a basket of securities, or an index, and in return receives a fixed or

variable rate. At the maturity date, a net cash flow is exchanged where the total return is equivalent to the return of the underlying reference asset less a financing rate, if any. As a receiver, the Portfolio would receive payments based on any net positive total return and would owe payments in the event of a net negative total return. As the payer, the Portfolio would owe payments on any net positive total return, and would receive payments in the event of a net negative total return.

## 7. PRINCIPAL AND OTHER RISKS

### (a) Principal Risks

The principal risks of investing in the Portfolio, which could adversely affect its net asset value, yield and total return, are listed below. Please see "Description of Principal Risks" in the Portfolio's prospectus for a more detailed description of the risks of investing in the Portfolio.

**Interest Rate Risk** is the risk that fixed income securities will decline in value because of an increase in interest rates; a portfolio with a longer average portfolio duration will be more sensitive to changes in interest rates than a portfolio with a shorter average portfolio duration.

**Call Risk** is the risk that an issuer may exercise its right to redeem a fixed income security earlier than expected (a call). Issuers may call outstanding securities prior to their maturity for a number of reasons (e.g., declining interest rates, changes in credit spreads and improvements in the issuer's credit quality). If an issuer calls a security that the Portfolio has invested in, the Portfolio may not recoup the full amount of its initial investment and may be forced to reinvest in lower-yielding securities, securities with greater credit risks or securities with other, less favorable features.

**Credit Risk** is the risk that the Portfolio could lose money if the issuer or guarantor of a fixed income security, or the counterparty to a derivative contract, is unable or unwilling, or is perceived (whether by market participants, rating agencies, pricing services or otherwise) as unable or unwilling, to meet its financial obligations.

**High Yield Risk** is the risk that high yield securities and unrated securities of similar credit quality (commonly known as "junk bonds") are subject to greater levels of credit, call and liquidity risks. High yield securities are considered primarily speculative with respect to the issuer's continuing ability to make principal and interest payments, and may be more volatile than higher-rated securities of similar maturity.

**Market Risk** is the risk that the value of securities owned by the Portfolio may go up or down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably, due to factors affecting securities markets generally or particular industries.

**Issuer Risk** is the risk that the value of a security may decline for a reason directly related to the issuer, such as management performance, financial leverage and reduced demand for the issuer's goods or services.

**Liquidity Risk** is the risk that a particular investment may be difficult to purchase or sell and that the Portfolio may be unable to sell illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price or achieve its desired level of exposure to a certain sector. Liquidity risk may result from the lack of an active market, reduced number and capacity of traditional market participants to make a market in fixed income securities, and may be magnified in a rising interest rate environment or other circumstances where investor redemptions from fixed income mutual funds may be higher than normal, causing increased supply in the market due to selling activity.

**Derivatives Risk** is the risk of investing in derivative instruments (such as futures, swaps and structured securities), including leverage, liquidity, interest rate, market, credit and management risks, mispricing or valuation complexity. Changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with, and may be more sensitive to market events than, the underlying asset, rate or index, and the Portfolio could lose more than the initial amount invested. The Portfolio's use of derivatives may result in losses to the Portfolio, a reduction in the Portfolio's returns and/or increased volatility. Over-the-counter ("OTC") derivatives are also subject to the risk that a counterparty to the transaction will not fulfill its contractual obligations to the other party, as many of the protections afforded to centrally-cleared derivative transactions might not be available for OTC derivatives. For derivatives traded on an exchange or through a central counterparty, credit risk resides with the Portfolio's clearing broker, or the clearinghouse itself, rather than with a counterparty in an OTC derivative transaction. Changes in regulation relating to a mutual fund's use of derivatives and related instruments could potentially limit or impact the Portfolio's ability to invest in derivatives, limit the Portfolio's ability to employ certain strategies that use derivatives and/or adversely affect the value of derivatives and the Portfolio's performance.

**Equity Risk** is the risk that the value of equity securities, such as common stocks and preferred securities, may decline due to general market conditions which are not specifically related to a particular company or to factors affecting a particular industry or industries. Equity securities generally have greater price volatility than fixed income securities.

**Mortgage-Related and Other Asset-Backed Securities Risk** is the risk of investing in mortgage-related and other asset-backed securities, including interest rate risk, extension risk, prepayment risk and credit risk.

**Foreign (Non-U.S.) Investment Risk** is the risk that investing in foreign (non-U.S.) securities may result in the Portfolio experiencing more rapid and extreme changes in value than a portfolio that invests exclusively in securities of U.S. companies, due to smaller markets,

differing reporting, accounting and auditing standards, increased risk of delayed settlement of portfolio transactions or loss of certificates of portfolio securities, and the risk of unfavorable foreign government actions, including nationalization, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, currency blockage, or political changes or diplomatic developments. Foreign securities may also be less liquid and more difficult to value than securities of U.S. issuers.

**Emerging Markets Risk** is the risk of investing in emerging market securities, primarily increased foreign (non-U.S.) investment risk.

**Sovereign Debt Risk** is the risk that investments in fixed income instruments issued by sovereign entities may decline in value as a result of default or other adverse credit event resulting from an issuer's inability or unwillingness to make principal or interest payments in a timely fashion.

**Currency Risk** is the risk that foreign (non-U.S.) currencies will change in value relative to the U.S. dollar and affect the Portfolio's investments in foreign (non-U.S.) currencies or in securities that trade in, and receive revenues in, or in derivatives that provide exposure to, foreign (non-U.S.) currencies.

**Issuer Non-Diversification Risk** is the risk of focusing investments in a small number of issuers, including being more susceptible to risks associated with a single economic, political or regulatory occurrence than a more diversified portfolio might be. Portfolios that are "non-diversified" may invest a greater percentage of their assets in the securities of a single issuer (such as bonds issued by a particular state) than portfolios that are "diversified".

**Leveraging Risk** is the risk that certain transactions of the Portfolio, such as reverse repurchase agreements, loans of portfolio securities, and the use of when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment transactions, or derivative instruments, may give rise to leverage, magnifying gains and losses and causing the Portfolio to be more volatile than if it had not been leveraged. This means that leverage entails a heightened risk of loss.

**Management Risk** is the risk that the investment techniques and risk analyses applied by PIMCO will not produce the desired results and that legislative, regulatory, or tax restrictions, policies or developments may affect the investment techniques available to PIMCO and the individual portfolio manager in connection with managing the Portfolio. There is no guarantee that the investment objective of the Portfolio will be achieved.

**Short Exposure Risk** is the risk of entering into short sales, including the potential loss of more money than the actual cost of the investment, and the risk that the third party to the short sale will not fulfill its contractual obligations, causing a loss to the Portfolio.

### (b) Other Risks

In general, the Portfolio may be subject to additional risks, including, but not limited to, risks related to government regulation and intervention in financial markets, operational risks, risks associated with financial, economic and global market disruptions, and cybersecurity risks. Please see the Portfolio's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information for a more detailed description of the risks of investing in the Portfolio. Please see the Important Information section of this report for additional discussion of certain regulatory and market developments (such as the anticipated discontinuation of the London Interbank Offered Rate) that may impact the Portfolio's performance.

**Market Disruption Risk** The Portfolio is subject to investment and operational risks associated with financial, economic and other global market developments and disruptions, including those arising from war, terrorism, market manipulation, government interventions, defaults and shutdowns, political changes or diplomatic developments, public health emergencies (such as the spread of infectious diseases, pandemics and epidemics) and natural/environmental disasters, which can all negatively impact the securities markets and cause the Portfolio to lose value. These events can also impair the technology and other operational systems upon which the Portfolio's service providers, including PIMCO as the Portfolio's investment adviser, rely, and could otherwise disrupt the Portfolio's service providers' ability to fulfill their obligations to the Portfolio. For example, the recent spread of an infectious respiratory illness caused by a novel strain of coronavirus (known as COVID-19) has caused volatility, severe market dislocations and liquidity constraints in many markets, including markets for the securities the Portfolio holds, and may adversely affect the Portfolio's investments and operations. Please see the Important Information section for additional discussion of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Government Intervention in Financial Markets** Federal, state, and other governments, their regulatory agencies, or self-regulatory organizations may take actions that affect the regulation of the instruments in which the Portfolio invests, or the issuers of such instruments, in ways that are unforeseeable. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Portfolio itself is regulated. Such legislation or regulation could limit or preclude the Portfolio's ability to achieve its investment objective. Furthermore, volatile financial markets can expose the Portfolio to greater market and liquidity risk and potential difficulty in valuing portfolio instruments held by the Portfolio. The value of the Portfolio's holdings is also generally subject to the risk of future local, national, or global economic disturbances based on unknown weaknesses in the markets in which the Portfolio invests. In addition, it is not certain that the U.S. Government will intervene in response to a future market disturbance and the effect of any such future intervention cannot be predicted. It is difficult for issuers to prepare for the impact of future financial downturns, although

companies can seek to identify and manage future uncertainties through risk management programs.

**Regulatory Risk** Financial entities, such as investment companies and investment advisers, are generally subject to extensive government regulation and intervention. Government regulation and/or intervention may change the way the Portfolio is regulated, affect the expenses incurred directly by the Portfolio and the value of its investments, and limit and/or preclude the Portfolio's ability to achieve its investment objective. Government regulation may change frequently and may have significant adverse consequences. Moreover, government regulation may have unpredictable and unintended effects.

**Operational Risk** An investment in the Portfolio, like any fund, can involve operational risks arising from factors such as processing errors, human errors, inadequate or failed internal or external processes, failures in systems and technology, changes in personnel and errors caused by third-party service providers. The occurrence of any of these failures, errors or breaches could result in a loss of information, regulatory scrutiny, reputational damage or other events, any of which could have a material adverse effect on the Portfolio. While the Portfolio seeks to minimize such events through controls and oversight, there may still be failures that could cause losses to the Portfolio.

**Cyber Security Risk** As the use of technology has become more prevalent in the course of business, the Portfolio has become potentially more susceptible to operational and information security risks resulting from breaches in cyber security. A breach in cyber security refers to both intentional and unintentional cyber events that may, among other things, cause the Portfolio to lose proprietary information, suffer data corruption and/or destruction or lose operational capacity, result in the unauthorized release or other misuse of confidential information, or otherwise disrupt normal business operations. Cyber security failures or breaches may result in financial losses to the Portfolio and its shareholders. These failures or breaches may also result in disruptions to business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses; interference with the Portfolio's ability to calculate its net asset value, process shareholder transactions or otherwise transact business with shareholders; impediments to trading; violations of applicable privacy and other laws; regulatory fines; penalties; reputational damage; reimbursement or other compensation costs; additional compliance and cyber security risk management costs and other adverse consequences. In addition, substantial costs may be incurred in order to prevent any cyber incidents in the future.

## 8. MASTER NETTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Portfolio may be subject to various netting arrangements ("Master Agreements") with select counterparties. Master Agreements govern the terms of certain transactions, and are intended to reduce the



counterparty risk associated with relevant transactions by specifying credit protection mechanisms and providing standardization that is intended to improve legal certainty. Each type of Master Agreement governs certain types of transactions. Different types of transactions may be traded out of different legal entities or affiliates of a particular organization, resulting in the need for multiple agreements with a single counterparty. As the Master Agreements are specific to unique operations of different asset types, they allow the Portfolio to close out and net its total exposure to a counterparty in the event of a default with respect to all the transactions governed under a single Master Agreement with a counterparty. For financial reporting purposes the Statement of Assets and Liabilities generally presents derivative assets and liabilities on a gross basis, which reflects the full risks and exposures prior to netting.

Master Agreements can also help limit counterparty risk by specifying collateral posting arrangements at pre-arranged exposure levels. Under most Master Agreements, collateral is routinely transferred if the total net exposure to certain transactions (net of existing collateral already in place) governed under the relevant Master Agreement with a counterparty in a given account exceeds a specified threshold, which typically ranges from zero to \$250,000 depending on the counterparty and the type of Master Agreement. United States Treasury Bills and U.S. dollar cash are generally the preferred forms of collateral, although other securities may be used depending on the terms outlined in the applicable Master Agreement. Securities and cash pledged as collateral are reflected as assets on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as either a component of Investments at value (securities) or Deposits with counterparty. Cash collateral received is not typically held in a segregated account and as such is reflected as a liability on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as Deposits from counterparty. The market value of any securities received as collateral is not reflected as a component of NAV. The Portfolio's overall exposure to counterparty risk can change substantially within a short period, as it is affected by each transaction subject to the relevant Master Agreement.

Master Repurchase Agreements and Global Master Repurchase Agreements (individually and collectively "Master Repo Agreements") govern repurchase, reverse repurchase, and certain sale-buyback transactions between the Portfolio and select counterparties. Master Repo Agreements maintain provisions for, among other things, initiation, income payments, events of default, and maintenance of collateral. The market value of transactions under the Master Repo Agreement, collateral pledged or received, and the net exposure by counterparty as of period end are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments.

Master Securities Forward Transaction Agreements ("Master Forward Agreements") govern certain forward settling transactions, such as TBA

securities, delayed-delivery or certain sale-buyback transactions by and between the Portfolio and select counterparties. The Master Forward Agreements maintain provisions for, among other things, transaction initiation and confirmation, payment and transfer, events of default, termination, and maintenance of collateral. The market value of forward settling transactions, collateral pledged or received, and the net exposure by counterparty as of period end is disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments.

Customer Account Agreements and related addenda govern cleared derivatives transactions such as futures, options on futures, and cleared OTC derivatives. Such transactions require posting of initial margin as determined by each relevant clearing agency which is segregated in an account at a futures commission merchant ("FCM") registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. In the United States, counterparty risk may be reduced as creditors of an FCM cannot have a claim to Portfolio assets in the segregated account. Portability of exposure reduces risk to the Portfolio. Variation margin, or changes in market value, are generally exchanged daily, but may not be netted between futures and cleared OTC derivatives unless the parties have agreed to a separate arrangement in respect of portfolio margining. The market value or accumulated unrealized appreciation (depreciation), initial margin posted, and any unsettled variation margin as of period end are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments.

International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. Master Agreements and Credit Support Annexes ("ISDA Master Agreements") govern bilateral OTC derivative transactions entered into by the Portfolio with select counterparties. ISDA Master Agreements maintain provisions for general obligations, representations, agreements, collateral posting and events of default or termination. Events of termination include conditions that may entitle counterparties to elect to terminate early and cause settlement of all outstanding transactions under the applicable ISDA Master Agreement. Any election to terminate early could be material to the financial statements. In limited circumstances, the ISDA Master Agreement may contain additional provisions that add counterparty protection beyond coverage of existing daily exposure if the counterparty has a decline in credit quality below a predefined level. These amounts, if any, may be segregated with a third-party custodian. The market value of OTC financial derivative instruments, collateral received or pledged, and net exposure by counterparty as of period end are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments.

## 9. FEES AND EXPENSES

(a) **Investment Advisory Fee** PIMCO is a majority-owned subsidiary of Allianz Asset Management of America L.P. ("Allianz Asset Management") and serves as the Adviser to the Trust, pursuant to an investment advisory contract. The Adviser receives a monthly fee from

## Notes to Financial Statements (Cont.)

the Portfolio at an annual rate based on average daily net assets (the "Investment Advisory Fee"). The Investment Advisory Fee for all classes is charged at an annual rate as noted in the table in note (b) below.

**(b) Supervisory and Administrative Fee** PIMCO serves as administrator (the "Administrator") and provides supervisory and administrative services to the Trust for which it receives a monthly supervisory and administrative fee based on each share class's average daily net assets (the "Supervisory and Administrative Fee"). As the Administrator, PIMCO bears the costs of various third-party services, including audit, custodial, portfolio accounting, legal, transfer agency and printing costs.

The Investment Advisory Fee and Supervisory and Administrative Fees for all classes, as applicable, are charged at the annual rate as noted in the following table (calculated as a percentage of the Portfolio's average daily net assets attributable to each class):

Investment Advisory Fee	Supervisory and Administrative Fee		
	All Classes	Institutional Class	Administrative Class
0.25%	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%

**(c) Distribution and Servicing Fees** PIMCO Investments LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of PIMCO, serves as the distributor ("Distributor") of the Trust's shares.

The Trust has adopted an Administrative Services Plan with respect to the Administrative Class shares of the Portfolio pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Act (the "Administrative Plan"). Under the terms of the Administrative Plan, the Trust is permitted to compensate the Distributor, out of the Administrative Class assets of the Portfolio, in an amount up to 0.15% on an annual basis of the average daily net assets of that class, for providing or procuring through financial intermediaries administrative, recordkeeping and investor services for Administrative Class shareholders of the Portfolio.

The Trust has adopted a separate Distribution and Servicing Plan for the Advisor Class shares of the Portfolio (the "Distribution and Servicing Plan"). The Distribution and Servicing Plan has been adopted pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Act. The Distribution and Servicing Plan permits the Portfolio to compensate the Distributor for providing or procuring through financial intermediaries, distribution, administrative, recordkeeping, shareholder and/or related services with respect to Advisor Class shares. The Distribution and Servicing Plan permits the Portfolio to make total payments at an annual rate of up to 0.25% of its average daily net assets attributable to its Advisor Class shares.

	Distribution Fee	Servicing Fee
Administrative Class	—	0.15%
Advisor Class	0.25%	—

**(d) Portfolio Expenses** PIMCO provides or procures supervisory and administrative services for shareholders and also bears the costs of various third-party services required by the Portfolio, including audit, custodial, portfolio accounting, legal, transfer agency and printing costs. The Trust is responsible for the following expenses: (i) taxes and governmental fees; (ii) brokerage fees and commissions and other portfolio transaction expenses; (iii) the costs of borrowing money, including interest expenses; (iv) fees and expenses of the Trustees who are not "interested persons" of PIMCO or the Trust, and any counsel retained exclusively for their benefit, except for PIMCO All Asset Portfolio; (v) extraordinary expense, including costs of litigation and indemnification expenses; (vi) organizational expenses; and (vii) any expenses allocated or allocable to a specific class of shares, which include service fees payable with respect to the Administrative Class Shares, and may include certain other expenses as permitted by the Trust's Multi-Class Plan adopted pursuant to Rule 18f-3 under the Act and subject to review and approval by the Trustees. The ratio of expenses to average net assets per share class, as disclosed on the Financial Highlights, may differ from the annual portfolio operating expenses per share class.

The Trust pays no compensation directly to any Trustee or any other officer who is affiliated with the Administrator, all of whom receive remuneration for their services to the Trust from the Administrator or its affiliates.

**(e) Expense Limitation** Pursuant to the Expense Limitation Agreement, PIMCO has agreed to waive a portion of the Portfolio's Supervisory and Administrative Fee, or reimburse the Portfolio, to the extent that the Portfolio's organizational expenses, pro rata share of expenses related to obtaining or maintaining a Legal Entity Identifier and pro rata share of Trustee Fees exceed 0.0049%, the "Expense Limit" (calculated as a percentage of the Portfolio's average daily net assets attributable to each class). The Expense Limitation Agreement will automatically renew for one-year terms unless PIMCO provides written notice to the Trust at least 30 days prior to the end of the then current term. The waiver is reflected in the Statement of Operations as a component of Waiver and/or Reimbursement by PIMCO.

In any month in which the supervision and administration agreement is in effect, PIMCO is entitled to reimbursement by the Portfolio of any portion of the supervisory and administrative fee waived or reimbursed as set forth above (the "Reimbursement Amount") during the previous thirty-six months from the date of the waiver, provided that such amount paid to PIMCO will not: i) together with any organizational expenses, pro rata share of expenses related to obtaining or maintaining a Legal Entity Identifier and pro rata Trustee fees, exceed, for such month, the Expense Limit (or the amount of the expense limit in place at the time the amount being recouped was originally waived

if lower than the Expense Limit); ii) exceed the total Reimbursement Amount; or iii) include any amounts previously reimbursed to PIMCO. At June 30, 2020, there were no recoverable amounts.

## 10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Adviser, Administrator, and Distributor are related parties. Fees paid to these parties are disclosed in Note 9, Fees and Expenses, and the accrued related party fee amounts are disclosed on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The Portfolio is permitted to purchase or sell securities from or to certain related affiliated portfolios under specified conditions outlined in procedures adopted by the Board. The procedures have been designed to ensure that any purchase or sale of securities by the Portfolio from or to another fund or portfolio that are, or could be, considered an affiliate, or an affiliate of an affiliate, by virtue of having a common investment adviser (or affiliated investment advisers), common Trustees and/or common officers complies with Rule 17a-7 under the Act. Further, as defined under the procedures, each transaction is effected at the current market price. Purchases and sales of securities pursuant to Rule 17a-7 under the Act for the period ended June 30, 2020, were as follows (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

Purchases	Sales
\$ 5,863	\$ 3,521

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

## 11. GUARANTEES AND INDEMNIFICATIONS

Under the Trust's organizational documents, each Trustee, officer, employee or other agent of the Trust (including the Trust's investment manager) is indemnified, to the extent permitted by the Act, against certain liabilities that may arise out of performance of their duties to

the Portfolio. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the Portfolio enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnification clauses. The Portfolio's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Portfolio that have not yet occurred. However, the Portfolio has not had prior claims or losses pursuant to these contracts.

## 12. PURCHASES AND SALES OF SECURITIES

The length of time the Portfolio has held a particular security is not generally a consideration in investment decisions. A change in the securities held by the Portfolio is known as "portfolio turnover." The Portfolio may engage in frequent and active trading of portfolio securities to achieve its investment objective, particularly during periods of volatile market movements. High portfolio turnover may involve correspondingly greater transaction costs, including brokerage commissions or dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of securities and reinvestments in other securities, which are borne by the Portfolio. Such sales may also result in realization of taxable capital gains, including short-term capital gains (which are generally taxed at ordinary income tax rates when distributed to shareholders). The transaction costs associated with portfolio turnover may adversely affect the Portfolio's performance. The portfolio turnover rates are reported in the Financial Highlights.

Purchases and sales of securities (excluding short-term investments) for the period ended June 30, 2020, were as follows (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

U.S. Government/Agency		All Other	
Purchases	Sales	Purchases	Sales
\$ 1,730,747	\$ 1,652,518	\$ 100,250	\$ 76,296

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

### 13. SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST

The Trust may issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest with a \$0.001 par value. Changes in shares of beneficial interest were as follows (shares and amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

	Six Months Ended 06/30/2020		Year Ended 12/31/2019	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
<b>Receipts for shares sold</b>				
Institutional Class	1,261	\$ 14,007	136	\$ 1,528
Administrative Class	1,148	12,950	2,408	26,931
Advisor Class	1,638	18,287	2,150	24,104
<b>Issued as reinvestment of distributions</b>				
Institutional Class	85	915	20	216
Administrative Class	376	4,080	182	2,042
Advisor Class	2,285	24,772	969	10,887
<b>Cost of shares redeemed</b>				
Institutional Class	(146)	(1,593)	(41)	(464)
Administrative Class	(1,866)	(20,721)	(2,817)	(31,592)
Advisor Class	(3,923)	(43,304)	(1,983)	(22,194)
<b>Net increase (decrease) resulting from Portfolio share transactions</b>	858	\$ 9,393	1,024	\$ 11,458

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

As of June 30, 2020, one shareholder owned 10% or more of the Portfolio's total outstanding shares comprising 84% of the Portfolio.

### 14. REGULATORY AND LITIGATION MATTERS

The Portfolio is not named as a defendant in any material litigation or arbitration proceedings and is not aware of any material litigation or claim pending or threatened against it.

The foregoing speaks only as of the date of this report.

### 15. FEDERAL INCOME TAX MATTERS

The Portfolio intends to qualify as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code") and distribute all of its taxable income and net realized gains, if applicable, to shareholders. Accordingly, no provision for Federal income taxes has been made.

The Portfolio may be subject to local withholding taxes, including those imposed on realized capital gains. Any applicable foreign capital gains tax is accrued daily based upon net unrealized gains, and may be payable following the sale of any applicable investments.

In accordance with U.S. GAAP, the Adviser has reviewed the Portfolio's tax positions for all open tax years. As of June 30, 2020, the Portfolio has recorded no liability for net unrecognized tax benefits relating to uncertain income tax positions it has taken or expects to take in future tax returns.

The Portfolio files U.S. federal, state, and local tax returns as required. The Portfolio's tax returns are subject to examination by relevant tax

authorities until expiration of the applicable statute of limitations, which is generally three years after the filing of the tax return but which can be extended to six years in certain circumstances. Tax returns for open years have incorporated no uncertain tax positions that require a provision for income taxes.

Shares of the Portfolio currently are sold to segregated asset accounts ("Separate Accounts") of insurance companies that fund variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies ("Variable Contracts"). Please refer to the prospectus for the Separate Account and Variable Contract for information regarding Federal income tax treatment of distributions to the Separate Account.

Under the Regulated Investment Company Modernization Act of 2010, a portfolio is permitted to carry forward any new capital losses for an unlimited period. Additionally, such capital losses that are carried forward will retain their character as either short-term or long-term capital losses rather than being considered all short-term under previous law.

As of its last fiscal year ended December 31, 2019, the Portfolio had the following post-effective capital losses with no expiration (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

Short-Term	Long-Term
\$ 0	\$ 3,812

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

As of June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost and the net unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) of investments for federal income tax purposes are as follows (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

<b>Federal Tax Cost</b>	<b>Unrealized Appreciation</b>	<b>Unrealized (Depreciation)</b>	<b>Net Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)<sup>(1)</sup></b>
\$ 789,720	\$ 33,317	\$ (25,637)	\$ 7,680

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

<sup>(1)</sup> Primary differences, if any, between book and tax net unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) are attributable to wash sale loss deferrals for federal income tax purposes.

**Counterparty Abbreviations:**

<b>BOA</b>	Bank of America N.A.	<b>FBF</b>	Credit Suisse International	<b>MYC</b>	Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC
<b>BOM</b>	Bank of Montreal	<b>FICC</b>	Fixed Income Clearing Corporation	<b>MYI</b>	Morgan Stanley & Co. International PLC
<b>BOS</b>	BofA Securities, Inc.	<b>GLM</b>	Goldman Sachs Bank USA	<b>SCX</b>	Standard Chartered Bank, London
<b>BPS</b>	BNP Paribas S.A.	<b>GST</b>	Goldman Sachs International	<b>SOG</b>	Societe Generale Paris
<b>BRC</b>	Barclays Bank PLC	<b>HUS</b>	HSBC Bank USA N.A.	<b>SSB</b>	State Street Bank and Trust Co.
<b>BSN</b>	The Bank of Nova Scotia - Toronto	<b>IND</b>	Crédit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank S.A.	<b>TDM</b>	TD Securities (USA) LLC
<b>CBK</b>	Citibank N.A.	<b>JML</b>	JP Morgan Securities Plc	<b>TOR</b>	The Toronto-Dominion Bank
<b>DUB</b>	Deutsche Bank AG	<b>JPM</b>	JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A.	<b>UAG</b>	UBS AG Stamford
<b>FAR</b>	Wells Fargo Bank National Association	<b>MBC</b>	HSBC Bank Plc	<b>UBS</b>	UBS Securities LLC

**Currency Abbreviations:**

<b>ARS</b>	Argentine Peso	<b>EUR</b>	Euro	<b>NOK</b>	Norwegian Krone
<b>AUD</b>	Australian Dollar	<b>GBP</b>	British Pound	<b>NZD</b>	New Zealand Dollar
<b>BRL</b>	Brazilian Real	<b>HKD</b>	Hong Kong Dollar	<b>PEN</b>	Peruvian New Sol
<b>CAD</b>	Canadian Dollar	<b>IDR</b>	Indonesian Rupiah	<b>PLN</b>	Polish Zloty
<b>CHF</b>	Swiss Franc	<b>ILS</b>	Israeli Shekel	<b>RUB</b>	Russian Ruble
<b>CNH</b>	Chinese Renminbi (Offshore)	<b>JPY</b>	Japanese Yen	<b>SEK</b>	Swedish Krona
<b>CNY</b>	Chinese Renminbi (Mainland)	<b>KRW</b>	South Korean Won	<b>USD (or \$)</b>	United States Dollar
<b>CZK</b>	Czech Koruna	<b>MXN</b>	Mexican Peso	<b>ZAR</b>	South African Rand
<b>DKK</b>	Danish Krone	<b>MYR</b>	Malaysian Ringgit		

**Exchange Abbreviations:**

<b>CBOT</b>	Chicago Board of Trade	<b>CME</b>	Chicago Mercantile Exchange	<b>OTC</b>	Over the Counter
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**Index/Spread Abbreviations:**

<b>BADLARPP</b>	Argentina Badlar Floating Rate Notes	<b>CDX.IG</b>	Credit Derivatives Index - Investment Grade	<b>SONIO</b>	Sterling Overnight Interbank Average Rate
<b>CDOR01</b>	1 Month CDN Swap Rate	<b>EUR003M</b>	3 Month EUR Swap Rate	<b>UKRPI</b>	United Kingdom Retail Prices Index
<b>CDOR03</b>	3 month CDN Swap Rate	<b>LIBOR03M</b>	3 Month USD-LIBOR	<b>US0003M</b>	3 Month USD Swap Rate
<b>CDX.HY</b>	Credit Derivatives Index - High Yield				

**Other Abbreviations:**

<b>ABS</b>	Asset-Backed Security	<b>EURIBOR</b>	Euro Interbank Offered Rate	<b>PIK</b>	Payment-in-Kind
<b>ALT</b>	Alternate Loan Trust	<b>JIBAR</b>	Johannesburg Interbank Agreed Rate	<b>PRIBOR</b>	Prague Interbank Offered Rate
<b>BBR</b>	Bank Bill Rate	<b>LIBOR</b>	London Interbank Offered Rate	<b>STIBOR</b>	Stockholm Interbank Offered Rate
<b>BBSW</b>	Bank Bill Swap Reference Rate	<b>Lunar</b>	Monthly payment based on 28-day periods. One year consists of 13 periods.	<b>TBA</b>	To-Be-Announced
<b>BTP</b>	Buoni del Tesoro Poliennali "Long-term Treasury Bond"	<b>NCUA</b>	National Credit Union Administration	<b>TELBOR</b>	Tel Aviv Inter-Bank Offered Rate
<b>CDI</b>	Brazil Interbank Deposit Rate	<b>OAT</b>	Obligations Assimilables du Trésor	<b>TIIE</b>	Tasa de Interés Interbancaria de Equilibrio "Equilibrium Interbank Interest Rate"
<b>CLO</b>	Collateralized Loan Obligation	<b>OIS</b>	Overnight Index Swap	<b>WIBOR</b>	Warsaw Interbank Offered Rate
<b>DAC</b>	Designated Activity Company				

In compliance with Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Liquidity Rule”), PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust (the “Trust”) has adopted and implemented a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”) for each series of the Trust (each a “Portfolio” and collectively, the “Portfolios”), which is reasonably designed to assess and manage the Portfolios’ liquidity risk. The Trust’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”) previously approved the designation of the PIMCO Liquidity Risk Committee (the “Administrator”) as Program administrator. The PIMCO Liquidity Risk Committee consists of senior members from certain PIMCO business areas, such as Portfolio Risk Management, Operations, Compliance, Funds Business Group, Account Management and Portfolio Management.

A Portfolio’s “liquidity risk” is the risk that the Portfolio could not meet requests to redeem shares issued by the Portfolio without significant dilution of the remaining investors’ interests in the Portfolio. In accordance with the Program, each Portfolio’s liquidity risk is assessed no less frequently than annually taking into consideration a variety of factors, including, as applicable the Portfolio’s investment strategy and liquidity of portfolio investments, cash flow projections, and holdings of cash and cash equivalents, as well as borrowing arrangements and other funding sources. Certain factors are considered under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Each Portfolio portfolio investment is classified into one of four liquidity categories (including “highly liquid investments” and “illiquid investments,” discussed below) based on a determination of the number of days it is reasonably expected to take to convert the investment to cash, or sell or dispose of the investment, in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment’s market value. Each Portfolio has adopted a “Highly Liquid Investment Minimum” (or “HLIM”), which is a minimum amount of Portfolio net assets to be invested in highly liquid investments that are assets. As required under the Liquidity Rule, each Portfolio’s HLIM is periodically reviewed, no less frequently than annually, and the Portfolios have adopted policies and procedures for responding to a shortfall of a Portfolio’s highly liquid investments below its HLIM. The Liquidity Rule also limits the Portfolios’ investments in illiquid investments by prohibiting a Portfolio from acquiring any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Portfolio would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments that are assets. Certain non-public reporting is generally required if a Portfolio’s holdings of illiquid investments that are assets were to exceed 15% of Portfolio net assets.

At a meeting of the Board held on February 11-12, 2020, the Board received a report (the “Report”) from the Administrator addressing the Program’s operation and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation for the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019. The Report noted that the Program is operating effectively to assess and manage each Portfolio’s liquidity risk and that the Program has been and continues to be adequately and effectively implemented to monitor and, as applicable, respond to the Portfolios’ liquidity developments. This has remained true for the 12-month reporting period ended June 30, 2020.

## General Information

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### **Investment Adviser and Administrator**

Pacific Investment Management Company LLC  
650 Newport Center Drive  
Newport Beach, CA 92660

### **Distributor**

PIMCO Investments LLC  
1633 Broadway  
New York, NY 10019

### **Custodian**

State Street Bank and Trust Company  
801 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Kansas City, MO 64105

### **Transfer Agent**

DST Asset Manager Solutions, Inc.  
430 W 7th Street STE 219024  
Kansas City, MO 64105-1407

### **Legal Counsel**

Dechert LLP  
1900 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

### **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

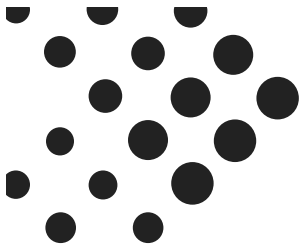
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
1100 Walnut Street, Suite 1300  
Kansas City, MO 64106

This report is submitted for the general information of the shareholders of the PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust.



[pimco.com/pvit](https://pimco.com/pvit)

**P I M C O**



P I M C O

PIMCO VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST

# Semiannual Report

June 30, 2020

PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio



Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, paper copies of the Portfolio's annual and semi-annual shareholder reports will no longer be sent by mail from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports from the insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a website, and the insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a website link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from the insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by the insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge from the insurance company. You should contact the insurance company if you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports. Your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all portfolio companies available under your contract at the insurance company.

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### Dear PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust Shareholder,

We hope that you and your family are staying safe and healthy during these challenging times. We continue to work tirelessly to navigate markets and manage the assets that you have entrusted with us. Following this letter is the PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust Semiannual Report, which covers the six-month reporting period ended June 30, 2020. On the subsequent pages, you will find specific details regarding investment results and discussion of the factors that most affected performance during the reporting period.

### For the six-month reporting period ended June 30, 2020

The coronavirus took its toll on the U.S. economy, as it entered its first recession since the 2008 financial crisis. Looking back, U.S. gross domestic product ("GDP") grew at a revised annual pace of 2.6% and 2.4% during the third and fourth quarters of 2019, respectively. The pandemic then caused the economy to significantly weaken, as annualized GDP growth in the first quarter of 2020 was -5.0%. The Commerce Department's initial estimate for second quarter annualized GDP growth — released after the reporting period ended — was -32.9%. This represented the sharpest quarterly decline on record.

The Federal Reserve (the "Fed") took unprecedented actions to support the economy and keep markets functioning properly. In early March 2020, the Fed lowered the federal funds rate to a range between 1.00% and 1.25%. Later in the month, the Fed lowered the rate to a range between 0.00% and 0.25%. On March 23, the Fed announced, "It has become clear that our economy will face severe disruptions. Aggressive efforts must be taken across the public and private sectors to limit the losses to jobs and incomes and to promote a swift recovery once the disruptions abate." The Fed's efforts included the ability to make unlimited purchases of Treasury and mortgage securities. It also announced that, for the first time, it would purchase existing corporate bonds on the open market. In addition, the U.S. government passed a \$2 trillion fiscal stimulus bill to aid the economy in March.

In its June 2020 *World Economic Outlook Update*, the International Monetary Fund ("IMF") stated that it expects the U.S. economy to contract 8.0% in 2020, compared to the 2.3% GDP expansion in 2019. Elsewhere, the IMF has also stated that it anticipates that 2020 GDP growth in the eurozone, U.K. and Japan will be -10.2%, -10.2% and -5.8%, respectively. For comparison purposes, the GDP of these economies expanded 1.3%, 1.4% and 0.7%, respectively, in 2019.

Against this backdrop, central banks around the world took a number of aggressive actions. In Europe, the European Central Bank (the "ECB") unveiled a new €750 billion bond-buying program, which was subsequently expanded by another €600 billion in June 2020. In March, the Bank of England reduced its key lending rate to 0.10% — a record low. Finally, in July — after the reporting period ended — the European Union agreed on a \$2.06 trillion spending package to bolster its economy. Elsewhere, the Bank of Japan maintained its short-term interest rates at -0.1%, while increasing the target for its holdings of corporate bonds to ¥4.2 trillion from ¥3.2 trillion. Japan's central bank also doubled its purchases of exchange-traded stock funds. Meanwhile, in May 2020, the Japanese government doubled its stimulus measures with a ¥117 trillion package.

Both short- and long-term U.S. Treasury yields fell sharply during the reporting period. In our view, this was due to a combination of declining global growth given the coronavirus, the Fed's accommodative monetary policy and periods of extreme investor risk aversion. The yield on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note was 0.66% at the end of the reporting period, versus 1.92% on December 31, 2019. The Bloomberg Barclays Global Treasury Index (USD Hedged), which tracks fixed-rate, local currency government debt of investment grade countries, including both developed and emerging markets, returned 4.30%. Meanwhile, the Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Credit Index (USD Hedged), a widely used index of global investment grade credit bonds, returned 3.43%. Riskier fixed income asset classes, including high yield corporate bonds and emerging market debt, generated weaker results. The ICE BofAML Developed Markets High Yield Constrained Index (USD Hedged), a widely used index of below investment grade bonds, returned -4.64%, whereas emerging market external debt, as represented by the JPMorgan Emerging Markets Bond Index (EMBI) Global (USD Hedged), returned -1.87%. Emerging market local bonds, as represented by the JPMorgan Government Bond Index-Emerging Markets Global Diversified Index (Unhedged), returned -6.89%.

Global equities generated weak results, driven by a sharp selloff in February and March 2020. We believe this was largely due to concerns over the impact of the coronavirus. In March 2020, the U.S. equity market ended its 11-year bull market run, and then posted the fastest fall on record from its all-time high to bear market territory. However, global equities recouped a portion of their losses in April, May and June 2020, in our view because investor sentiment improved given significant stimulus efforts from central banks around the world. All told, during the six-months ended June 30, 2020, U.S. equities, as represented by the S&P 500 Index, returned -3.08% and global equities, as represented by the MSCI World Index, returned -5.77%. Meanwhile, Japanese equities, as represented by the Nikkei 225 Index (in JPY), returned -4.74% and European equities, as represented by the MSCI Europe Index (in EUR), returned -12.83%. Finally, emerging market equities, as measured by the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, returned -9.78%.

Commodity prices were extremely volatile and generally moved lower. When the reporting period began, Brent crude oil was approximately \$66 a barrel. It ended the reporting period at roughly \$41 a barrel after briefly trading below \$15. Elsewhere, copper prices also fell, whereas gold prices moved higher.

Finally, there were periods of volatility in the foreign exchange markets, due in part, in our view, to signs of moderating global growth, trade conflicts and changing central bank monetary policies, along with a number of geopolitical events. The U.S. dollar returned 6.46% versus the British pound, but the U.S. dollar fell 0.63% and 0.19% versus the yen and the euro, respectively.

Thank you for the assets you have placed with us. We deeply value your trust, and we will continue to work diligently to meet your broad investment needs.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Strelow'.

Peter G. Strelow  
Chairman of the Board  
PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Unless otherwise noted, index returns reflect the reinvestment of income distributions and capital gains, if any, but do not reflect fees, brokerage commissions or other expenses of investing. It is not possible to invest directly in an unmanaged index.

## Important Information About the PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio

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PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust (the "Trust") is an open-end management investment company that includes the PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio (the "Portfolio"). The Portfolio is only available as a funding vehicle under variable life insurance policies or variable annuity contracts issued by insurance companies ("Variable Contracts"). Individuals may not purchase shares of the Portfolio directly. Shares of the Portfolio also may be sold to qualified pension and retirement plans outside of the separate account context.

We believe that bond funds have an important role to play in a well-diversified investment portfolio. It is important to note, however, that in an environment where interest rates may trend upward, rising rates would negatively impact the performance of most bond funds, and fixed income securities and other instruments held by the Portfolio are likely to decrease in value. A wide variety of factors can cause interest rates or yields of U.S. Treasury securities (or yields of other types of bonds) to rise (e.g., central bank monetary policies, inflation rates, general economic conditions, etc.). In addition, changes in interest rates can be sudden and unpredictable, and there is no guarantee that management will anticipate such movement accurately. The Portfolio may lose money as a result of movements in interest rates.

As of the date of this report, interest rates in the United States and many parts of the world, including certain European countries, are at or near historically low levels. Thus, the Portfolio currently faces a heightened level of risk associated with rising interest rates and/or bond yields. This could be driven by a variety of factors, including but not limited to central bank monetary policies, changing inflation or real growth rates, general economic conditions, increasing bond issuances or reduced market demand for low yielding investments. Further, while bond markets have steadily grown over the past three decades, dealer inventories of corporate bonds are near historic lows in relation to market size. As a result, there has been a significant reduction in the ability of dealers to "make markets."

Bond funds and individual bonds with a longer duration (a measure used to determine the sensitivity of a security's price to changes in interest rates) tend to be more sensitive to changes in interest rates, usually making them more volatile than securities or funds with shorter durations. All of the factors mentioned above, individually or collectively, could lead to increased volatility and/or lower liquidity in the fixed income markets or negatively impact the Portfolio's performance or cause the Portfolio to incur losses. As a result, the Portfolio may experience increased shareholder redemptions, which, among other things, could further reduce the net assets of the Portfolio.

The Portfolio may be subject to various risks as described in the Portfolio's prospectus and in the Principal Risks in the Notes to Financial Statements.

Classifications of the Portfolio's portfolio holdings in this report are made according to financial reporting standards. The classification of a particular portfolio holding as shown in the Allocation Breakdown and Schedule of Investments sections of this report may differ from the classification used for the Portfolio's compliance calculations, including those used in the Portfolio's prospectus, investment objectives, regulatory, and other investment limitations and policies, which may be based on different asset class, sector or geographical classifications. The Portfolio is separately monitored for compliance with respect to prospectus and regulatory requirements.

The geographical classification of foreign (non-U.S.) securities in this report, if any, are classified by the country of incorporation of a holding. In certain instances, a security's country of incorporation may be different from its country of economic exposure.

Beginning in January 2020, global financial markets have experienced and may continue to experience significant volatility resulting from the spread of a novel coronavirus known as COVID-19. The outbreak of COVID-19 has resulted in travel and border restrictions, quarantines, supply chain disruptions, lower consumer demand and general market uncertainty. The effects of COVID-19 have and may continue to adversely affect the global economy, the economies of certain nations and individual issuers, all of which may negatively impact the Portfolio's performance. In addition, COVID-19 and governmental responses to COVID-19 may negatively impact the capabilities of the Portfolio's service providers and disrupt the Portfolio's operations.

The United States presidential administration's enforcement of tariffs on goods from other countries, with a focus on China, has contributed to international trade tensions and may impact portfolio securities.

The United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union may impact Portfolio returns. The withdrawal may cause substantial volatility in foreign exchange markets, lead to weakness in the exchange rate of the British pound, result in a sustained period of market uncertainty, and destabilize some or all of the other European Union member countries and/or the Eurozone.

The Portfolio may invest in certain instruments that rely in some fashion upon the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"). LIBOR is an average interest rate, determined by the ICE Benchmark Administration, that banks charge one another for the use of short-term money. The United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority, which regulates LIBOR, has announced plans to phase out the use of LIBOR by the end of 2021. The transition may result in a reduction in the value of certain instruments held by the Portfolio or a reduction in the effectiveness of related Portfolio transactions such as hedges. There remains uncertainty regarding future utilization of LIBOR and the

nature of any replacement rate (e.g., the Secured Overnight Financing Rate, which is intended to replace U.S. dollar LIBOR and measures the cost of overnight borrowings through repurchase agreement transactions collateralized with U.S. Treasury securities), and any potential effects of the transition away from LIBOR on the Portfolio or on certain instruments in which the Portfolio invests are not known and could result in losses to the Portfolio.

Under the direction of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA”) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“FHLMC”) have entered into a joint initiative to develop a common securitization platform for the issuance of a uniform mortgage-backed security (the “Single Security Initiative”) that aligns the characteristics of FNMA and FHLMC certificates. The Single Security Initiative was implemented on June 3, 2019, and the effects it may have on the market for mortgage-backed securities are uncertain.

On the Portfolio Summary page in this Shareholder Report, the Average Annual Total Return table and Cumulative Returns chart measure performance assuming that any dividend and capital gain distributions were reinvested. The Cumulative Returns chart reflects only Administrative Class performance. Performance may vary by share class

The following table discloses the inception dates of the Portfolio and its share classes along with the Portfolio’s diversification status as of period end:

Portfolio Name	Portfolio Inception	Institutional Class	Administrative Class	Advisor Class	Diversification Status
PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio	02/16/99	04/10/00	02/16/99	03/31/06	Diversified

An investment in the Portfolio is not a bank deposit and is not guaranteed or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. It is possible to lose money on investments in the Portfolio.

The Trustees are responsible generally for overseeing the management of the Trust. The Trustees authorize the Trust to enter into service agreements with the Adviser, the Distributor, the Administrator and other service providers in order to provide, and in some cases authorize service providers to procure through other parties, necessary or desirable services on behalf of the Trust and the Portfolio. Shareholders are not parties to or third-party beneficiaries of such service agreements. Neither this Portfolio’s prospectus nor summary prospectus, the Trust’s Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”), any contracts filed as exhibits to the Trust’s registration statement, nor any other communications, disclosure documents or regulatory filings (including this report) from or on behalf of the Trust or the Portfolio creates a contract between or among any shareholder of the Portfolio, on the one hand, and the Trust, the Portfolio, a service provider to the Trust or the Portfolio, and/or the Trustees or officers of the Trust, on the other hand. The Trustees (or the Trust and its officers, service

based on each class’s expense ratios. The Portfolio measures its performance against at least one broad-based securities market index (“benchmark index”). The benchmark index does not take into account fees, expenses, or taxes. The Portfolio’s past performance, before and after taxes, is not necessarily an indication of how the Portfolio will perform in the future. There is no assurance that the Portfolio, even if the Portfolio has experienced high or unusual performance for one or more periods, will experience similar levels of performance in the future. High performance is defined as a significant increase in either 1) the Portfolio’s total return in excess of that of the Portfolio’s benchmark between reporting periods or 2) the Portfolio’s total return in excess of the Portfolio’s historical returns between reporting periods. Unusual performance is defined as a significant change in the Portfolio’s performance as compared to one or more previous reporting periods. Historical performance for the Portfolio or a share class thereof may have been positively impacted by fee waivers or expense limitations in place during some or all of the periods shown, if applicable. Future performance (including total return or yield) and distributions may be negatively impacted by the expiration or reduction of any such fee waivers or expense limitations.

providers or other delegates acting under authority of the Trustees) may amend the most recent prospectus or use a new prospectus, summary prospectus or SAI with respect to the Portfolio or the Trust, and/or amend, file and/or issue any other communications, disclosure documents or regulatory filings, and may amend or enter into any contracts to which the Trust or the Portfolio is a party, and interpret the investment objective(s), policies, restrictions and contractual provisions applicable to the Portfolio, without shareholder input or approval, except in circumstances in which shareholder approval is specifically required by law (such as changes to fundamental investment policies) or where a shareholder approval requirement is specifically disclosed in the Trust’s then-current prospectus or SAI.

PIMCO has adopted written proxy voting policies and procedures (“Proxy Policy”) as required by Rule 206(4)-6 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. The Proxy Policy has been adopted by the Trust as the policies and procedures that PIMCO will use when voting proxies on behalf of the Portfolio. A description of the policies and procedures that PIMCO uses to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities of the Portfolio, and information about how the Portfolio voted proxies relating to portfolio securities held during the most recent



twelve-month period ended June 30, are available without charge, upon request, by calling the Trust at (888) 87-PIMCO, on the Portfolio's website at [www.pimco.com/pvit](http://www.pimco.com/pvit), and on the Securities and Exchange Commission's ("SEC") website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

The Portfolio files portfolio holdings information with the SEC on Form N-PORT within 60 days of the end of each fiscal quarter. The Portfolio's complete schedule of securities holdings as of the end of each fiscal quarter will be made available to the public on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) and on PIMCO's website at [www.pimco.com/pvit](http://www.pimco.com/pvit), and will be made available, upon request by calling PIMCO at (888) 87-PIMCO. Prior to its use of Form N-PORT, the Portfolio filed its complete schedule of its portfolio holdings with the SEC on Form N-Q, which is available online at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

The SEC adopted a rule that, beginning in 2021, generally will allow shareholder reports to be delivered to investors by providing access to such reports online free of charge and by mailing a notice that the report is electronically available. Pursuant to the rule, investors may still elect to receive a complete shareholder report in the mail. Instructions for electing to receive paper copies of the Portfolio's shareholder reports going forward may be found on the front cover of this report.

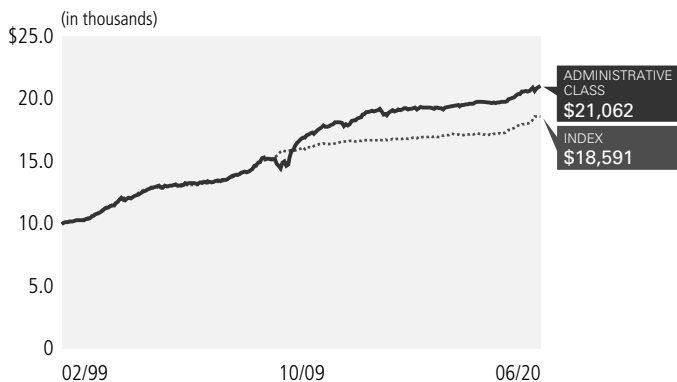
In November 2019, the SEC published a proposed rulemaking related to the use of derivatives and certain other transactions by registered investment companies. If the proposal is adopted in substantially the same form as it was proposed, these requirements could limit the ability of a Portfolio to use derivatives and reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions as part of its investment strategies. Any new requirements, if adopted, may increase the cost of the Portfolio's investments and cost of doing business, which could adversely affect investors.

In April 2020, the SEC issued a proposed rulemaking setting forth a proposed framework for fair valuation of fund investments. If the proposal is adopted in substantially the same form as it was proposed, the rule would set forth requirements for good faith determinations of fair value, establish conditions under which a market quotation is considered readily available for purposes of the definition of "value" under the Investment Company Act of 1940, and address the roles and responsibilities of a portfolio's board of trustees and investment adviser with respect to fair valuation of fund investments. The impact that any such requirements may have on the Portfolio is uncertain.

On August 5, 2020, the SEC proposed changes to the mutual fund and ETF shareholder report and registration statement disclosure requirements and the registered fund advertising rules, which, if adopted, will change the disclosures provided to shareholders.

# PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio

## Cumulative Returns Through June 30, 2020



\$10,000 invested at the end of the month when the Portfolio's Administrative Class commenced operations.

## Allocation Breakdown as of June 30, 2020<sup>§</sup>

Short-Term Instruments <sup>†</sup>	39.7%
Corporate Bonds & Notes	24.3%
U.S. Government Agencies	24.2%
Asset-Backed Securities	4.9%
Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	3.8%
Sovereign Issues	1.9%
Others	1.2%

<sup>†</sup> % of Investments, at value.

<sup>§</sup> Allocation Breakdown and % of investments exclude securities sold short and financial derivative instruments, if any.

<sup>‡</sup> Includes Central Funds Used for Cash Management Purposes.

## Investment Objective and Strategy Overview

PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio seeks maximum total return, consistent with preservation of capital and prudent investment management, by investing under normal circumstances at least 65% of its total assets in a diversified portfolio of Fixed Income Instruments of varying maturities, which may be represented by forwards or derivatives, such as options, futures contracts or swap agreements. "Fixed Income Instruments" include bonds, debt securities and other similar instruments issued by various U.S. and non-U.S. public- or private-sector entities. Portfolio strategies may change from time to time. Please refer to the Portfolio's current prospectus for more information regarding the Portfolio's strategy.

## Portfolio Insights

The following affected performance (on a gross basis) during the reporting period:

- » Overweight exposure to U.S. duration contributed to relative performance, as rates declined.
- » Overweight exposure to Agency mortgage-backed securities contributed to relative performance, as total returns for these securities were positive.
- » Positions in U.S. Treasury inflation-protected securities detracted from relative performance, as breakeven inflation rates declined.
- » Exposure to duration in Italy detracted from relative performance, as rates increased.
- » Short exposure to duration in the U.K. detracted from relative performance, as rates declined.

## Average Annual Total Return for the period ended June 30, 2020

	6 Months <sup>*</sup>	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years	Inception <sup>≈</sup>
PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio Institutional Class	2.18%	3.44%	1.91%	2.10%	3.69%
— PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio Administrative Class	2.11%	3.29%	1.76%	1.95%	3.53%
PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio Advisor Class	2.06%	3.19%	1.66%	1.85%	3.11%
..... ICE BofAML 1-3 Year U.S. Treasury Index <sup>‡</sup>	2.94%	4.07%	1.84%	1.33%	2.93% <sup>◆</sup>

All Portfolio returns are net of fees and expenses and include applicable fee waivers and/or expense limitations. Absent any applicable fee waivers and/or expense limitations, performance would have been lower and there can be no assurance that any such waivers or limitations will continue in the future.

\* Cumulative return.

≈ For class inception dates please refer to the Important Information.

◆ Average annual total return since 02/16/1999.

‡ The ICE BofAML 1-3 Year U.S. Treasury Index is an unmanaged index comprised of U.S. Treasury securities, other than inflation-protection securities and STRIPS, with at least \$1 billion in outstanding face value and a remaining term to final maturity of at least one year and less than three years.

It is not possible to invest directly in an unmanaged index.

*Performance quoted represents past performance. Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than performance shown. Investment return and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate. Shares may be worth more or less than original cost when redeemed. The Portfolio's performance does not reflect the deduction of additional charges and expenses imposed in connection with investing in Variable Contracts, which will reduce returns. Differences in the Portfolio's performance versus the index and related attribution information with respect to particular categories of securities or individual positions may be attributable, in part, to differences in the prices of individual positions (which may be sourced from different pricing vendors or other sources) used by the Portfolio and the index. For performance current to the most recent month-end, visit [www.pimco.com/pvit](http://www.pimco.com/pvit) or via (888) 87-PIMCO.*

*The Portfolio's total annual operating expense ratio in effect as of period end were 0.89% for Institutional Class shares, 1.04% for Administrative Class shares, and 1.14% for Advisor Class shares. Details regarding any changes to the Portfolio's operating expenses, subsequent to period end, can be found in the Portfolio's current prospectus, as supplemented.*

## Expense Example PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio

### Example

As a shareholder of the Portfolio, you incur two types of costs: (1) transaction costs and (2) ongoing costs, including investment advisory fees, supervisory and administrative fees, distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees (if applicable), and other Portfolio expenses. The Example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Portfolio and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds.

The Expense Example does not reflect any fees or other expenses imposed by the Variable Contracts. If it did, the expenses reflected in the Expense Example would be higher. The Example is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the period and held from January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020 unless noted otherwise in the table and footnotes below.

### Actual Expenses

The information in the table under the heading "Actual" provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use this information, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.60), then multiply the result by the number in the appropriate row for your share class, in the column titled "Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during this period.

### Hypothetical Example for Comparison Purposes

The information in the table under the heading "Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)" provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the Portfolio's actual expense ratio and an assumed rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Portfolio's actual return. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Portfolio and other portfolios. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other portfolios.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transactional costs. Therefore, the information under the heading "Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)" is useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different portfolios. In addition, if these transactional costs were included, your costs would have been higher.

Expense ratios may vary period to period because of various factors, such as an increase in expenses that are not covered by the investment advisory fees and supervisory and administrative fees, such as fees and expenses of the independent trustees and their counsel, extraordinary expenses and interest expense.

	Actual			Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)			Net Annualized Expense Ratio**
	Beginning Account Value (01/01/20)	Ending Account Value (06/30/20)	Expenses Paid During Period*	Beginning Account Value (01/01/20)	Ending Account Value (06/30/20)	Expenses Paid During Period*	
Institutional Class	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,021.80	\$ 2.95	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,021.81	\$ 2.95	0.59%
Administrative Class	1,000.00	1,021.10	3.70	1,000.00	1,021.12	3.70	0.74
Advisor Class	1,000.00	1,020.60	4.20	1,000.00	1,020.57	4.20	0.84

\* Expenses Paid During Period are equal to the net annualized expense ratio for the class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 181/366 (to reflect the one-half year period). Overall fees and expenses of investing in the Portfolio will be higher because the example does not reflect variable contract fees and expenses.

\*\* Net Annualized Expense Ratio is reflective of any applicable contractual fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements or voluntary fee waivers. Details regarding fee waivers, if any, can be found in Note 9, Fees and Expenses, in the Notes to Financial Statements.

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# Financial Highlights PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio

Selected Per Share Data for the Year or Period Ended <sup>^</sup> :	Investment Operations				Less Distributions <sup>(c)</sup>			
	Net Asset Value Beginning of Year or Period <sup>(a)</sup>	Net Investment Income (Loss) <sup>(b)</sup>	Net Realized/Unrealized Gain (Loss)	Total	From Net Investment Income	From Net Realized Capital Gain	Tax Basis Return of Capital	Total
<b>Institutional Class</b>								
01/01/2020 - 06/30/2020+	\$ 10.20	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.22	\$ (0.09)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ (0.09)
12/31/2019	10.08	0.29	0.13	0.42	(0.24)	0.00	(0.06)	(0.30)
12/31/2018	10.24	0.20	(0.15)	0.05	(0.21)	0.00	0.00	(0.21)
12/31/2017	10.24	0.15	0.00	0.15	(0.13)	0.00	(0.02)	(0.15)
12/31/2016	10.25	0.16	0.00	0.16	(0.09)	0.00	(0.08)	(0.17)
12/31/2015	10.58	0.15	(0.10)	0.05	(0.38)	0.00	0.00	(0.38)
<b>Administrative Class</b>								
01/01/2020 - 06/30/2020+	10.20	0.08	0.13	0.21	(0.08)	0.00	0.00	(0.08)
12/31/2019	10.08	0.28	0.12	0.40	(0.22)	0.00	(0.06)	(0.28)
12/31/2018	10.24	0.20	(0.17)	0.03	(0.19)	0.00	0.00	(0.19)
12/31/2017	10.24	0.13	0.01	0.14	(0.12)	0.00	(0.02)	(0.14)
12/31/2016	10.25	0.14	0.00	0.14	(0.07)	0.00	(0.08)	(0.15)
12/31/2015	10.58	0.14	(0.11)	0.03	(0.36)	0.00	0.00	(0.36)
<b>Advisor Class</b>								
01/01/2020 - 06/30/2020+	10.20	0.07	0.14	0.21	(0.08)	0.00	0.00	(0.08)
12/31/2019	10.08	0.27	0.12	0.39	(0.21)	0.00	(0.06)	(0.27)
12/31/2018	10.24	0.19	(0.17)	0.02	(0.18)	0.00	0.00	(0.18)
12/31/2017	10.24	0.12	0.01	0.13	(0.11)	0.00	(0.02)	(0.13)
12/31/2016	10.25	0.13	0.00	0.13	(0.06)	0.00	(0.08)	(0.14)
12/31/2015	10.58	0.13	(0.11)	0.02	(0.35)	0.00	0.00	(0.35)

+ Unaudited

\* Annualized

<sup>^</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than \$0.01 or 0.01%.

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes adjustments required by U.S. GAAP and may differ from net asset values and performance reported elsewhere by the Portfolio.

<sup>(b)</sup> Per share amounts based on average number of shares outstanding during the year or period.

<sup>(c)</sup> The tax characterization of distributions is determined in accordance with Federal income tax regulations. The actual tax characterization of distributions paid is determined at the end of the fiscal year. See Note 2, Distributions to Shareholders, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

Ratios/Supplemental Data								
Ratios to Average Net Assets								
Net Asset Value End of Year or Period <sup>(a)</sup>	Total Return <sup>(a)</sup>	Net Assets End of Year or Period (000s)	Expenses	Expenses Excluding Waivers	Expenses Excluding Interest Expense	Expenses Excluding Interest Expense and Waivers	Net Investment Income (Loss)	Portfolio Turnover Rate
\$ 10.33	2.18%	\$ 13,232	0.59%*	0.59%*	0.50%*	0.50%*	1.66%*	154%
10.20	4.18	11,474	0.89	0.89	0.50	0.50	2.86	308
10.08	0.49	8,588	0.59	0.59	0.50	0.50	2.02	624
10.24	1.50	15,368	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	1.44	544
10.24	1.56	8,710	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	1.59	391
10.25	0.47	8,291	0.51	0.51	0.50	0.50	1.39	181
10.33	2.11	1,020,368	0.74*	0.74*	0.65*	0.65*	1.49*	154
10.20	4.03	1,007,149	1.04	1.04	0.65	0.65	2.76	308
10.08	0.34	1,197,654	0.74	0.74	0.65	0.65	1.94	624
10.24	1.35	1,272,418	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	1.31	544
10.24	1.41	1,248,263	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	1.40	391
10.25	0.31	1,323,009	0.66	0.66	0.65	0.65	1.32	181
10.33	2.06	738,709	0.84*	0.84*	0.75*	0.75*	1.40*	154
10.20	3.92	754,355	1.14	1.14	0.75	0.75	2.65	308
10.08	0.24	757,166	0.84	0.84	0.75	0.75	1.85	624
10.24	1.25	761,611	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.21	544
10.24	1.30	717,542	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.31	391
10.25	0.21	677,728	0.76	0.76	0.75	0.75	1.25	181

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

(Amounts in thousands<sup>1</sup>, except per share amounts)

<b>Assets:</b>	
<i>Investments, at value</i>	
Investments in securities*	\$ 1,638,171
Investments in Affiliates	353,022
<i>Financial Derivative Instruments</i>	
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	425
Over the counter	10,164
Cash	119
Deposits with counterparty	4,528
Foreign currency, at value	3,207
Receivable for investments sold	859
Receivable for TBA investments sold	514,695
Receivable for Portfolio shares sold	4,630
Interest and/or dividends receivable	3,540
Dividends receivable from Affiliates	390
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,533,750</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
<i>Borrowings &amp; Other Financing Transactions</i>	
Payable for short sales	\$ 164,535
<i>Financial Derivative Instruments</i>	
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	189
Over the counter	4,106
Payable for investments purchased	25,547
Payable for TBA investments purchased	556,613
Payable for investments in Affiliates purchased	390
Deposits from counterparty	8,570
Payable for Portfolio shares redeemed	499
Accrued investment advisory fees	359
Accrued supervisory and administrative fees	359
Accrued distribution fees	151
Accrued servicing fees	123
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>761,441</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,772,309</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of:</b>	
Paid in capital	\$ 1,792,751
Distributable earnings (accumulated loss)	(20,442)
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,772,309</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>	
Institutional Class	\$ 13,232
Administrative Class	1,020,368
Advisor Class	738,709
<b>Shares Issued and Outstanding:</b>	
Institutional Class	1,281
Administrative Class	98,817
Advisor Class	71,539
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share Outstanding<sup>(a)</sup>:</b>	
Institutional Class	\$ 10.33
Administrative Class	10.33
Advisor Class	10.33
Cost of investments in securities	\$ 1,623,899
Cost of investments in Affiliates	\$ 350,018
Cost of foreign currency held	\$ 3,251
Proceeds received on short sales	\$ 164,707
Cost or premiums of financial derivative instruments, net	\$ 397
* Includes repurchase agreements of:	\$ 115,504

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes adjustments required by U.S. GAAP and may differ from net asset values and performance reported elsewhere by the Portfolio.

# Statement of Operations PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)
(Amounts in thousands <sup>†</sup> )	
<b>Investment Income:</b>	
Interest	\$ 16,688
Dividends from Investments in Affiliates	2,783
Total Income	19,471
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Investment advisory fees	2,179
Supervisory and administrative fees	2,179
Servicing fees - Administrative Class	737
Distribution and/or servicing fees - Advisor Class	938
Trustee fees	21
Interest expense	768
Miscellaneous expense	3
Total Expenses	6,825
Waiver and/or Reimbursement by PIMCO	(1)
Net Expenses	6,824
<b>Net Investment Income (Loss)</b>	<b>12,647</b>
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss):</b>	
Investments in securities	2,277
Investments in Affiliates	(2,043)
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared financial derivative instruments	12,017
Over the counter financial derivative instruments	7,627
Foreign currency	(2,888)
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>16,990</b>
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation):</b>	
Investments in securities	(13,646)
Investments in Affiliates	4,029
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared financial derivative instruments	1,332
Over the counter financial derivative instruments	13,436
Foreign currency assets and liabilities	(262)
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>4,889</b>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>\$ 34,526</b>

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.



# Statements of Changes in Net Assets PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio

(Amounts in thousands <sup>†</sup> )	Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2019
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets from:</b>		
<b>Operations:</b>		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 12,647	\$ 49,230
Net realized gain (loss)	16,990	(964)
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	4,889	23,488
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>34,526</b>	<b>71,754</b>
<b>Distributions to Shareholders:</b>		
From net investment income and/or net realized capital gains		
Institutional Class	(97)	(235)
Administrative Class	(8,188)	(23,111)
Advisor Class	(5,909)	(15,834)
Tax basis return of capital		
Institutional Class	0	(58)
Administrative Class	0	(5,967)
Advisor Class	0	(4,291)
<b>Total Distributions<sup>(a)</sup></b>	<b>(14,194)</b>	<b>(49,496)</b>
<b>Portfolio Share Transactions:</b>		
Net increase (decrease) resulting from Portfolio share transactions*	(21,001)	(212,688)
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>(669)</b>	<b>(190,430)</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Beginning of period	1,772,978	1,963,408
End of period	<b>\$ 1,772,309</b>	<b>\$ 1,772,978</b>

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

\* See Note 13, Shares of Beneficial Interest, in the Notes to Financial Statements.

<sup>(a)</sup> The tax characterization of distributions is determined in accordance with Federal income tax regulations. The actual tax characterization of distributions paid is determined at the end of the fiscal year. See Note 2, Distributions to Shareholders, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

# Schedule of Investments PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

(Amounts in thousands\*, except number of shares, contracts and units, if any)

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES 92.5%</b>						
<b>LOAN PARTICIPATIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS 0.7%</b>						
<b>State of Qatar</b> 2.571% (LIBOR03M + 0.800%) due 12/21/2020 «~	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000				
<b>Toyota Motor Credit Corp.</b> 0.886% (LIBOR03M + 0.580%) due 09/28/2020 «~	6,000	5,992				
<b>Total Loan Participations and Assignments (Cost \$11,981)</b>		<b>11,992</b>				
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 27.2%</b>						
<b>BANKING &amp; FINANCE 15.7%</b>						
<b>Ally Financial, Inc.</b> 7.500% due 09/15/2020	100	101				
<b>American Express Co.</b> 1.141% (US0003M + 0.600%) due 11/05/2021 ~	5,000	5,016				
<b>American Honda Finance Corp.</b> 0.842% (US0003M + 0.450%) due 02/15/2022 ~	1,500	1,497				
<b>Aviation Capital Group LLC</b> 1.300% (US0003M + 0.950%) due 06/01/2021 ~	4,900	4,661				
1.430% (US0003M + 0.670%) due 07/30/2021 ~	3,100	2,924				
<b>Banco Santander S.A.</b> 2.431% (US0003M + 1.120%) due 04/12/2023 ~	2,400	2,365				
<b>Bank of America Corp.</b> 1.486% due 05/19/2024 •	4,300	4,372				
2.003% (US0003M + 0.960%) due 07/23/2024 ~	1,200	1,203				
2.295% (US0003M + 1.160%) due 01/20/2023 ~	200	202				
3.550% due 03/05/2024 •	4,100	4,383				
<b>Barclays PLC</b> 2.558% (US0003M + 2.110%) due 08/10/2021 ~	4,900	4,976				
2.852% due 05/07/2026 •	5,100	5,315				
<b>BBVA USA</b> 1.045% (US0003M + 0.730%) due 06/11/2021 ~	5,000	4,962				
<b>Brixmor Operating Partnership LP</b> 1.737% (US0003M + 1.050%) due 02/01/2022 ~	5,000	4,908				
<b>Capital One Financial Corp.</b> 1.210% (US0003M + 0.450%) due 10/30/2020 ~	4,000	4,004				
<b>Citibank N.A.</b> 2.844% due 05/20/2022 •	4,300	4,386				
<b>Citigroup, Inc.</b> 1.681% (US0003M + 0.690%) due 10/27/2022 ~	5,000	4,987				
2.700% due 10/27/2022	4,400	4,597				
<b>Credit Agricole S.A.</b> 1.907% due 06/16/2026 •	3,900	3,958				
<b>Credit Suisse Group Funding Guernsey Ltd.</b> 3.425% (US0003M + 2.290%) due 04/16/2021 ~	5,800	5,891				
3.800% due 06/09/2023	4,800	5,173				
<b>Danske Bank A/S</b> 5.000% due 01/12/2022	4,800	5,050				
<b>Deutsche Bank AG</b> 0.148% (EURO03M + 0.500%) due 12/07/2020 ~	EUR 5,000	5,605				
1.846% (US0003M + 1.290%) due 02/04/2021 ~	\$ 5,000	4,974				
4.250% due 10/14/2021	2,500	2,567				
<b>Federal Realty Investment Trust</b> 3.950% due 01/15/2024	4,200	4,475				
<b>Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC</b> 1.227% (US0003M + 0.930%) due 09/24/2020 ~	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,960				
2.183% (US0003M + 0.810%) due 04/05/2021 ~	3,900	3,743				
3.937% (US0003M + 2.550%) due 01/07/2021 ~	5,900	5,812				
5.085% due 01/07/2021	2,600	2,604				
5.750% due 02/01/2021	600	605				
<b>General Motors Financial Co., Inc.</b> 3.200% due 07/13/2020	7,000	7,003				
<b>Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.</b> 1.110% (US0003M + 0.750%) due 02/23/2023 ~	2,400	2,390				
1.540% (US0003M + 0.780%) due 10/31/2022 ~	5,300	5,300				
2.876% due 10/31/2022 •	5,100	5,230				
<b>HSBC Bank Canada</b> 0.950% due 05/14/2023	5,000	5,036				
<b>ING Groep NV</b> 3.150% due 03/29/2022	1,400	1,456				
<b>JPMorgan Chase &amp; Co.</b> 0.918% (US0003M + 0.610%) due 06/18/2022 ~	3,000	3,005				
<b>Lloyds Banking Group PLC</b> 1.106% (US0003M + 0.800%) due 06/21/2021 ~	4,000	4,017				
<b>Logicor Financing SARL</b> 1.500% due 11/14/2022	EUR 5,200	5,913				
<b>Marsh &amp; McLennan Cos., Inc.</b> 1.506% (US0003M + 1.200%) due 12/29/2021 ~	\$ 2,400	2,401				
3.500% due 12/29/2020	4,600	4,670				
<b>Metropolitan Life Global Funding</b> 0.950% due 07/02/2025 (b)	5,300	5,312				
<b>Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc.</b> 1.084% (US0003M + 0.740%) due 03/02/2023 ~	10,200	10,162				
<b>Mitsubishi UFJ Lease &amp; Finance Co. Ltd.</b> 3.406% due 02/28/2022	500	516				
<b>Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.</b> 1.525% (BBSW3M + 1.400%) due 07/19/2023 ~	AUD 6,700	4,594				
<b>Nationwide Building Society</b> 3.622% due 04/26/2023 •	\$ 1,600	1,663				
<b>Nissan Motor Acceptance Corp.</b> 1.961% (US0003M + 0.650%) due 07/13/2022 ~	5,900	5,494				
<b>NTT Finance Corp.</b> 1.900% due 07/21/2021	2,800	2,834				
<b>Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp. Ltd.</b> 0.836% (US0003M + 0.450%) due 05/17/2021 ~	3,300	3,302				
<b>PNC Bank N.A.</b> 1.548% (US0003M + 0.450%) due 07/22/2022 ~	2,500	2,506				
<b>Public Storage</b> 2.370% due 09/15/2022	5,100	5,290				
<b>Royal Bank of Scotland Group PLC</b> 2.500% due 03/22/2023	EUR 3,900	4,567				
<b>Santander UK PLC</b> 0.970% (US0003M + 0.620%) due 06/01/2021 ~	\$ 5,000	5,017				
1.052% (US0003M + 0.660%) due 11/15/2021 ~	5,900	5,933				
<b>SBA Tower Trust</b> 2.877% due 07/15/2046	1,400	1,404				
<b>SL Green Operating Partnership LP</b> 1.366% (US0003M + 0.980%) due 08/16/2021 ~	6,000	5,913				
<b>Standard Chartered PLC</b> 2.744% due 09/10/2022 •	8,800	8,903				
<b>Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.</b> 1.474% due 07/08/2025 (b)	5,300	5,305				
<b>Synchrony Bank</b> 3.650% due 05/24/2021	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,285				
<b>U.S. Bank N.A.</b> 3.400% due 07/24/2023	4,100	4,437				
<b>UniCredit SpA</b> 5.211% (US0003M + 3.900%) due 01/14/2022 ~	5,100	5,152				
7.830% due 12/04/2023	10,700	12,388				
<b>Volkswagen Bank GmbH</b> 0.062% due 06/15/2021 •	EUR 1,400	1,563				
<b>Wells Fargo &amp; Co.</b> 1.654% due 06/02/2024 •	\$ 5,200	5,287				
		<b>279,524</b>				
<b>INDUSTRIALS 9.6%</b>						
<b>AbbVie, Inc.</b> 2.150% due 11/19/2021	5,800	5,909				
2.300% due 11/21/2022	5,200	5,378				
3.375% due 11/14/2021	3,100	3,210				
<b>Bayer U.S. Finance LLC</b> 0.927% (US0003M + 0.630%) due 06/25/2021 ~	6,100	6,093				
<b>BMW Finance NV</b> 2.250% due 08/12/2022	9,200	9,500				
<b>BMW U.S. Capital LLC</b> 2.000% due 04/11/2021	2,100	2,119				
<b>Broadcom, Inc.</b> 2.250% due 11/15/2023	5,200	5,377				
<b>Caesars Resort Collection LLC</b> 5.250% due 10/15/2025	750	654				
<b>Campbell Soup Co.</b> 0.943% (US0003M + 0.630%) due 03/15/2021 ~	4,100	4,105				
3.650% due 03/15/2023	1,000	1,067				
<b>CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.</b> 3.550% due 04/01/2023	1,500	1,599				
<b>Charter Communications Operating LLC</b> 4.464% due 07/23/2022	2,100	2,240				
<b>Chevron Corp.</b> 1.141% due 05/11/2023	12,100	12,314				
<b>Conagra Brands, Inc.</b> 1.820% (US0003M + 0.500%) due 10/09/2020 ~	2,500	2,502				
<b>CVS Health Corp.</b> 3.700% due 03/09/2023	5,300	5,697				
<b>DAE Funding LLC</b> 4.000% due 08/01/2020	300	299				
<b>Daimler Finance North America LLC</b> 1.106% (US0003M + 0.550%) due 05/04/2021 ~	5,000	4,975				
1.211% (US0003M + 0.670%) due 11/05/2021 ~	900	891				
1.292% (US0003M + 0.900%) due 02/15/2022 ~	5,400	5,337				
3.400% due 02/22/2022	4,800	4,961				
<b>Danone S.A.</b> 2.947% due 11/02/2026	4,000	4,390				
<b>Enbridge, Inc.</b> 0.881% (US0003M + 0.500%) due 02/18/2022 ~	4,400	4,377				
<b>General Mills, Inc.</b> 1.716% (US0003M + 0.540%) due 04/16/2021 ~	2,100	2,105				
<b>Hasbro, Inc.</b> 2.600% due 11/19/2022	2,000	2,071				
<b>Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.</b> 2.093% (US0003M + 0.720%) due 10/05/2021 ~	3,900	3,893				
<b>Hyundai Capital America</b> 1.108% due 09/18/2020 •	6,700	6,686				
<b>Kinder Morgan Energy Partners LP</b> 4.150% due 03/01/2022	500	526				

# Schedule of Investments PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio (Cont.)

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)		PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)		PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>Kinder Morgan, Inc.</b>								
5.000% due 02/15/2021	\$ 300	\$ 306						
<b>Kraft Heinz Foods Co.</b>								
2.800% due 07/02/2020	440	440						
<b>Leidos, Inc.</b>								
2.950% due 05/15/2023	1,900	1,988						
<b>Local Initiatives Support Corp.</b>								
3.005% due 03/01/2022	1,300	1,332						
<b>Marriott International, Inc.</b>								
0.950% (US0003M + 0.600%) due 12/01/2020 ~	4,900	4,878						
<b>Masco Corp.</b>								
3.500% due 04/01/2021	2,887	2,927						
<b>McDonald's Corp.</b>								
1.317% (US0003M + 0.430%) due 10/28/2021 ~	1,800	1,804						
<b>NXP BV</b>								
4.125% due 06/01/2021	2,800	2,884						
<b>Pacific National Finance Pty. Ltd.</b>								
4.625% due 09/23/2020	1,800	1,810						
<b>PayPal Holdings, Inc.</b>								
2.200% due 09/26/2022	1,800	1,864						
<b>Penske Truck Leasing Co. LP</b>								
3.300% due 04/01/2021	2,900	2,940						
<b>Reckitt Benckiser Treasury Services PLC</b>								
0.857% (US0003M + 0.560%) due 06/24/2022 ~	400	399						
<b>Seven &amp; i Holdings Co. Ltd.</b>								
3.350% due 09/17/2021	5,100	5,239						
<b>Sprint Spectrum Co. LLC</b>								
3.360% due 03/20/2023	646	655						
<b>Sysco Corp.</b>								
5.650% due 04/01/2025	4,500	5,270						
<b>Time Warner Cable LLC</b>								
4.125% due 02/15/2021	2,900	2,933						
<b>Volkswagen Group of America Finance LLC</b>								
1.157% (US0003M + 0.860%) due 09/24/2021 ~	1,600	1,595						
1.375% (US0003M + 0.940%) due 11/12/2021 ~	5,900	5,883						
2.500% due 09/24/2021	1,000	1,016						
2.700% due 09/26/2022	500	517						
3.875% due 11/13/2020	5,900	5,956						
4.000% due 11/12/2021	5,900	6,145						
<b>Volkswagen International Finance NV</b>								
1.288% (EUR0003M + 1.550%) due 11/16/2024 ~	EUR 700	776						
<b>Zimmer Biomet Holdings, Inc.</b>								
1.066% (US0003M + 0.750%) due 03/19/2021 ~	\$ 2,300	2,300						
		170,132						
<b>UTILITIES 1.9%</b>								
<b>AT&amp;T, Inc.</b>								
1.498% (US0003M + 1.180%) due 06/12/2024 ~	4,300	4,310						
2.169% (US0003M + 0.950%) due 07/15/2021 ~	5,900	5,949						
<b>LG&amp;E &amp; KU Energy LLC</b>								
3.750% due 11/15/2020	900	903						
<b>NextEra Energy Capital Holdings, Inc.</b>								
1.080% (US0003M + 0.720%) due 02/25/2022 ~	4,800	4,827						
2.900% due 04/01/2022	5,000	5,206						
<b>Pacific Gas and Electric Co.</b>								
1.795% (US0003M + 1.480%) due 06/16/2022 ~	3,500	3,506						
<b>Sempra Energy</b>								
0.763% (US0003M + 0.450%) due 03/15/2021 ~	5,000	5,009						
<b>Verizon Communications, Inc.</b>								
1.321% (US0003M + 1.000%) due 03/16/2022 ~	3,500	3,548						
		33,258						
<b>Total Corporate Bonds &amp; Notes (Cost \$477,632)</b>		<b>482,914</b>						
<b>U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES 27.2%</b>								
<b>Fannie Mae</b>								
0.228% due 12/25/2036 •	\$ 30	\$ 30						
0.236% due 07/25/2037 •	118	116						
0.518% due 09/25/2042 •	327	327						
0.535% due 03/25/2044 •	29	29						
0.985% due 04/25/2023 •	10	10						
1.000% due 01/25/2043	117	114						
1.094% due 06/17/2027 •	14	14						
2.891% due 07/01/2042 - 06/01/2043 •	128	129						
2.941% due 09/01/2041 •	95	96						
3.461% due 11/01/2035 •	21	21						
3.574% due 07/01/2035 •	5	5						
3.802% due 09/01/2035 •	78	81						
3.809% due 05/01/2038 •	1,472	1,557						
4.127% due 12/01/2036 •	4	4						
5.000% due 04/25/2033	6	7						
5.030% due 09/01/2034 •	2	2						
5.242% due 12/25/2042 ~	4	5						
<b>Freddie Mac</b>								
0.315% due 08/25/2031 •	65	65						
0.770% due 12/15/2042 •	3,945	3,954						
2.000% due 11/15/2026	2,586	2,653						
2.891% due 02/25/2045 •	122	124						
3.500% due 07/01/2035 •	25	26						
4.000% due 12/01/2047 - 08/01/2048	9,934	10,710						
4.021% due 09/01/2035 •	98	103						
6.500% due 07/25/2043	34	43						
9.384% due 08/15/2044 •	2,506	3,244						
<b>Ginnie Mae</b>								
0.823% due 10/20/2065 •	7,684	7,687						
0.843% due 07/20/2063 •	2,623	2,624						
1.103% due 05/20/2066 •	951	960						
1.153% due 04/20/2066 •	6,411	6,484						
1.476% due 06/20/2065 •	2,695	2,692						
3.310% due 07/20/2067 •	7,168	7,319						
4.500% due 06/20/2048 - 02/20/2049	7,555	8,078						
5.000% due 02/20/2041 (a)	6	0						
5.000% due 04/20/2049 - 08/20/2049	47,943	52,121						
<b>Ginnie Mae, TBA</b>								
4.500% due 07/01/2050 - 08/01/2050	36,100	38,544						
<b>Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security</b>								
3.500% due 04/01/2045 - 12/01/2047	68,030	74,259						
4.000% due 08/01/2044 - 11/01/2048	76,977	81,732						
4.500% due 03/01/2023 - 08/01/2046	5,181	5,686						
5.000% due 05/01/2027 - 06/01/2028	83	91						
5.500% due 12/01/2028 - 02/01/2049	378	417						
6.000% due 02/01/2033 - 01/01/2039	1,030	1,200						
6.500% due 04/01/2036	68	78						
<b>Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA</b>								
2.500% due 07/01/2050 - 08/01/2050	150,000	156,037						
3.000% due 09/01/2050	3,600	3,779						
4.500% due 07/01/2035 - 08/01/2050	8,500	9,132						
<b>Total U.S. Government Agencies (Cost \$468,938)</b>		<b>482,389</b>						
<b>U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS 0.7%</b>								
<b>U.S. Treasury Bonds</b>								
2.500% due 02/15/2045	7,500	9,253						
<b>U.S. Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (g)</b>								
0.500% due 04/15/2024	3,050	3,210						
<b>Total U.S. Treasury Obligations (Cost \$11,985)</b>		<b>12,463</b>						
<b>NON-AGENCY MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES 4.3%</b>								
<b>Adjustable Rate Mortgage Trust</b>								
3.869% due 09/25/2035 ^~	\$ 300	\$ 276						
<b>American Home Mortgage Investment Trust</b>								
2.515% due 02/25/2045 •	36	36						
<b>Bank of America Funding Trust</b>								
4.185% due 01/20/2047 ^~	170	161						
<b>Bank of America Mortgage Trust</b>								
3.095% due 07/25/2034 ~	248	239						
4.292% due 05/25/2033 ~	75	73						
4.493% due 08/25/2034 ~	476	472						
6.500% due 10/25/2031	3	3						
<b>BCAP LLC Trust</b>								
0.618% due 01/26/2036 •	262	262						
<b>Bear Stearns Adjustable Rate Mortgage Trust</b>								
3.398% due 07/25/2034 ~	87	78						
3.858% due 01/25/2035 ~	1,418	1,298						
4.016% due 04/25/2033 ~	1	1						
4.103% due 01/25/2034 ~	8	8						
4.377% due 01/25/2035 ~	61	57						
<b>Bear Stearns ALT-A Trust</b>								
0.345% due 02/25/2034 •	193	177						
<b>Bear Stearns Structured Products, Inc. Trust</b>								
3.635% due 01/26/2036 ^~	390	322						
4.251% due 12/26/2046 ^~	268	235						
<b>Chevy Chase Funding LLC Mortgage-Backed Certificates</b>								
0.465% due 01/25/2035 •	21	20						
<b>Citigroup Global Markets Mortgage Securities, Inc.</b>								
7.000% due 06/25/2033 b	1	1						
<b>Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust</b>								
2.570% due 05/25/2035 •	36	35						
3.979% due 08/25/2035 ^~	135	114						
<b>Countrywide Alternative Loan Trust</b>								
6.000% due 10/25/2033	7	7						
<b>Countrywide Home Loan Mortgage Pass-Through Trust</b>								
3.633% due 02/20/2035 ~	145	142						
3.793% due 02/20/2036 ^•	251	236						
3.819% due 11/25/2034 ~	215	210						
3.885% due 11/20/2034 ~	422	412						
<b>Credit Suisse First Boston Mortgage Securities Corp.</b>								
1.633% due 03/25/2032 ~	1	1						
<b>Eurosaill PLC</b>								
0.000% due 12/10/2044 •	EUR 46	51						
1.143% (BP0003M + 0.950%) due 06/13/2045 ~	GBP 6,790	8,314						
<b>First Horizon Alternative Mortgage Securities Trust</b>								
3.452% due 09/25/2034 ~	\$ 229	222						
<b>First Horizon Mortgage Pass-Through Trust</b>								
3.864% due 08/25/2035 ~	88	73						
<b>FirstMac Mortgage Funding Trust</b>								
1.138% due 03/08/2049 •	AUD 2,322	1,583						
1.388% due 03/08/2049 •	6,100	4,188						
<b>GMAC Mortgage Corp. Loan Trust</b>								
3.985% due 11/19/2035 ~	\$ 60	55						
<b>Great Hall Mortgages PLC</b>								
0.438% due 06/18/2039 •	1,048	1,027						
<b>GS Mortgage Securities Corp. Trust</b>								
3.980% due 02/10/2029	5,000	4,991						
<b>GS Mortgage Securities Trust</b>								
2.096% due 11/10/2045 ~(a)	2,067	75						
<b>GSR Mortgage Loan Trust</b>								
4.065% due 09/25/2035 ~	159	158						
4.679% due 09/25/2034 ~	50	49						
<b>HarborView Mortgage Loan Trust</b>								
0.634% due 05/19/2035 •	54	49						
3.653% due 07/19/2035 ^~	244	203						
<b>Hawksmoor Mortgages</b>								
1.287% due 05/25/2053 •	GBP 15,444	19,132						
<b>Holmes Master Issuer PLC</b>								
1.579% due 10/15/2054 •	\$ 1,523	1,522						
<b>Impac CMB Trust</b>								
1.185% due 07/25/2033 •	56	54						



## Schedule of Investments PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio (Cont.)

- « Security valued using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3).
- ~ Variable or Floating rate security. Rate shown is the rate in effect as of period end. Certain variable rate securities are not based on a published reference rate and spread, rather are determined by the issuer or agent and are based on current market conditions. Reference rate is as of reset date, which may vary by security. These securities may not indicate a reference rate and/or spread in their description.
- Rate shown is the rate in effect as of period end. The rate may be based on a fixed rate, a capped rate or a floor rate and may convert to a variable or floating rate in the future. These securities do not indicate a reference rate and spread in their description.
- b Coupon represents a rate which changes periodically based on a predetermined schedule or event. Rate shown is the rate in effect as of period end.
  - (a) Security is an Interest Only ("IO") or IO Strip.
  - (b) When-issued security.
  - (c) Security did not produce income within the last twelve months.
  - (d) Coupon represents a weighted average yield to maturity.
  - (e) Zero coupon security.
  - (f) Coupon represents a yield to maturity.
  - (g) Principal amount of security is adjusted for inflation.

### BORROWINGS AND OTHER FINANCING TRANSACTIONS

#### (h) REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS:

Counterparty	Lending Rate	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Principal Amount	Collateralized By	Collateral (Received)	Repurchase Agreements, at Value	Repurchase Agreement Proceeds to be Received <sup>(1)</sup>
FICC	0.000%	06/30/2020	07/01/2020	\$ 6,404	U.S. Treasury Notes 1.875% due 04/30/2022	\$ (6,532)	\$ 6,404	\$ 6,404
MBC	0.130	06/30/2020	07/01/2020	109,100	U.S. Treasury Notes 2.000% due 07/31/2022	(112,578)	109,100	109,100
<b>Total Repurchase Agreements</b>						<b>\$ (119,110)</b>	<b>\$ 115,504</b>	<b>\$ 115,504</b>

#### SHORT SALES:

Description	Coupon	Maturity Date	Principal Amount	Proceeds	Payable for Short Sales
U.S. Government Agencies (9.3)%					
Ginnie Mae, TBA	4.000%	07/01/2050	\$ 200	\$ (213)	\$ (212)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	3.500	07/01/2050	23,000	(24,258)	(24,189)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	3.500	08/01/2050	25,000	(26,307)	(26,295)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	4.000	08/01/2050	105,800	(112,231)	(112,169)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	6.000	07/01/2050	1,500	(1,698)	(1,670)
<b>Total Short Sales (9.3)%</b>				<b>\$ (164,707)</b>	<b>\$ (164,535)</b>

### BORROWINGS AND OTHER FINANCING TRANSACTIONS SUMMARY

The following is a summary by counterparty of the market value of Borrowings and Other Financing Transactions and collateral pledged/(received) as of June 30, 2020:

Counterparty	Repurchase Agreement Proceeds to be Received <sup>(1)</sup>	Payable for Reverse Repurchase Agreements	Payable for Sale-Buyback Transactions	Total Borrowings and Other Financing Transactions	Collateral Pledged/(Received)	Net Exposure <sup>(2)</sup>
Global/Master Repurchase Agreement						
FICC	\$ 6,404	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,404	\$ (6,532)	\$ (128)
MBC	109,100	0	0	109,100	(112,578)	(3,478)
<b>Total Borrowings and Other Financing Transactions</b>	<b>\$ 115,504</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>			

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes accrued interest.

<sup>(2)</sup> Net Exposure represents the net receivable/(payable) that would be due from/to the counterparty in the event of default. Exposure from borrowings and other financing transactions can only be netted across transactions governed under the same master agreement with the same legal entity. See Note 8, Master Netting Arrangements, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

The average amount of borrowings outstanding during the period ended June 30, 2020 was \$(84,469) at a weighted average interest rate of 1.749%. Average borrowings may include reverse repurchase agreements and sale-buyback transactions, if held during the period.

**(i) FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS: EXCHANGE-TRADED OR CENTRALLY CLEARED****FUTURES CONTRACTS:****LONG FUTURES CONTRACTS**

Description	Expiration Month	# of Contracts	Notional Amount	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Variation Margin	
					Asset	Liability
Euro-Bund 10-Year Bond September Futures	09/2020	50	\$ 9,916	\$ 55	\$ 0	\$ (10)
U.S. Treasury 2-Year Note September Futures	09/2020	3,826	844,888	150	60	0
U.S. Treasury 5-Year Note September Futures	09/2020	2,209	277,764	694	0	(69)
				\$ 899	\$ 60	\$ (79)

**SHORT FUTURES CONTRACTS**

Description	Expiration Month	# of Contracts	Notional Amount	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Variation Margin	
					Asset	Liability
U.S. Treasury 10-Year Note September Futures	09/2020	878	\$ (122,193)	\$ (378)	\$ 137	\$ 0
U.S. Treasury 30-Year Bond September Futures	09/2020	57	(10,178)	(104)	27	0
United Kingdom Long Gilt September Futures	09/2020	177	(30,187)	68	35	(48)
				\$ (414)	\$ 199	\$ (48)
<b>Total Futures Contracts</b>				<b>\$ 485</b>	<b>\$ 259</b>	<b>\$ (127)</b>

**SWAP AGREEMENTS:****CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS ON CORPORATE ISSUES - SELL PROTECTION<sup>(1)</sup>**

Reference Entity	Fixed Receive Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Implied Credit Spread at June 30, 2020 <sup>(2)</sup>	Notional Amount <sup>(3)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Market Value <sup>(4)</sup>	Variation Margin	
									Asset	Liability
General Electric Co.	1.000%	Quarterly	12/20/2020	0.877%	\$ 2,000	\$ (58)	\$ 60	\$ 2	\$ 0	\$ 0

**INTEREST RATE SWAPS**

Pay/Receive	Floating Rate	Floating Rate Index	Fixed Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Notional Amount	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Market Value	Variation Margin	
										Asset	Liability
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill		1.270%	Semi-Annual	03/03/2022	CAD 58,500	\$ 0	\$ 490	\$ 490	\$ 0	\$ (1)
Pay	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		0.100	Semi-Annual	03/20/2024	JPY 10,270,000	321	197	518	0	(17)
Receive	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		0.300	Semi-Annual	03/18/2026	7,240,000	(87)	(1,251)	(1,338)	34	0
Pay	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		0.380	Semi-Annual	06/18/2028	1,640,000	201	257	458	0	(14)
Pay	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		0.036	Semi-Annual	03/10/2038	390,000	0	(100)	(100)	0	(11)
Pay	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		0.040	Semi-Annual	03/10/2038	390,000	0	(97)	(97)	0	(11)
Receive	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		0.750	Semi-Annual	03/20/2038	3,120,000	69	(2,960)	(2,891)	104	0
Receive	6-Month JPY-LIBOR		1.000	Semi-Annual	03/21/2048	340,000	(11)	(599)	(610)	22	0
Pay	28-Day MXN-TIIE		8.700	Lunar	11/02/2020	MXN 244,900	(14)	166	152	1	0
Pay	28-Day MXN-TIIE		8.735	Lunar	11/06/2020	222,200	0	140	140	1	0
Pay	28-Day MXN-TIIE		8.748	Lunar	11/06/2020	988,300	0	623	623	4	0
Receive	28-Day MXN-TIIE		8.720	Lunar	11/13/2020	432,700	49	(324)	(275)	0	(2)
Receive	28-Day MXN-TIIE		8.683	Lunar	11/27/2020	453,700	0	(343)	(343)	0	(3)
Receive	28-Day MXN-TIIE		8.855	Lunar	12/03/2020	524,200	0	(419)	(419)	0	(3)
							\$ 528	\$ (4,220)	\$ (3,692)	\$ 166	\$ (62)
<b>Total Swap Agreements</b>							<b>\$ 470</b>	<b>\$ (4,160)</b>	<b>\$ (3,690)</b>	<b>\$ 166</b>	<b>\$ (62)</b>

**FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS: EXCHANGE-TRADED OR CENTRALLY CLEARED SUMMARY**

The following is a summary of the market value and variation margin of Exchange-Traded or Centrally Cleared Financial Derivative Instruments as of June 30, 2020:

	Financial Derivative Assets				Financial Derivative Liabilities			
	Market Value	Variation Margin Asset			Market Value	Variation Margin Liability		
		Purchased Options	Futures	Swap Agreements		Total	Written Options	Futures
<b>Total Exchange-Traded or Centrally Cleared</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 259</b>	<b>\$ 166</b>	<b>\$ 425</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (127)</b>	<b>\$ (62)</b>	<b>\$ (189)</b>

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio (Cont.)

(j) Securities with an aggregate market value of \$4,504 and cash of \$4,528 have been pledged as collateral for exchange-traded and centrally cleared financial derivative instruments as of June 30, 2020. See Note 8, Master Netting Arrangements, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

- (1) If the Portfolio is a seller of protection and a credit event occurs, as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement, the Portfolio will either (i) pay to the buyer of protection an amount equal to the notional amount of the swap and take delivery of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index or (ii) pay a net settlement amount in the form of cash, securities or other deliverable obligations equal to the notional amount of the swap less the recovery value of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index.
- (2) Implied credit spreads, represented in absolute terms, utilized in determining the market value of credit default swap agreements on issues as of period end serve as indicators of the current status of the payment/performance risk and represent the likelihood or risk of default for the credit derivative. The implied credit spread of a particular referenced entity reflects the cost of buying/selling protection and may include upfront payments required to be made to enter into the agreement. Wider credit spreads represent a deterioration of the referenced entity's credit soundness and a greater likelihood or risk of default or other credit event occurring as defined under the terms of the agreement.
- (3) The maximum potential amount the Portfolio could be required to pay as a seller of credit protection or receive as a buyer of credit protection if a credit event occurs as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement.
- (4) The prices and resulting values for credit default swap agreements serve as indicators of the current status of the payment/performance risk and represent the likelihood of an expected liability (or profit) for the credit derivative should the notional amount of the swap agreement be closed/sold as of the period end. Increasing market values, in absolute terms when compared to the notional amount of the swap, represent a deterioration of the underlying referenced instrument's credit soundness and a greater likelihood or risk of default or other credit event occurring as defined under the terms of the agreement.

### (k) FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS: OVER THE COUNTER

#### FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS:

Counterparty	Settlement Month	Currency to be Delivered		Currency to be Received		Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	
						Asset	Liability
BPS	07/2020	BRL	771	\$	141	\$	(1)
	07/2020	RUB	286,254		4,095		0
	07/2020	\$	144	BRL	771		(2)
	04/2021	BRL	27,800	\$	5,048		(10)
BRC	09/2020	\$	121	MYR	520		0
BSH	07/2020	BRL	136,300	\$	32,527	7,463	0
	07/2020	\$	26,917	BRL	136,300		(1,853)
	04/2021	BRL	186,300	\$	35,481	1,584	0
CBK	07/2020	CAD	248		181		(2)
DUB	07/2020	BRL	771		146	4	0
	07/2020	\$	141	BRL	771	1	0
	08/2020		146		771	0	(5)
GLM	07/2020		17,922	GBP	14,530	82	0
	07/2020		100	MXN	2,230	0	(3)
	07/2020		3,834	RUB	287,823	203	0
	08/2020	GBP	56,956	\$	69,979	0	(615)
HUS	08/2020	EUR	4,176		4,523	1	(174)
	08/2020	\$	17,819	GBP	14,530	190	0
	09/2020	THB	10,231	\$	319	0	(12)
MYI	07/2020	AUD	15,770		10,464	0	(419)
	07/2020	\$	10,403	AUD	15,770	479	0
	08/2020	EUR	14,460	\$	15,698	0	(564)
	08/2020	\$	1,552	EUR	1,415	39	0
SCX	07/2020		10,849	AUD	15,770	34	0
	08/2020	AUD	15,770	\$	10,851	0	(34)
TOR	07/2020		15,770		10,482	0	(402)
UAG	08/2020	JPY	85,600		796	3	0
<b>Total Forward Foreign Currency Contracts</b>						<b>\$ 10,164</b>	<b>\$ (4,096)</b>

#### WRITTEN OPTIONS:

#### OPTIONS ON SECURITIES

Counterparty	Description	Strike Price	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value
GSC	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 3.000% due 08/01/2050	\$ 104.563	08/06/2020	16,600	\$ (73)	\$ (10)
<b>Total Written Options</b>					<b>\$ (73)</b>	<b>\$ (10)</b>

**FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS: OVER THE COUNTER SUMMARY**

The following is a summary by counterparty of the market value of OTC financial derivative instruments and collateral pledged/(received) as of June 30, 2020:

Counterparty	Financial Derivative Assets				Financial Derivative Liabilities				Net Market Value of OTC Derivatives	Collateral Pledged/(Received)	Net Exposure <sup>(2)</sup>
	Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	Purchased Options	Swap Agreements	Total Over the Counter	Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	Written Options	Swap Agreements	Total Over the Counter			
BPS	\$ 81	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 81	\$ (13)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (13)	\$ 68	\$ 0	\$ 68
BSH	9,047	0	0	9,047	(1,853)	0	0	(1,853)	7,194	(7,380)	(186)
CBK	0	0	0	0	(2)	0	0	(2)	(2)	0	(2)
DUB	5	0	0	5	(5)	0	0	(5)	0	0	0
GLM	285	0	0	285	(618)	0	0	(618)	(333)	0	(333)
GSC	0	0	0	0	0	(10)	0	(10)	(10)	0	(10)
HUS	191	0	0	191	(186)	0	0	(186)	5	18	23
MYI	518	0	0	518	(983)	0	0	(983)	(465)	607	142
SCX	34	0	0	34	(34)	0	0	(34)	0	0	0
TOR	0	0	0	0	(402)	0	0	(402)	(402)	513	111
UAG	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
<b>Total Over the Counter</b>	<b>\$ 10,164</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 10,164</b>	<b>\$ (4,096)</b>	<b>\$ (10)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (4,106)</b>			

- (l) Securities with an aggregate market value of \$1,138 have been pledged as collateral for financial derivative instruments as governed by International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. master agreements as of June 30, 2020.

<sup>(1)</sup> Notional Amount represents the number of contracts.

<sup>(2)</sup> Net Exposure represents the net receivable/(payable) that would be due from/to the counterparty in the event of default. Exposure from OTC financial derivative instruments can only be netted across transactions governed under the same master agreement with the same legal entity. See Note 8, Master Netting Arrangements, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

**FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS**

The following is a summary of the fair valuation of the Portfolio's derivative instruments categorized by risk exposure. See Note 7, Principal Risks, in the Notes to Financial Statements on risks of the Portfolio.

Fair Values of Financial Derivative Instruments on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of June 30, 2020:

	Derivatives not accounted for as hedging instruments					Total
	Commodity Contracts	Credit Contracts	Equity Contracts	Foreign Exchange Contracts	Interest Rate Contracts	
<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Assets</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Futures	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 259	\$ 259
Swap Agreements	0	0	0	0	166	166
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 425	\$ 425
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,164	\$ 0	\$ 10,164
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,164	\$ 425	\$ 10,589
<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Liabilities</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Futures	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 127	\$ 127
Swap Agreements	0	0	0	0	62	62
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 189	\$ 189
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 4,096	\$ 0	\$ 4,096
Written Options	0	0	0	0	10	10
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 4,096	\$ 10	\$ 4,106
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 4,096	\$ 199	\$ 4,295



# Schedule of Investments PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio (Cont.)

June 30, 2020 (Unaudited)

The effect of Financial Derivative Instruments on the Statement of Operations for the period ended June 30, 2020:

	Derivatives not accounted for as hedging instruments					Total
	Commodity Contracts	Credit Contracts	Equity Contracts	Foreign Exchange Contracts	Interest Rate Contracts	
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss) on Financial Derivative Instruments</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Purchased Options	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 206	\$ 206
Futures	0	0	0	0	13,247	13,247
Swap Agreements	0	10	0	0	(1,446)	(1,436)
	\$ 0	\$ 10	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 12,007	\$ 12,017
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 7,627	\$ 0	\$ 7,627
	\$ 0	\$ 10	\$ 0	\$ 7,627	\$ 12,007	\$ 19,644
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) on Financial Derivative Instruments</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Purchased Options	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 34	\$ 34
Futures	0	0	0	0	2,257	2,257
Swap Agreements	0	(12)	0	0	(947)	(959)
	\$ 0	\$ (12)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,344	\$ 1,332
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 13,374	\$ 0	\$ 13,374
Written Options	0	0	0	0	62	62
	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 13,374	\$ 62	\$ 13,436
	\$ 0	\$ (12)	\$ 0	\$ 13,374	\$ 1,406	\$ 14,768

## FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The following is a summary of the fair valuations according to the inputs used as of June 30, 2020 in valuing the Portfolio's assets and liabilities:

Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value at 06/30/2020	Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value at 06/30/2020
<b>Investments in Securities, at Value</b>					<b>Short Sales, at Value - Liabilities</b>				
Loan Participations and Assignments	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 11,992	\$ 11,992	U.S. Government Agencies	\$ 0	\$ (164,535)	\$ 0	\$ (164,535)
Corporate Bonds & Notes					<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Assets</b>				
Banking & Finance	0	279,524	0	279,524	Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	259	166	0	425
Industrials	0	170,132	0	170,132	Over the counter	0	10,164	0	10,164
Utilities	0	33,258	0	33,258		\$ 259	\$ 10,330	\$ 0	\$ 10,589
U.S. Government Agencies	0	482,389	0	482,389	<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Liabilities</b>				
U.S. Treasury Obligations	0	12,463	0	12,463	Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	(127)	(62)	0	(189)
Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	0	75,388	0	75,388	Over the counter	0	(4,106)	0	(4,106)
Asset-Backed Securities	0	96,917	0	96,917		\$ (127)	\$ (4,168)	\$ 0	\$ (4,295)
Sovereign Issues	0	38,769	0	38,769	<b>Total Financial Derivative Instruments</b>				
Short-Term Instruments						\$ 132	\$ 6,162	\$ 0	\$ 6,294
Certificates of Deposit	0	6,008	0	6,008	<b>Totals</b>				
Repurchase Agreements	0	115,504	0	115,504		\$ 353,154	\$ 1,467,806	\$ 11,992	\$ 1,832,952
U.S. Treasury Bills	0	238,552	0	238,552					
U.S. Treasury Cash Management Bills	0	77,275	0	77,275					
	\$ 0	\$ 1,626,179	\$ 11,992	\$ 1,638,171					
<b>Investments in Affiliates, at Value</b>									
Short-Term Instruments									
Central Funds Used for Cash Management Purposes	\$ 353,022	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 353,022					
Total Investments	\$ 353,022	\$ 1,626,179	\$ 11,992	\$ 1,991,193					

There were no significant transfers into or out of Level 3 during the period ended June 30, 2020.

## 1. ORGANIZATION

PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust (the "Trust") is a Delaware statutory trust established under a trust instrument dated October 3, 1997. The Trust is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Act"), as an open-end management investment company. The Trust is designed to be used as an investment vehicle by separate accounts of insurance companies that fund variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies and by qualified pension and retirement plans. Information presented in these financial statements pertains to the Institutional Class, Administrative Class and Advisor Class shares of the PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio (the "Portfolio") offered by the Trust. Pacific Investment Management Company LLC ("PIMCO") serves as the investment adviser (the "Adviser") for the Portfolio.

## 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Portfolio in the preparation of its financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP"). The Portfolio is treated as an investment company under the reporting requirements of U.S. GAAP. The functional and reporting currency for the Portfolio is the U.S. dollar. The preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of increases and decreases in net assets from operations during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**(a) Securities Transactions and Investment Income** Securities transactions are recorded as of the trade date for financial reporting purposes. Securities purchased or sold on a when-issued or delayed-delivery basis may be settled beyond a standard settlement period for the security after the trade date. Realized gains (losses) from securities sold are recorded on the identified cost basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date, except certain dividends from foreign securities where the ex-dividend date may have passed, which are recorded as soon as the Portfolio is informed of the ex-dividend date. Interest income, adjusted for the accretion of discounts and amortization of premiums, is recorded on the accrual basis from settlement date, with the exception of securities with a forward starting effective date, where interest income is recorded on the accrual basis from effective date. For convertible securities, premiums attributable to the conversion feature are not amortized. Estimated tax liabilities on certain foreign securities are recorded on an accrual basis and are reflected as components of interest income or net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments on the Statement of

Operations, as appropriate. Tax liabilities realized as a result of such security sales are reflected as a component of net realized gain (loss) on investments on the Statement of Operations. Paydown gains (losses) on mortgage-related and other asset-backed securities, if any, are recorded as components of interest income on the Statement of Operations. Income or short-term capital gain distributions received from registered investment companies, if any, are recorded as dividend income. Long-term capital gain distributions received from registered investment companies, if any, are recorded as realized gains.

Debt obligations may be placed on non-accrual status and related interest income may be reduced by ceasing current accruals and writing off interest receivable when the collection of all or a portion of interest has become doubtful based on consistently applied procedures. A debt obligation is removed from non-accrual status when the issuer resumes interest payments or when collectability of interest is probable.

**(b) Foreign Currency Translation** The market values of foreign securities, currency holdings and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars based on the current exchange rates each business day. Purchases and sales of securities and income and expense items denominated in foreign currencies, if any, are translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate in effect on the transaction date. The Portfolio does not separately report the effects of changes in foreign exchange rates from changes in market prices on securities held. Such changes are included in net realized gain (loss) and net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) from investments on the Statement of Operations. The Portfolio may invest in foreign currency-denominated securities and may engage in foreign currency transactions either on a spot (cash) basis at the rate prevailing in the currency exchange market at the time or through a forward foreign currency contract. Realized foreign exchange gains (losses) arising from sales of spot foreign currencies, currency gains (losses) realized between the trade and settlement dates on securities transactions and the difference between the recorded amounts of dividends, interest, and foreign withholding taxes and the U.S. dollar equivalent of the amounts actually received or paid are included in net realized gain (loss) on foreign currency transactions on the Statement of Operations. Net unrealized foreign exchange gains (losses) arising from changes in foreign exchange rates on foreign denominated assets and liabilities other than investments in securities held at the end of the reporting period are included in net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on foreign currency assets and liabilities on the Statement of Operations.

**(c) Multi-Class Operations** Each class offered by the Trust has equal rights as to assets and voting privileges (except that shareholders of a class have exclusive voting rights regarding any matter relating solely to that class of shares). Income and non-class specific expenses are

allocated daily to each class on the basis of the relative net assets. Realized and unrealized capital gains (losses) are allocated daily based on the relative net assets of each class of the Portfolio. Class specific expenses, where applicable, currently include supervisory and administrative and distribution and servicing fees. Under certain circumstances, the per share net asset value ("NAV") of a class of the Portfolio's shares may be different from the per share NAV of another class of shares as a result of the different daily expense accruals applicable to each class of shares.

**(d) Distributions to Shareholders** Distributions from net investment income, if any, are declared daily and distributed to shareholders monthly. In addition, the Portfolio distributes any net capital gains it earns from the sale of portfolio securities to shareholders no less frequently than annually.

Income distributions and capital gain distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations which may differ from U.S. GAAP. Differences between tax regulations and U.S. GAAP may cause timing differences between income and capital gain recognition. Further, the character of investment income and capital gains may be different for certain transactions under the two methods of accounting. As a result, income distributions and capital gain distributions declared during a fiscal period may differ significantly from the net investment income (loss) and realized gains (losses) reported on the Portfolio's annual financial statements presented under U.S. GAAP.

If the Portfolio estimates that a portion of its distribution may be comprised of amounts from sources other than net investment income in accordance with its policies and accounting practices, the Portfolio will notify shareholders of the estimated composition of such distribution through a Section 19 Notice. For these purposes, the Portfolio estimates the source or sources from which a distribution is paid, to the close of the period as of which it is paid, in reference to its internal accounting records and related accounting practices. If, based on such accounting records and practices, it is estimated that a particular distribution does not include capital gains or paid-in surplus or other capital sources, a Section 19 Notice generally would not be issued. It is important to note that differences exist between the Portfolio's daily internal accounting records and practices, the Portfolio's financial statements presented in accordance with U.S. GAAP, and recordkeeping practices under income tax regulations. For instance, the Portfolio's internal accounting records and practices may take into account, among other factors, tax-related characteristics of certain sources of distributions that differ from treatment under U.S. GAAP. Examples of such differences may include, among others, the treatment of paydowns on mortgage-backed securities purchased at a discount and periodic payments under interest rate swap contracts.

Accordingly, among other consequences, it is possible that the Portfolio may not issue a Section 19 Notice in situations where the Portfolio's financial statements prepared later and in accordance with U.S. GAAP and/or the final tax character of those distributions might later report that the sources of those distributions included capital gains and/or a return of capital. Final determination of a distribution's tax character will be provided to shareholders when such information is available.

Distributions classified as a tax basis return of capital at the Portfolio's fiscal year end, if any, are reflected on the Statements of Changes in Net Assets and have been recorded to paid in capital on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. In addition, other amounts have been reclassified between distributable earnings (accumulated loss) and paid in capital on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities to more appropriately conform U.S. GAAP to tax characterizations of distributions.

**(e) New Accounting Pronouncements** In March 2020, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued an Accounting Standards Update ("ASU"), ASU 2020-04, which provides optional guidance to ease the potential accounting burden associated with transitioning away from the London Interbank Offered Rate and other reference rates that are expected to be discontinued. The ASU is effective immediately upon release of the update on March 12, 2020 through December 31, 2022. At this time, management is evaluating implications of these changes on the financial statements.

### 3. INVESTMENT VALUATION AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

**(a) Investment Valuation Policies** The price of the Portfolio's shares is based on the Portfolio's NAV. The NAV of the Portfolio, or each of its share classes, as applicable, is determined by dividing the total value of portfolio investments and other assets, less any liabilities attributable to the Portfolio or class, by the total number of shares outstanding of the Portfolio or class.

On each day that the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") is open, Portfolio shares are ordinarily valued as of the close of regular trading (normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) ("NYSE Close"). Information that becomes known to the Portfolio or its agents after the time as of which NAV has been calculated on a particular day will not generally be used to retroactively adjust the price of a security or the NAV determined earlier that day. If regular trading on the NYSE closes earlier than scheduled, the Portfolio reserves the right to either (i) calculate its NAV as of the earlier closing time or (ii) calculate its NAV as of the normally scheduled close of regular trading on the NYSE for that day. The Portfolio generally does not calculate its NAV on days during which the NYSE is closed. However, if the NYSE is closed on a day it would

normally be open for business, the Portfolio reserves the right to calculate its NAV as of the normally scheduled close of regular trading on the NYSE for that day or such other time that the Portfolio may determine.

For purposes of calculating a NAV, portfolio securities and other assets for which market quotes are readily available are valued at market value. Market value is generally determined on the basis of official closing prices or the last reported sales prices, or if no sales are reported, based on quotes obtained from established market makers or prices (including evaluated prices) supplied by the Portfolio's approved pricing services, quotation reporting systems and other third-party sources (together, "Pricing Services"). The Portfolio will normally use pricing data for domestic equity securities received shortly after the NYSE Close and does not normally take into account trading, clearances or settlements that take place after the NYSE Close. If market value pricing is used, a foreign (non-U.S.) equity security traded on a foreign exchange or on more than one exchange is typically valued using pricing information from the exchange considered by the Adviser to be the primary exchange. A foreign (non-U.S.) equity security will be valued as of the close of trading on the foreign exchange, or the NYSE Close, if the NYSE Close occurs before the end of trading on the foreign exchange. Domestic and foreign (non-U.S.) fixed income securities, non-exchange traded derivatives, and equity options are normally valued on the basis of quotes obtained from brokers and dealers or Pricing Services using data reflecting the earlier closing of the principal markets for those securities. Prices obtained from Pricing Services may be based on, among other things, information provided by market makers or estimates of market values obtained from yield data relating to investments or securities with similar characteristics. Certain fixed income securities purchased on a delayed-delivery basis are marked to market daily until settlement at the forward settlement date. Exchange-traded options, except equity options, futures and options on futures are valued at the settlement price determined by the relevant exchange. Swap agreements are valued on the basis of bid quotes obtained from brokers and dealers or market-based prices supplied by Pricing Services. The Portfolio's investments in open-end management investment companies, other than exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), are valued at the NAVs of such investments. Open-end management investment companies may include affiliated funds.

If a foreign (non-U.S.) equity security's value has materially changed after the close of the security's primary exchange or principal market but before the NYSE Close, the security may be valued at fair value based on procedures established and approved by the Board of Trustees of the Trust (the "Board"). Foreign (non-U.S.) equity securities that do not trade when the NYSE is open are also valued at fair value. With respect to foreign (non-U.S.) equity securities, the Portfolio may

determine the fair value of investments based on information provided by Pricing Services and other third-party vendors, which may recommend fair value or adjustments with reference to other securities, indices or assets. In considering whether fair valuation is required and in determining fair values, the Portfolio may, among other things, consider significant events (which may be considered to include changes in the value of U.S. securities or securities indices) that occur after the close of the relevant market and before the NYSE Close. The Portfolio may utilize modeling tools provided by third-party vendors to determine fair values of foreign (non-U.S.) securities. For these purposes, any movement in the applicable reference index or instrument ("zero trigger") between the earlier close of the applicable foreign market and the NYSE Close may be deemed to be a significant event, prompting the application of the pricing model (effectively resulting in daily fair valuations). Foreign exchanges may permit trading in foreign (non-U.S.) equity securities on days when the Trust is not open for business, which may result in the Portfolio's portfolio investments being affected when shareholders are unable to buy or sell shares.

Senior secured floating rate loans for which an active secondary market exists to a reliable degree are valued at the mean of the last available bid/ask prices in the market for such loans, as provided by a Pricing Service. Senior secured floating rate loans for which an active secondary market does not exist to a reliable degree are valued at fair value, which is intended to approximate market value. In valuing a senior secured floating rate loan at fair value, the factors considered may include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) the creditworthiness of the borrower and any intermediate participants, (b) the terms of the loan, (c) recent prices in the market for similar loans, if any, and (d) recent prices in the market for instruments of similar quality, rate, period until next interest rate reset and maturity.

Investments valued in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are converted to the U.S. dollar using exchange rates obtained from Pricing Services. As a result, the value of such investments and, in turn, the NAV of the Portfolio's shares may be affected by changes in the value of currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar. The value of investments traded in markets outside the United States or denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar may be affected significantly on a day that the Trust is not open for business. As a result, to the extent that the Portfolio holds foreign (non-U.S.) investments, the value of those investments may change at times when shareholders are unable to buy or sell shares and the value of such investments will be reflected in the Portfolio's next calculated NAV.

Investments for which market quotes or market based valuations are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by the Board or persons acting at their direction. The Board has

adopted methods for valuing securities and other assets in circumstances where market quotes are not readily available, and has delegated to the Adviser the responsibility for applying the fair valuation methods. In the event that market quotes or market based valuations are not readily available, and the security or asset cannot be valued pursuant to a Board approved valuation method, the value of the security or asset will be determined in good faith by the Board. Market quotes are considered not readily available in circumstances where there is an absence of current or reliable market-based data (e.g., trade information, bid/ask information, indicative market quotations (“Broker Quotes”), Pricing Services’ prices), including where events occur after the close of the relevant market, but prior to the NYSE Close, that materially affect the values of the Portfolio’s securities or assets. In addition, market quotes are considered not readily available when, due to extraordinary circumstances, the exchanges or markets on which the securities trade do not open for trading for the entire day and no other market prices are available. The Board has delegated, to the Adviser, the responsibility for monitoring significant events that may materially affect the values of the Portfolio’s securities or assets and for determining whether the value of the applicable securities or assets should be reevaluated in light of such significant events.

When the Portfolio uses fair valuation to determine the value of a portfolio security or other asset for purposes of calculating its NAV, such investments will not be priced on the basis of quotes from the primary market in which they are traded, but rather may be priced by another method that the Board or persons acting at their direction believe reflects fair value. Fair valuation may require subjective determinations about the value of a security. While the Trust’s policy is intended to result in a calculation of the Portfolio’s NAV that fairly reflects security values as of the time of pricing, the Trust cannot ensure that fair values determined by the Board or persons acting at their direction would accurately reflect the price that the Portfolio could obtain for a security if it were to dispose of that security as of the time of pricing (for instance, in a forced or distressed sale). The prices used by the Portfolio may differ from the value that would be realized if the securities were sold. The Portfolio’s use of fair valuation may also help to deter “stale price arbitrage” as discussed under the “Frequent or Excessive Purchases, Exchanges and Redemptions” section in the Portfolio’s prospectus.

**(b) Fair Value Hierarchy** U.S. GAAP describes fair value as the price that the Portfolio would receive to sell an asset or pay to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. It establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes inputs to valuation methods and requires disclosure of the fair value hierarchy, separately for each major category of assets and liabilities, that segregates fair value measurements into levels (Level 1, 2, or 3). The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not

necessarily an indication of the risks associated with investing in those securities. Levels 1, 2, and 3 of the fair value hierarchy are defined as follows:

- Level 1 — Quoted prices in active markets or exchanges for identical assets and liabilities.
- Level 2 — Significant other observable inputs, which may include, but are not limited to, quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in markets that are active, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the assets or liabilities (such as interest rates, yield curves, volatilities, prepayment speeds, loss severities, credit risks and default rates) or other market corroborated inputs.
- Level 3 — Significant unobservable inputs based on the best information available in the circumstances, to the extent observable inputs are not available, which may include assumptions made by the Board or persons acting at their direction that are used in determining the fair value of investments.

In accordance with the requirements of U.S. GAAP, the amounts of transfers into and out of Level 3, if material, are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments for the Portfolio.

For fair valuations using significant unobservable inputs, U.S. GAAP requires a reconciliation of the beginning to ending balances for reported fair values that presents changes attributable to realized gain (loss), unrealized appreciation (depreciation), purchases and sales, accrued discounts (premiums), and transfers into and out of the Level 3 category during the period. The end of period value is used for the transfers between Levels of the Portfolio’s assets and liabilities. Additionally, U.S. GAAP requires quantitative information regarding the significant unobservable inputs used in the determination of fair value of assets or liabilities categorized as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy. In accordance with the requirements of U.S. GAAP, a fair value hierarchy, and if material, a Level 3 reconciliation and details of significant unobservable inputs, have been included in the Notes to Schedule of Investments for the Portfolio.

### **(c) Valuation Techniques and the Fair Value Hierarchy**

**Level 1 and Level 2 trading assets and trading liabilities, at fair value** The valuation methods (or “techniques”) and significant inputs used in determining the fair values of portfolio securities or other assets and liabilities categorized as Level 1 and Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

Fixed income securities including corporate, convertible and municipal bonds and notes, U.S. government agencies, U.S. treasury obligations, sovereign issues, bank loans, convertible preferred securities and non-U.S. bonds are normally valued on the basis of quotes obtained

from brokers and dealers or Pricing Services that use broker-dealer quotations, reported trades or valuation estimates from their internal pricing models. The Pricing Services' internal models use inputs that are observable such as issuer details, interest rates, yield curves, prepayment speeds, credit risks/spreads, default rates and quoted prices for similar assets. Securities that use similar valuation techniques and inputs as described above are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Fixed income securities purchased on a delayed-delivery basis or as a repurchase commitment in a sale-buyback transaction are marked to market daily until settlement at the forward settlement date and are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Mortgage-related and asset-backed securities are usually issued as separate tranches, or classes, of securities within each deal. These securities are also normally valued by Pricing Services that use broker-dealer quotations, reported trades or valuation estimates from their internal pricing models. The pricing models for these securities usually consider tranche-level attributes, current market data, estimated cash flows and market-based yield spreads for each tranche, and incorporate deal collateral performance, as available. Mortgage-related and asset-backed securities that use similar valuation techniques and inputs as described above are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Common stocks, ETFs, exchange-traded notes and financial derivative instruments, such as futures contracts, rights and warrants, or options on futures that are traded on a national securities exchange, are stated at the last reported sale or settlement price on the day of valuation. To the extent these securities are actively traded and valuation adjustments are not applied, they are categorized as Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

Valuation adjustments may be applied to certain securities that are solely traded on a foreign exchange to account for the market movement between the close of the foreign market and the NYSE Close. These securities are valued using Pricing Services that consider the correlation of the trading patterns of the foreign security to the intraday trading in the U.S. markets for investments. Securities using these valuation adjustments are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. Preferred securities and other equities traded on inactive markets or valued by reference to similar instruments are also categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Investments in registered open-end investment companies (other than ETFs) will be valued based upon the NAVs of such investments and are categorized as Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy. Investments in unregistered open-end investment companies will be calculated based

upon the NAVs of such investments and are considered Level 1 provided that the NAVs are observable, calculated daily and are the value at which both purchases and sales will be conducted.

Equity exchange-traded options and over the counter financial derivative instruments, such as forward foreign currency contracts and options contracts derive their value from underlying asset prices, indices, reference rates, and other inputs or a combination of these factors. These contracts are normally valued on the basis of quotes obtained from a quotation reporting system, established market makers or Pricing Services (normally determined as of the NYSE Close). Depending on the product and the terms of the transaction, financial derivative instruments can be valued by Pricing Services using a series of techniques, including simulation pricing models. The pricing models use inputs that are observed from actively quoted markets such as quoted prices, issuer details, indices, bid/ask spreads, interest rates, implied volatilities, yield curves, dividends and exchange rates. Financial derivative instruments that use similar valuation techniques and inputs as described above are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Centrally cleared swaps and over the counter swaps derive their value from underlying asset prices, indices, reference rates, and other inputs or a combination of these factors. They are valued using a broker-dealer bid quotation or on market-based prices provided by Pricing Services (normally determined as of the NYSE Close). Centrally cleared swaps and over the counter swaps can be valued by Pricing Services using a series of techniques, including simulation pricing models. The pricing models may use inputs that are observed from actively quoted markets such as the overnight index swap rate, London Interbank Offered Rate forward rate, interest rates, yield curves and credit spreads. These securities are categorized as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

**Level 3 trading assets and trading liabilities, at fair value** When a fair valuation method is applied by the Adviser that uses significant unobservable inputs, investments will be priced by a method that the Board or persons acting at their direction believe reflects fair value and are categorized as Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

Short-term debt instruments (such as commercial paper) having a remaining maturity of 60 days or less may be valued at amortized cost, so long as the amortized cost value of such short-term debt instruments is approximately the same as the fair value of the instrument as determined without the use of amortized cost valuation. These securities are categorized as Level 2 or Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy depending on the source of the base price.

4. SECURITIES AND OTHER INVESTMENTS

(a) Investments in Affiliates

The Portfolio may invest in the PIMCO Short Asset Portfolio and the PIMCO Short-Term Floating NAV Portfolio III (“Central Funds”) to the extent permitted by the Act and rules thereunder. The Central Funds are registered investment companies created for use solely by the series of the Trust and other series of registered investment companies advised by the Adviser, in connection with their cash management activities. The main investments of the Central Funds are money market and short maturity fixed income instruments. The Central Funds may incur expenses related to their investment activities, but do not pay Investment Advisory Fees or Supervisory and Administrative Fees to the Adviser. The Central Funds are considered to be affiliated with the Portfolio. A complete schedule of portfolio holdings for each affiliate fund is filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-PORT and is available at the SEC’s website at www.sec.gov. A copy of each affiliate fund’s shareholder report is also available at the SEC’s website at www.sec.gov, on the Portfolios’ website at www.pimco.com, or upon request, as applicable. The tables below show the Portfolio’s transactions in and earnings from investments in the affiliated Funds for the period ended June 30, 2020 (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

Investment in PIMCO Short Asset Portfolio

Market Value 12/31/2019	Purchases at Cost	Proceeds from Sales	Net Realized Gain (Loss)	Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)	Market Value 06/30/2020	Dividend Income <sup>(1)</sup>	Realized Net Capital Gain Distributions <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 212,514	\$ 135,429	\$ (86,401)	\$ (381)	\$ 3,631	\$ 264,792	\$ 2,129	\$ 0

Investment in PIMCO Short-Term Floating NAV Portfolio III

Market Value 12/31/2019	Purchases at Cost	Proceeds from Sales	Net Realized Gain (Loss)	Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)	Market Value 06/30/2020	Dividend Income <sup>(1)</sup>	Realized Net Capital Gain Distributions <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 22,939	\$ 520,755	\$ (454,200)	\$ (1,662)	\$ 398	\$ 88,230	\$ 654	\$ 0

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

<sup>(1)</sup> The tax characterization of distributions is determined in accordance with Federal income tax regulations and may contain a return of capital. The actual tax characterization of distributions received is determined at the end of the fiscal year of the affiliated fund. See Note 2, Distributions to Shareholders, in the Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

(b) Investments in Securities

The Portfolio may utilize the investments and strategies described below to the extent permitted by the Portfolio’s investment policies.

**Bank Obligations** in which the Portfolio may invest include certificates of deposit, bankers’ acceptances, and fixed time deposits. Certificates of deposit are negotiable certificates issued against Portfolio deposited in a commercial bank for a definite period of time and earning a specified return. Bankers’ acceptances are negotiable drafts or bills of exchange, normally drawn by an importer or exporter to pay for specific merchandise, which are “accepted” by a bank, meaning, in effect, that the bank unconditionally agrees to pay the face value of the instrument on maturity. Fixed time deposits are bank obligations payable at a stated maturity date and bearing interest at a fixed rate. Fixed time deposits may be withdrawn on demand by the investor, but may be subject to early withdrawal penalties which vary depending upon market conditions and the remaining maturity of the obligation.

**Inflation-Indexed Bonds** are fixed income securities whose principal value is periodically adjusted by the rate of inflation. The interest rate on these bonds is generally fixed at issuance at a rate lower than

typical bonds. Over the life of an inflation-indexed bond, however, interest will be paid based on a principal value which is adjusted for inflation. Any increase or decrease in the principal amount of an inflation-indexed bond will be included as interest income on the Statement of Operations, even though investors do not receive their principal until maturity. Repayment of the original bond principal upon maturity (as adjusted for inflation) is guaranteed in the case of U.S. Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities. For bonds that do not provide a similar guarantee, the adjusted principal value of the bond repaid at maturity may be less than the original principal.

**Loans and Other Indebtedness, Loan Participations and Assignments** are direct debt instruments which are interests in amounts owed to lenders or lending syndicates by corporate, governmental, or other borrowers. The Portfolio’s investments in loans may be in the form of participations in loans or assignments of all or a portion of loans from third parties or investments in or originations of loans by the Portfolio. A loan is often administered by a bank or other financial institution (the “agent”) that acts as agent for all holders. The agent administers the terms of the loan, as specified in the loan agreement. The Portfolio may invest in multiple series or tranches of a

loan, which may have varying terms and carry different associated risks. When the Portfolio purchases assignments from agents it acquires direct rights against the borrowers of the loans. These loans may include participations in bridge loans, which are loans taken out by borrowers for a short period (typically less than one year) pending arrangement of more permanent financing through, for example, the issuance of bonds, frequently high yield bonds issued for the purpose of acquisitions.

The types of loans and related investments in which the Portfolio may invest include, among others, senior loans, subordinated loans (including second lien loans, B-Notes and mezzanine loans), whole loans, commercial real estate and other commercial loans and structured loans. The Portfolio may originate loans or acquire direct interests in loans through primary loan distributions and/or in private transactions. In the case of subordinated loans, there may be significant indebtedness ranking ahead of the borrower's obligation to the holder of such a loan, including in the event of the borrower's insolvency. Mezzanine loans are typically secured by a pledge of an equity interest in the mortgage borrower that owns the real estate rather than an interest in a mortgage.

Investments in loans may include unfunded loan commitments, which are contractual obligations for funding. Unfunded loan commitments may include revolving credit facilities, which may obligate the Portfolio to supply additional cash to the borrower on demand. Unfunded loan commitments represent a future obligation in full, even though a percentage of the committed amount may not be utilized by the borrower. When investing in a loan participation, the Portfolio has the right to receive payments of principal, interest and any fees to which it is entitled only from the agent selling the loan agreement and only upon receipt of payments by the agent from the borrower. The Portfolio may receive a commitment fee based on the undrawn portion of the underlying line of credit portion of a loan. In certain circumstances, the Portfolio may receive a penalty fee upon the prepayment of a loan by a borrower. Fees earned or paid are recorded as a component of interest income or interest expense, respectively, on the Statement of Operations. Unfunded loan commitments are reflected as a liability on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

**Mortgage-Related and Other Asset-Backed Securities** directly or indirectly represent a participation in, or are secured by and payable from, loans on real property. Mortgage-related securities are created from pools of residential or commercial mortgage loans, including mortgage loans made by savings and loan institutions, mortgage bankers, commercial banks and others. These securities provide a monthly payment which consists of both interest and principal. Interest may be determined by fixed or adjustable rates. The rate of prepayments on underlying mortgages will affect the price and volatility

of a mortgage-related security, and may have the effect of shortening or extending the effective duration of the security relative to what was anticipated at the time of purchase. The timely payment of principal and interest of certain mortgage-related securities is guaranteed with the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. Pools created and guaranteed by non-governmental issuers, including government-sponsored corporations, may be supported by various forms of insurance or guarantees, but there can be no assurance that private insurers or guarantors can meet their obligations under the insurance policies or guarantee arrangements. Many of the risks of investing in mortgage-related securities secured by commercial mortgage loans reflect the effects of local and other economic conditions on real estate markets, the ability of tenants to make lease payments, and the ability of a property to attract and retain tenants. These securities may be less liquid and may exhibit greater price volatility than other types of mortgage-related or other asset-backed securities. Other asset-backed securities are created from many types of assets, including, but not limited to, auto loans, accounts receivable, such as credit card receivables and hospital account receivables, home equity loans, student loans, boat loans, mobile home loans, recreational vehicle loans, manufactured housing loans, aircraft leases, computer leases and syndicated bank loans.

**Collateralized Debt Obligations** ("CDOs") include Collateralized Bond Obligations ("CBOs"), Collateralized Loan Obligations ("CLOs") and other similarly structured securities. CBOs and CLOs are types of asset-backed securities. A CBO is a trust which is backed by a diversified pool of high risk, below investment grade fixed income securities. A CLO is a trust typically collateralized by a pool of loans, which may include, among others, domestic and foreign senior secured loans, senior unsecured loans, and subordinate corporate loans, including loans that may be rated below investment grade or equivalent unrated loans. The risks of an investment in a CDO depend largely on the type of the collateral securities and the class of the CDO in which the Portfolio invests. In addition to the normal risks associated with fixed income securities discussed elsewhere in this report and the Portfolio's prospectus and statement of additional information (e.g., prepayment risk, credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk, structural risk, legal risk and interest rate risk (which may be exacerbated if the interest rate payable on a structured financing changes based on multiples of changes in interest rates or inversely to changes in interest rates)), CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs carry additional risks including, but not limited to, (i) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments, (ii) the quality of the collateral may decline in value or default, (iii) the risk that the Portfolio may invest in CBOs, CLOs, or other CDOs that are subordinate to other classes, and (iv) the complex structure of the security may not be fully understood at the time of investment and may produce disputes with the issuer or unexpected investment results.



**Collateralized Mortgage Obligations** (“CMOs”) are debt obligations of a legal entity that are collateralized by whole mortgage loans or private mortgage bonds and divided into classes. CMOs are structured into multiple classes, often referred to as “tranches”, with each class bearing a different stated maturity and entitled to a different schedule for payments of principal and interest, including prepayments. CMOs may be less liquid and may exhibit greater price volatility than other types of mortgage-related or asset-backed securities.

**Stripped Mortgage-Backed Securities** (“SMBS”) are derivative multi-class mortgage securities. SMBS are usually structured with two classes that receive different proportions of the interest and principal distributions on a pool of mortgage assets. An SMBS will have one class that will receive all of the interest (the interest-only or “IO” class), while the other class will receive the entire principal (the principal-only or “PO” class). Payments received for IOs are included in interest income on the Statement of Operations. Because no principal will be received at the maturity of an IO, adjustments are made to the cost of the security on a monthly basis until maturity. These adjustments are included in interest income on the Statement of Operations. Payments received for POs are treated as reductions to the cost and par value of the securities.

**Securities Issued by U.S. Government Agencies or Government-Sponsored Enterprises** are obligations of and, in certain cases, guaranteed by, the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities. Some U.S. Government securities, such as Treasury bills, notes and bonds, and securities guaranteed by the Government National Mortgage Association, are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government; others, such as those of the Federal Home Loan Banks, are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Department of the Treasury (the “U.S. Treasury”); and others, such as those of the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA” or “Fannie Mae”), are supported by the discretionary authority of the U.S. Government to purchase the agency’s obligations. U.S. Government securities may include zero coupon securities which do not distribute interest on a current basis and tend to be subject to a greater risk than interest-paying securities of similar maturities.

Government-related guarantors (i.e., not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government) include FNMA and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“FHLMC” or “Freddie Mac”). FNMA is a government-sponsored corporation. FNMA purchases conventional (i.e., not insured or guaranteed by any government agency) residential mortgages from a list of approved seller/servicers which include state and federally chartered savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks, commercial banks and credit unions and mortgage bankers. Pass-through securities issued by FNMA are guaranteed as to timely payment of principal and interest by FNMA, but are not backed by the

full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. FHLMC issues Participation Certificates (“PCs”), which are pass-through securities, each representing an undivided interest in a pool of residential mortgages. FHLMC guarantees the timely payment of interest and ultimate collection of principal, but PCs are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government.

In June 2019, under the Single Security Initiative, FNMA and FHLMC started issuing Uniform Mortgage Backed Securities in place of their current offerings of TBA-eligible securities. The Single Security Initiative seeks to support the overall liquidity of the TBA market and aligns the characteristics of FNMA and FHLMC certificates. The effects that the Single Security Initiative may have on the market for TBA and other mortgage-backed securities are uncertain.

Roll-timing strategies can be used where the Portfolio seeks to extend the expiration or maturity of a position, such as a TBA security on an underlying asset, by closing out the position before expiration and opening a new position with respect to substantially the same underlying asset with a later expiration date. TBA securities purchased or sold are reflected on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as an asset or liability, respectively.

**When-Issued Transactions** are purchases or sales made on a when-issued basis. These transactions are made conditionally because a security, although authorized, has not yet been issued in the market. Transactions to purchase or sell securities on a when-issued basis involve a commitment by the Portfolio to purchase or sell these securities for a predetermined price or yield, with payment and delivery taking place beyond the customary settlement period. The Portfolio may sell when-issued securities before they are delivered, which may result in a realized gain (loss).

## 5. BORROWINGS AND OTHER FINANCING TRANSACTIONS

The Portfolio may enter into the borrowings and other financing transactions described below to the extent permitted by the Portfolio’s investment policies.

The following disclosures contain information on the Portfolio’s ability to lend or borrow cash or securities to the extent permitted under the Act, which may be viewed as borrowing or financing transactions by the Portfolio. The location of these instruments in the Portfolio’s financial statements is described below.

**(a) Repurchase Agreements** Under the terms of a typical repurchase agreement, the Portfolio purchases an underlying debt obligation (collateral) subject to an obligation of the seller to repurchase, and the Portfolio to resell, the obligation at an agreed-upon price and time. In an open maturity repurchase agreement, there is no pre-determined

repurchase date and the agreement can be terminated by the Portfolio or counterparty at any time. The underlying securities for all repurchase agreements are held by the Portfolio's custodian or designated subcustodians under tri-party repurchase agreements and in certain instances will remain in custody with the counterparty. The market value of the collateral must be equal to or exceed the total amount of the repurchase obligations, including interest. Repurchase agreements, if any, including accrued interest, are included on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Interest earned is recorded as a component of interest income on the Statement of Operations. In periods of increased demand for collateral, the Portfolio may pay a fee for the receipt of collateral, which may result in interest expense to the Portfolio.

**(b) Reverse Repurchase Agreements** In a reverse repurchase agreement, the Portfolio delivers a security in exchange for cash to a financial institution, the counterparty, with a simultaneous agreement to repurchase the same or substantially the same security at an agreed upon price and date. In an open maturity reverse repurchase agreement, there is no pre-determined repurchase date and the agreement can be terminated by the Portfolio or counterparty at any time. The Portfolio is entitled to receive principal and interest payments, if any, made on the security delivered to the counterparty during the term of the agreement. Cash received in exchange for securities delivered plus accrued interest payments to be made by the Portfolio to counterparties are reflected as a liability on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Interest payments made by the Portfolio to counterparties are recorded as a component of interest expense on the Statement of Operations. In periods of increased demand for the security, the Portfolio may receive a fee for use of the security by the counterparty, which may result in interest income to the Portfolio. The Portfolio will segregate assets determined to be liquid by the Adviser or will otherwise cover its obligations under reverse repurchase agreements.

**(c) Short Sales** Short sales are transactions in which the Portfolio sells a security that it may not own. The Portfolio may make short sales of securities to (i) offset potential declines in long positions in similar securities, (ii) to increase the flexibility of the Portfolio, (iii) for investment return, (iv) as part of a risk arbitrage strategy, and (v) as part of its overall portfolio management strategies involving the use of derivative instruments. When the Portfolio engages in a short sale, it may borrow the security sold short and deliver it to the counterparty. The Portfolio will ordinarily have to pay a fee or premium to borrow a security and be obligated to repay the lender of the security any dividend or interest that accrues on the security during the period of the loan. Securities sold in short sale transactions and the dividend or interest payable on such securities, if any, are reflected as payable for short sales on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Short sales expose the Portfolio to the risk that it will be required to cover its short

position at a time when the security or other asset has appreciated in value, thus resulting in losses to the Portfolio. A short sale is "against the box" if the Portfolio holds in its portfolio or has the right to acquire the security sold short, or securities identical to the security sold short, at no additional cost. The Portfolio will be subject to additional risks to the extent that it engages in short sales that are not "against the box." The Portfolio's loss on a short sale could theoretically be unlimited in cases where the Portfolio is unable, for whatever reason, to close out its short position.

**(d) Interfund Lending** In accordance with an exemptive order (the "Order") from the SEC, each Portfolio of the Trust may participate in a joint lending and borrowing facility for temporary purposes (the "Interfund Lending Program"), subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of the Order, and to the extent permitted by each Portfolio's investment policies and restrictions. Each Portfolio is currently permitted to borrow under the Interfund Lending Program. A lending portfolio may lend in aggregate up to 15% of its current net assets at the time of the interfund loan, but may not lend more than 5% of its net assets to any one borrowing portfolio through the Interfund Lending Program. A borrowing portfolio may not borrow through the Interfund Lending Program or from any other source if its total outstanding borrowings immediately after the borrowing would be more than 33 1/3% of its total assets (or any lower threshold provided for by the portfolio's investment restrictions). If a borrowing portfolio's total outstanding borrowings exceed 10% of its total assets, each of its outstanding interfund loans will be subject to collateralization of at least 102% of the outstanding principal value of the loan. All interfund loans are for temporary or emergency purposes and the interfund loan rate to be charged will be the average of the highest current overnight repurchase agreement rate available to a lending portfolio and the bank loan rate, as calculated according to a formula established by the Board.

On March 23, 2020, the SEC issued an exemptive order (the "Temporary Order") to provide temporary relief to each Portfolio of the Trust in relation to the Interfund Lending Program, and the Portfolios' Board of Trustees has authorized the Portfolios to rely on the Temporary Order. With respect to interfund lending, the Temporary Order permits, under certain conditions, a lending portfolio to lend in aggregate up to 25% of its current net assets at the time of the interfund loan and to make interfund loans with term limits of up to the expiration of the Temporary Order, notwithstanding the current limit of seven business days under the Order. The SEC determined in June 2020 that the Temporary Order would not be extended after its expiration on June 30, 2020.

During the period ended June 30, 2020, the Portfolio did not participate in the Interfund Lending Program.

### 6. FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

The Portfolio may enter into the financial derivative instruments described below to the extent permitted by the Portfolio's investment policies.

The following disclosures contain information on how and why the Portfolio uses financial derivative instruments, and how financial derivative instruments affect the Portfolio's financial position, results of operations and cash flows. The location and fair value amounts of these instruments on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and the net realized gain (loss) and net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on the Statement of Operations, each categorized by type of financial derivative contract and related risk exposure, are included in a table in the Notes to Schedule of Investments. The financial derivative instruments outstanding as of period end and the amounts of net realized gain (loss) and net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on financial derivative instruments during the period, as disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments, serve as indicators of the volume of financial derivative activity for the Portfolio.

(a) **Forward Foreign Currency Contracts** may be engaged, in connection with settling planned purchases or sales of securities, to hedge the currency exposure associated with some or all of the Portfolio's securities or as part of an investment strategy. A forward foreign currency contract is an agreement between two parties to buy and sell a currency at a set price on a future date. The market value of a forward foreign currency contract fluctuates with changes in foreign currency exchange rates. Forward foreign currency contracts are marked to market daily, and the change in value is recorded by the Portfolio as an unrealized gain (loss). Realized gains (losses) are equal to the difference between the value of the contract at the time it was opened and the value at the time it was closed and are recorded upon delivery or receipt of the currency. These contracts may involve market risk in excess of the unrealized gain (loss) reflected on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. In addition, the Portfolio could be exposed to risk if the counterparties are unable to meet the terms of the contracts or if the value of the currency changes unfavorably to the U.S. dollar. To mitigate such risk, cash or securities may be exchanged as collateral pursuant to the terms of the underlying contracts.

(b) **Futures Contracts** are agreements to buy or sell a security or other asset for a set price on a future date and are traded on an exchange. The Portfolio may use futures contracts to manage its exposure to the securities markets or to movements in interest rates and currency values. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts are the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the securities held by the Portfolio and the prices of futures contracts

and the possibility of an illiquid market. Futures contracts are valued based upon their quoted daily settlement prices. Upon entering into a futures contract, the Portfolio is required to deposit with its futures broker an amount of cash, U.S. Government and Agency Obligations, or select sovereign debt, in accordance with the initial margin requirements of the broker or exchange. Futures contracts are marked to market daily and based on such movements in the price of the contracts, an appropriate payable or receivable for the change in value may be posted or collected by the Portfolio ("Futures Variation Margin"). Futures Variation Margins, if any, are disclosed within centrally cleared financial derivative instruments on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Gains (losses) are recognized but not considered realized until the contracts expire or close. Futures contracts involve, to varying degrees, risk of loss in excess of the Futures Variation Margin included within exchange traded or centrally cleared financial derivative instruments on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

(c) **Options Contracts** may be written or purchased to enhance returns or to hedge an existing position or future investment. The Portfolio may write call and put options on securities and financial derivative instruments it owns or in which it may invest. Writing put options tends to increase the Portfolio's exposure to the underlying instrument. Writing call options tends to decrease the Portfolio's exposure to the underlying instrument. When the Portfolio writes a call or put, an amount equal to the premium received is recorded and subsequently marked to market to reflect the current value of the option written. These amounts are included on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Premiums received from writing options which expire are treated as realized gains. Premiums received from writing options which are exercised or closed are added to the proceeds or offset against amounts paid on the underlying futures, swap, security or currency transaction to determine the realized gain (loss). Certain options may be written with premiums to be determined on a future date. The premiums for these options are based upon implied volatility parameters at specified terms. The Portfolio as a writer of an option has no control over whether the underlying instrument may be sold ("call") or purchased ("put") and as a result bears the market risk of an unfavorable change in the price of the instrument underlying the written option. There is the risk the Portfolio may not be able to enter into a closing transaction because of an illiquid market.

Purchasing call options tends to increase the Portfolio's exposure to the underlying instrument. Purchasing put options tends to decrease the Portfolio's exposure to the underlying instrument. The Portfolio pays a premium which is included as an asset on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and subsequently marked to market to reflect the current value of the option. Premiums paid for purchasing options which expire are treated as realized losses. Certain options may be purchased with

premiums to be determined on a future date. The premiums for these options are based upon implied volatility parameters at specified terms. The risk associated with purchasing put and call options is limited to the premium paid. Premiums paid for purchasing options which are exercised or closed are added to the amounts paid or offset against the proceeds on the underlying investment transaction to determine the realized gain (loss) when the underlying transaction is executed.

**Foreign Currency Options** may be written or purchased to be used as a short or long hedge against possible variations in foreign exchange rates or to gain exposure to foreign currencies.

**Options on Exchange-Traded Futures Contracts** ("Futures Option") may be written or purchased to hedge an existing position or future investment, for speculative purposes or to manage exposure to market movements. A Futures Option is an option contract in which the underlying instrument is a single futures contract.

**Options on Securities** may be written or purchased to enhance returns or to hedge an existing position or future investment. An option on a security uses a specified security as the underlying instrument for the option contract.

**(d) Swap Agreements** are bilaterally negotiated agreements between the Portfolio and a counterparty to exchange or swap investment cash flows, assets, foreign currencies or market-linked returns at specified, future intervals. Swap agreements may be privately negotiated in the over the counter market ("OTC swaps") or may be cleared through a third party, known as a central counterparty or derivatives clearing organization ("Centrally Cleared Swaps"). The Portfolio may enter into asset, credit default, cross-currency, interest rate, total return, variance and other forms of swap agreements to manage its exposure to credit, currency, interest rate, commodity, equity and inflation risk. In connection with these agreements, securities or cash may be identified as collateral or margin in accordance with the terms of the respective swap agreements to provide assets of value and recourse in the event of default or bankruptcy/insolvency.

Centrally Cleared Swaps are marked to market daily based upon valuations as determined from the underlying contract or in accordance with the requirements of the central counterparty or derivatives clearing organization. Changes in market value, if any, are reflected as a component of net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on the Statement of Operations. Daily changes in valuation of centrally cleared swaps ("Swap Variation Margin"), if any, are disclosed within centrally cleared financial derivative instruments on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Centrally Cleared and OTC swap payments received or paid at the beginning of the measurement period are included on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and represent

premiums paid or received upon entering into the swap agreement to compensate for differences between the stated terms of the swap agreement and prevailing market conditions (credit spreads, currency exchange rates, interest rates, and other relevant factors). Upfront premiums received (paid) are initially recorded as liabilities (assets) and subsequently marked to market to reflect the current value of the swap. These upfront premiums are recorded as realized gain (loss) on the Statement of Operations upon termination or maturity of the swap. A liquidation payment received or made at the termination of the swap is recorded as realized gain (loss) on the Statement of Operations. Net periodic payments received or paid by the Portfolio are included as part of realized gain (loss) on the Statement of Operations.

For purposes of applying certain of the Portfolio's investment policies and restrictions, swap agreements, like other derivative instruments, may be valued by the Portfolio at market value, notional value or full exposure value. In the case of a credit default swap, in applying certain of the Portfolio's investment policies and restrictions, the Portfolio will value the credit default swap at its notional value or its full exposure value (i.e., the sum of the notional amount for the contract plus the market value), but may value the credit default swap at market value for purposes of applying certain of the Portfolio's other investment policies and restrictions. For example, the Portfolio may value credit default swaps at full exposure value for purposes of the Portfolio's credit quality guidelines (if any) because such value in general better reflects the Portfolio's actual economic exposure during the term of the credit default swap agreement. As a result, the Portfolio may, at times, have notional exposure to an asset class (before netting) that is greater or lesser than the stated limit or restriction noted in the Portfolio's prospectus. In this context, both the notional amount and the market value may be positive or negative depending on whether the Portfolio is selling or buying protection through the credit default swap. The manner in which certain securities or other instruments are valued by the Portfolio for purposes of applying investment policies and restrictions may differ from the manner in which those investments are valued by other types of investors.

Entering into swap agreements involves, to varying degrees, elements of interest, credit, market and documentation risk in excess of the amounts recognized on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Such risks involve the possibility that there will be no liquid market for these agreements, that the counterparty to the agreements may default on its obligation to perform or disagree as to the meaning of contractual terms in the agreements and that there may be unfavorable changes in interest rates or the values of the asset upon which the swap is based.

The Portfolio's maximum risk of loss from counterparty credit risk is the discounted net value of the cash flows to be received from the counterparty over the contract's remaining life, to the extent that

amount is positive. The risk may be mitigated by having a master netting arrangement between the Portfolio and the counterparty and by the posting of collateral to the Portfolio to cover the Portfolio's exposure to the counterparty.

To the extent the Portfolio has a policy to limit the net amount owed to or to be received from a single counterparty under existing swap agreements, such limitation only applies to counterparties to OTC swaps and does not apply to centrally cleared swaps where the counterparty is a central counterparty or derivatives clearing organization.

**Credit Default Swap Agreements** on corporate, loan, sovereign, U.S. municipal or U.S. Treasury issues are entered into to provide a measure of protection against defaults of the issuers (i.e., to reduce risk where the Portfolio owns or has exposure to the referenced obligation) or to take an active long or short position with respect to the likelihood of a particular issuer's default. Credit default swap agreements involve one party making a stream of payments (referred to as the buyer of protection) to another party (the seller of protection) in exchange for the right to receive a specified return in the event that the referenced entity, obligation or index, as specified in the swap agreement, undergoes a certain credit event. As a seller of protection on credit default swap agreements, the Portfolio will generally receive from the buyer of protection a fixed rate of income throughout the term of the swap provided that there is no credit event. As the seller, the Portfolio would effectively add leverage to its portfolio because, in addition to its total net assets, the Portfolio would be subject to investment exposure on the notional amount of the swap.

If the Portfolio is a seller of protection and a credit event occurs, as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement, the Portfolio will either (i) pay to the buyer of protection an amount equal to the notional amount of the swap and take delivery of the referenced obligation, other deliverable obligations or underlying securities comprising the referenced index or (ii) pay a net settlement amount in the form of cash or securities equal to the notional amount of the swap less the recovery value of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index. If the Portfolio is a buyer of protection and a credit event occurs, as defined under the terms of that particular swap agreement, the Portfolio will either (i) receive from the seller of protection an amount equal to the notional amount of the swap and deliver the referenced obligation, other deliverable obligations or underlying securities comprising the referenced index or (ii) receive a net settlement amount in the form of cash or securities equal to the notional amount of the swap less the recovery value of the referenced obligation or underlying securities comprising the referenced index. Recovery values are estimated by market makers considering

either industry standard recovery rates or entity specific factors and considerations until a credit event occurs. If a credit event has occurred, the recovery value is determined by a facilitated auction whereby a minimum number of allowable broker bids, together with a specified valuation method, are used to calculate the settlement value. The ability to deliver other obligations may result in a cheapest-to-deliver option (the buyer of protection's right to choose the deliverable obligation with the lowest value following a credit event).

Implied credit spreads, represented in absolute terms, utilized in determining the market value of credit default swap agreements on corporate, loan, sovereign, U.S. municipal or U.S. Treasury issues as of period end, if any, are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments. They serve as an indicator of the current status of payment/performance risk and represent the likelihood or risk of default for the reference entity. The implied credit spread of a particular referenced entity reflects the cost of buying/selling protection and may include upfront payments required to be made to enter into the agreement. Wider credit spreads represent a deterioration of the referenced entity's credit soundness and a greater likelihood or risk of default or other credit event occurring as defined under the terms of the agreement. For credit default swap agreements on asset-backed securities and credit indices, the quoted market prices and resulting values serve as the indicator of the current status of the payment/performance risk. Increasing market values, in absolute terms when compared to the notional amount of the swap, represent a deterioration of the referenced entity's credit soundness and a greater likelihood or risk of default or other credit event occurring as defined under the terms of the agreement.

The maximum potential amount of future payments (undiscounted) that the Portfolio as a seller of protection could be required to make under a credit default swap agreement equals the notional amount of the agreement. Notional amounts of each individual credit default swap agreement outstanding as of period end for which the Portfolio is the seller of protection are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments. These potential amounts would be partially offset by any recovery values of the respective referenced obligations, upfront payments received upon entering into the agreement, or net amounts received from the settlement of buy protection credit default swap agreements entered into by the Portfolio for the same referenced entity or entities.

**Interest Rate Swap Agreements** may be entered into to help hedge against interest rate risk exposure and to maintain the Portfolio's ability to generate income at prevailing market rates. The value of the fixed rate bonds that the Portfolio holds may decrease if interest rates rise. To help hedge against this risk and to maintain its ability to generate income at prevailing market rates, the Portfolio may enter into interest

rate swap agreements. Interest rate swap agreements involve the exchange by the Portfolio with another party for their respective commitment to pay or receive interest on the notional amount of principal. Certain forms of interest rate swap agreements may include: (i) interest rate caps, under which, in return for a premium, one party agrees to make payments to the other to the extent that interest rates exceed a specified rate, or "cap", (ii) interest rate floors, under which, in return for a premium, one party agrees to make payments to the other to the extent that interest rates fall below a specified rate, or "floor", (iii) interest rate collars, under which a party sells a cap and purchases a floor or vice versa in an attempt to protect itself against interest rate movements exceeding given minimum or maximum levels, (iv) callable interest rate swaps, under which the buyer pays an upfront fee in consideration for the right to early terminate the swap transaction in whole, at zero cost and at a predetermined date and time prior to the maturity date, (v) spreadlocks, which allow the interest rate swap users to lock in the forward differential (or spread) between the interest rate swap rate and a specified benchmark, or (vi) basis swaps, under which two parties can exchange variable interest rates based on different segments of money markets.

## 7. PRINCIPAL AND OTHER RISKS

### (a) Principal Risks

The principal risks of investing in the Portfolio, which could adversely affect its net asset value, yield and total return, are listed below. Please see "Description of Principal Risks" in the Portfolio's prospectus for a more detailed description of the risks of investing in the Portfolio.

**Interest Rate Risk** is the risk that fixed income securities will decline in value because of an increase in interest rates; a portfolio with a longer average portfolio duration will be more sensitive to changes in interest rates than a portfolio with a shorter average portfolio duration.

**Call Risk** is the risk that an issuer may exercise its right to redeem a fixed income security earlier than expected (a call). Issuers may call outstanding securities prior to their maturity for a number of reasons (e.g., declining interest rates, changes in credit spreads and improvements in the issuer's credit quality). If an issuer calls a security that the Portfolio has invested in, the Portfolio may not recoup the full amount of its initial investment and may be forced to reinvest in lower-yielding securities, securities with greater credit risks or securities with other, less favorable features.

**Credit Risk** is the risk that the Portfolio could lose money if the issuer or guarantor of a fixed income security, or the counterparty to a derivative contract, is unable or unwilling, or is perceived (whether by market participants, rating agencies, pricing services or otherwise) as unable or unwilling, to meet its financial obligations.

**High Yield Risk** is the risk that high yield securities and unrated securities of similar credit quality (commonly known as "junk bonds") are subject to greater levels of credit, call and liquidity risks. High yield securities are considered primarily speculative with respect to the issuer's continuing ability to make principal and interest payments, and may be more volatile than higher-rated securities of similar maturity.

**Market Risk** is the risk that the value of securities owned by the Portfolio may go up or down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably, due to factors affecting securities markets generally or particular industries.

**Issuer Risk** is the risk that the value of a security may decline for a reason directly related to the issuer, such as management performance, financial leverage and reduced demand for the issuer's goods or services.

**Liquidity Risk** is the risk that a particular investment may be difficult to purchase or sell and that the Portfolio may be unable to sell illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price or achieve its desired level of exposure to a certain sector. Liquidity risk may result from the lack of an active market, reduced number and capacity of traditional market participants to make a market in fixed income securities, and may be magnified in a rising interest rate environment or other circumstances where investor redemptions from fixed income mutual funds may be higher than normal, causing increased supply in the market due to selling activity.

**Derivatives Risk** is the risk of investing in derivative instruments (such as futures, swaps and structured securities), including leverage, liquidity, interest rate, market, credit and management risks, mispricing or valuation complexity. Changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with, and may be more sensitive to market events than, the underlying asset, rate or index, and the Portfolio could lose more than the initial amount invested. The Portfolio's use of derivatives may result in losses to the Portfolio, a reduction in the Portfolio's returns and/or increased volatility. Over-the-counter ("OTC") derivatives are also subject to the risk that a counterparty to the transaction will not fulfill its contractual obligations to the other party, as many of the protections afforded to centrally-cleared derivative transactions might not be available for OTC derivatives. For derivatives traded on an exchange or through a central counterparty, credit risk resides with the Portfolio's clearing broker, or the clearinghouse itself, rather than with a counterparty in an OTC derivative transaction. Changes in regulation relating to a mutual fund's use of derivatives and related instruments could potentially limit or impact the Portfolio's ability to invest in derivatives, limit the Portfolio's ability to employ certain strategies that use derivatives and/or adversely affect the value of derivatives and the Portfolio's performance.

**Equity Risk** is the risk that the value of equity securities, such as common stocks and preferred securities, may decline due to general market conditions which are not specifically related to a particular company or to factors affecting a particular industry or industries. Equity securities generally have greater price volatility than fixed income securities.

**Mortgage-Related and Other Asset-Backed Securities Risk** is the risk of investing in mortgage-related and other asset-backed securities, including interest rate risk, extension risk, prepayment risk and credit risk.

**Foreign (Non-U.S.) Investment Risk** is the risk that investing in foreign (non-U.S.) securities may result in the Portfolio experiencing more rapid and extreme changes in value than a portfolio that invests exclusively in securities of U.S. companies, due to smaller markets, differing reporting, accounting and auditing standards, increased risk of delayed settlement of portfolio transactions or loss of certificates of portfolio securities, and the risk of unfavorable foreign government actions, including nationalization, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, currency blockage, or political changes or diplomatic developments. Foreign securities may also be less liquid and more difficult to value than securities of U.S. issuers.

**Emerging Markets Risk** is the risk of investing in emerging market securities, primarily increased foreign (non-U.S.) investment risk.

**Sovereign Debt Risk** is the risk that investments in fixed income instruments issued by sovereign entities may decline in value as a result of default or other adverse credit event resulting from an issuer's inability or unwillingness to make principal or interest payments in a timely fashion.

**Currency Risk** is the risk that foreign (non-U.S.) currencies will change in value relative to the U.S. dollar and affect the Portfolio's investments in foreign (non-U.S.) currencies or in securities that trade in, and receive revenues in, or in derivatives that provide exposure to, foreign (non-U.S.) currencies.

**Leveraging Risk** is the risk that certain transactions of the Portfolio, such as reverse repurchase agreements, loans of portfolio securities, and the use of when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment transactions, or derivative instruments, may give rise to leverage, magnifying gains and losses and causing the Portfolio to be more volatile than if it had not been leveraged. This means that leverage entails a heightened risk of loss.

**Management Risk** is the risk that the investment techniques and risk analyses applied by PIMCO will not produce the desired results and that legislative, regulatory, or tax restrictions, policies or developments may affect the investment techniques available to PIMCO and the

individual portfolio manager in connection with managing the Portfolio. There is no guarantee that the investment objective of the Portfolio will be achieved.

**Short Exposure Risk** is the risk of entering into short sales, including the potential loss of more money than the actual cost of the investment, and the risk that the third party to the short sale will not fulfill its contractual obligations, causing a loss to the Portfolio.

### (b) Other Risks

In general, the Portfolio may be subject to additional risks, including, but not limited to, risks related to government regulation and intervention in financial markets, operational risks, risks associated with financial, economic and global market disruptions, and cybersecurity risks. Please see the Portfolio's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information for a more detailed description of the risks of investing in the Portfolio. Please see the Important Information section of this report for additional discussion of certain regulatory and market developments (such as the anticipated discontinuation of the London Interbank Offered Rate) that may impact the Portfolio's performance.

**Market Disruption Risk** The Portfolio is subject to investment and operational risks associated with financial, economic and other global market developments and disruptions, including those arising from war, terrorism, market manipulation, government interventions, defaults and shutdowns, political changes or diplomatic developments, public health emergencies (such as the spread of infectious diseases, pandemics and epidemics) and natural/environmental disasters, which can all negatively impact the securities markets and cause the Portfolio to lose value. These events can also impair the technology and other operational systems upon which the Portfolio's service providers, including PIMCO as the Portfolio's investment adviser, rely, and could otherwise disrupt the Portfolio's service providers' ability to fulfill their obligations to the Portfolio. For example, the recent spread of an infectious respiratory illness caused by a novel strain of coronavirus (known as COVID-19) has caused volatility, severe market dislocations and liquidity constraints in many markets, including markets for the securities the Portfolio holds, and may adversely affect the Portfolio's investments and operations. Please see the Important Information section for additional discussion of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Government Intervention in Financial Markets** Federal, state, and other governments, their regulatory agencies, or self-regulatory organizations may take actions that affect the regulation of the instruments in which the Portfolio invests, or the issuers of such instruments, in ways that are unforeseeable. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Portfolio itself is regulated. Such legislation or regulation could limit or preclude the Portfolio's ability to achieve its investment objective. Furthermore, volatile financial markets can expose the Portfolio to greater market and liquidity risk and

potential difficulty in valuing portfolio instruments held by the Portfolio. The value of the Portfolio's holdings is also generally subject to the risk of future local, national, or global economic disturbances based on unknown weaknesses in the markets in which the Portfolio invests. In addition, it is not certain that the U.S. Government will intervene in response to a future market disturbance and the effect of any such future intervention cannot be predicted. It is difficult for issuers to prepare for the impact of future financial downturns, although companies can seek to identify and manage future uncertainties through risk management programs.

**Regulatory Risk** Financial entities, such as investment companies and investment advisers, are generally subject to extensive government regulation and intervention. Government regulation and/or intervention may change the way the Portfolio is regulated, affect the expenses incurred directly by the Portfolio and the value of its investments, and limit and/or preclude the Portfolio's ability to achieve its investment objective. Government regulation may change frequently and may have significant adverse consequences. Moreover, government regulation may have unpredictable and unintended effects.

**Operational Risk** An investment in the Portfolio, like any fund, can involve operational risks arising from factors such as processing errors, human errors, inadequate or failed internal or external processes, failures in systems and technology, changes in personnel and errors caused by third-party service providers. The occurrence of any of these failures, errors or breaches could result in a loss of information, regulatory scrutiny, reputational damage or other events, any of which could have a material adverse effect on the Portfolio. While the Portfolio seeks to minimize such events through controls and oversight, there may still be failures that could cause losses to the Portfolio.

**Cyber Security Risk** As the use of technology has become more prevalent in the course of business, the Portfolio has become potentially more susceptible to operational and information security risks resulting from breaches in cyber security. A breach in cyber security refers to both intentional and unintentional cyber events that may, among other things, cause the Portfolio to lose proprietary information, suffer data corruption and/or destruction or lose operational capacity, result in the unauthorized release or other misuse of confidential information, or otherwise disrupt normal business operations. Cyber security failures or breaches may result in financial losses to the Portfolio and its shareholders. These failures or breaches may also result in disruptions to business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses; interference with the Portfolio's ability to calculate its net asset value, process shareholder transactions or otherwise transact business with shareholders; impediments to trading; violations of applicable privacy and other laws; regulatory fines; penalties; reputational damage; reimbursement or other compensation

costs; additional compliance and cyber security risk management costs and other adverse consequences. In addition, substantial costs may be incurred in order to prevent any cyber incidents in the future.

## 8. MASTER NETTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Portfolio may be subject to various netting arrangements ("Master Agreements") with select counterparties. Master Agreements govern the terms of certain transactions, and are intended to reduce the counterparty risk associated with relevant transactions by specifying credit protection mechanisms and providing standardization that is intended to improve legal certainty. Each type of Master Agreement governs certain types of transactions. Different types of transactions may be traded out of different legal entities or affiliates of a particular organization, resulting in the need for multiple agreements with a single counterparty. As the Master Agreements are specific to unique operations of different asset types, they allow the Portfolio to close out and net its total exposure to a counterparty in the event of a default with respect to all the transactions governed under a single Master Agreement with a counterparty. For financial reporting purposes the Statement of Assets and Liabilities generally presents derivative assets and liabilities on a gross basis, which reflects the full risks and exposures prior to netting.

Master Agreements can also help limit counterparty risk by specifying collateral posting arrangements at pre-arranged exposure levels. Under most Master Agreements, collateral is routinely transferred if the total net exposure to certain transactions (net of existing collateral already in place) governed under the relevant Master Agreement with a counterparty in a given account exceeds a specified threshold, which typically ranges from zero to \$250,000 depending on the counterparty and the type of Master Agreement. United States Treasury Bills and U.S. dollar cash are generally the preferred forms of collateral, although other securities may be used depending on the terms outlined in the applicable Master Agreement. Securities and cash pledged as collateral are reflected as assets on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as either a component of Investments at value (securities) or Deposits with counterparty. Cash collateral received is not typically held in a segregated account and as such is reflected as a liability on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as Deposits from counterparty. The market value of any securities received as collateral is not reflected as a component of NAV. The Portfolio's overall exposure to counterparty risk can change substantially within a short period, as it is affected by each transaction subject to the relevant Master Agreement.

Master Repurchase Agreements and Global Master Repurchase Agreements (individually and collectively "Master Repo Agreements") govern repurchase, reverse repurchase, and certain sale-buyback transactions between the Portfolio and select counterparties. Master



Repo Agreements maintain provisions for, among other things, initiation, income payments, events of default, and maintenance of collateral. The market value of transactions under the Master Repo Agreement, collateral pledged or received, and the net exposure by counterparty as of period end are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments.

Master Securities Forward Transaction Agreements (“Master Forward Agreements”) govern certain forward settling transactions, such as TBA securities, delayed-delivery or certain sale-buyback transactions by and between the Portfolio and select counterparties. The Master Forward Agreements maintain provisions for, among other things, transaction initiation and confirmation, payment and transfer, events of default, termination, and maintenance of collateral. The market value of forward settling transactions, collateral pledged or received, and the net exposure by counterparty as of period end is disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments.

Customer Account Agreements and related addenda govern cleared derivatives transactions such as futures, options on futures, and cleared OTC derivatives. Such transactions require posting of initial margin as determined by each relevant clearing agency which is segregated in an account at a futures commission merchant (“FCM”) registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. In the United States, counterparty risk may be reduced as creditors of an FCM cannot have a claim to Portfolio assets in the segregated account. Portability of exposure reduces risk to the Portfolio. Variation margin, or changes in market value, are generally exchanged daily, but may not be netted between futures and cleared OTC derivatives unless the parties have agreed to a separate arrangement in respect of portfolio margining. The market value or accumulated unrealized appreciation (depreciation), initial margin posted, and any unsettled variation margin as of period end are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments.

Prime Broker Arrangements may be entered into to facilitate execution and/or clearing of listed equity option transactions or short sales of equity securities between the Portfolio and selected counterparties. The arrangements provide guidelines surrounding the rights, obligations, and other events, including, but not limited to, margin, execution, and settlement. These agreements maintain provisions for, among other things, payments, maintenance of collateral, events of default, and termination. Margin and other assets delivered as collateral are typically in the possession of the prime broker and would offset any obligations due to the prime broker. The market values of listed options and securities sold short and related collateral are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments.

International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. Master Agreements and Credit Support Annexes (“ISDA Master Agreements”) govern bilateral OTC derivative transactions entered into by the Portfolio with select counterparties. ISDA Master Agreements maintain provisions for general obligations, representations, agreements, collateral posting and events of default or termination. Events of termination include conditions that may entitle counterparties to elect to terminate early and cause settlement of all outstanding transactions under the applicable ISDA Master Agreement. Any election to terminate early could be material to the financial statements. In limited circumstances, the ISDA Master Agreement may contain additional provisions that add counterparty protection beyond coverage of existing daily exposure if the counterparty has a decline in credit quality below a predefined level. These amounts, if any, may be segregated with a third-party custodian. The market value of OTC financial derivative instruments, collateral received or pledged, and net exposure by counterparty as of period end are disclosed in the Notes to Schedule of Investments.

**9. FEES AND EXPENSES**

(a) **Investment Advisory Fee** PIMCO is a majority-owned subsidiary of Allianz Asset Management of America L.P. (“Allianz Asset Management”) and serves as the Adviser to the Trust, pursuant to an investment advisory contract. The Adviser receives a monthly fee from the Portfolio at an annual rate based on average daily net assets (the “Investment Advisory Fee”). The Investment Advisory Fee for all classes is charged at an annual rate as noted in the table in note (b) below.

(b) **Supervisory and Administrative Fee** PIMCO serves as administrator (the “Administrator”) and provides supervisory and administrative services to the Trust for which it receives a monthly supervisory and administrative fee based on each share class’s average daily net assets (the “Supervisory and Administrative Fee”). As the Administrator, PIMCO bears the costs of various third-party services, including audit, custodial, portfolio accounting, legal, transfer agency and printing costs.

The Investment Advisory Fee and Supervisory and Administrative Fees for all classes, as applicable, are charged at the annual rate as noted in the following table (calculated as a percentage of the Portfolio’s average daily net assets attributable to each class):

Investment Advisory Fee	Supervisory and Administrative Fee		
	All Classes	Institutional Class	Administrative Class
0.25%	0.25%	0.25%	0.25%

(c) **Distribution and Servicing Fees** PIMCO Investments LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of PIMCO, serves as the distributor (“Distributor”) of the Trust’s shares.

The Trust has adopted an Administrative Services Plan with respect to the Administrative Class shares of the Portfolio pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Act (the "Administrative Plan"). Under the terms of the Administrative Plan, the Trust is permitted to compensate the Distributor, out of the Administrative Class assets of the Portfolio, in an amount up to 0.15% on an annual basis of the average daily net assets of that class, for providing or procuring through financial intermediaries administrative, recordkeeping and investor services for Administrative Class shareholders of the Portfolio.

The Trust has adopted a separate Distribution and Servicing Plan for the Advisor Class shares of the Portfolio (the "Distribution and Servicing Plan"). The Distribution and Servicing Plan has been adopted pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Act. The Distribution and Servicing Plan permits the Portfolio to compensate the Distributor for providing or procuring through financial intermediaries, distribution, administrative, recordkeeping, shareholder and/or related services with respect to Advisor Class shares. The Distribution and Servicing Plan permits the Portfolio to make total payments at an annual rate of up to 0.25% of its average daily net assets attributable to its Advisor Class shares.

	<b>Distribution Fee</b>	<b>Servicing Fee</b>
<b>Administrative Class</b>	—	0.15%
<b>Advisor Class</b>	0.25%	—

**(d) Portfolio Expenses** PIMCO provides or procures supervisory and administrative services for shareholders and also bears the costs of various third-party services required by the Portfolio, including audit, custodial, portfolio accounting, legal, transfer agency and printing costs. The Trust is responsible for the following expenses: (i) taxes and governmental fees; (ii) brokerage fees and commissions and other portfolio transaction expenses; (iii) the costs of borrowing money, including interest expenses; (iv) fees and expenses of the Trustees who are not "interested persons" of PIMCO or the Trust, and any counsel retained exclusively for their benefit, except for PIMCO All Asset Portfolio; (v) extraordinary expense, including costs of litigation and indemnification expenses; (vi) organizational expenses; and (vii) any expenses allocated or allocable to a specific class of shares, which include service fees payable with respect to the Administrative Class Shares, and may include certain other expenses as permitted by the Trust's Multi-Class Plan adopted pursuant to Rule 18f-3 under the Act and subject to review and approval by the Trustees. The ratio of expenses to average net assets per share class, as disclosed on the Financial Highlights, may differ from the annual portfolio operating expenses per share class.

The Trust pays no compensation directly to any Trustee or any other officer who is affiliated with the Administrator, all of whom receive remuneration for their services to the Trust from the Administrator or its affiliates.

**(e) Expense Limitation** Pursuant to the Expense Limitation Agreement, PIMCO has agreed to waive a portion of the Portfolio's Supervisory and Administrative Fee, or reimburse the Portfolio, to the extent that the Portfolio's organizational expenses, pro rata share of expenses related to obtaining or maintaining a Legal Entity Identifier and pro rata share of Trustee Fees exceed 0.0049%, the "Expense Limit" (calculated as a percentage of the Portfolio's average daily net assets attributable to each class). The Expense Limitation Agreement will automatically renew for one-year terms unless PIMCO provides written notice to the Trust at least 30 days prior to the end of the then current term. The waiver is reflected in the Statement of Operations as a component of Waiver and/or Reimbursement by PIMCO.

In any month in which the supervision and administration agreement is in effect, PIMCO is entitled to reimbursement by the Portfolio of any portion of the supervisory and administrative fee waived or reimbursed as set forth above (the "Reimbursement Amount") during the previous thirty-six months from the date of the waiver, provided that such amount paid to PIMCO will not: i) together with any organizational expenses, pro rata share of expenses related to obtaining or maintaining a Legal Entity Identifier and pro rata Trustee fees, exceed, for such month, the Expense Limit (or the amount of the expense limit in place at the time the amount being recouped was originally waived if lower than the Expense Limit); ii) exceed the total Reimbursement Amount; or iii) include any amounts previously reimbursed to PIMCO. At June 30, 2020, there were no recoverable amounts.

## 10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Adviser, Administrator, and Distributor are related parties. Fees paid to these parties are disclosed in Note 9, Fees and Expenses, and the accrued related party fee amounts are disclosed on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The Portfolio is permitted to purchase or sell securities from or to certain related affiliated portfolios under specified conditions outlined in procedures adopted by the Board. The procedures have been designed to ensure that any purchase or sale of securities by the Portfolio from or to another fund or portfolio that are, or could be, considered an affiliate, or an affiliate of an affiliate, by virtue of having a common investment adviser (or affiliated investment advisers), common Trustees and/or common officers complies with Rule 17a-7 under the Act. Further, as defined under the procedures, each transaction is effected at the current market price. Purchases and sales of securities pursuant to Rule 17a-7 under the Act for the period ended June 30, 2020, were as follows (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

<b>Purchases</b>	<b>Sales</b>
\$ 103,603	\$ 147,834

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

## 11. GUARANTEES AND INDEMNIFICATIONS

Under the Trust's organizational documents, each Trustee, officer, employee or other agent of the Trust (including the Trust's investment manager) is indemnified, to the extent permitted by the Act, against certain liabilities that may arise out of performance of their duties to the Portfolio. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the Portfolio enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnification clauses. The Portfolio's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Portfolio that have not yet occurred. However, the Portfolio has not had prior claims or losses pursuant to these contracts.

## 12. PURCHASES AND SALES OF SECURITIES

The length of time the Portfolio has held a particular security is not generally a consideration in investment decisions. A change in the securities held by the Portfolio is known as "portfolio turnover." The Portfolio may engage in frequent and active trading of portfolio securities to achieve its investment objective, particularly during periods

of volatile market movements. High portfolio turnover may involve correspondingly greater transaction costs, including brokerage commissions or dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of securities and reinvestments in other securities, which are borne by the Portfolio. Such sales may also result in realization of taxable capital gains, including short-term capital gains (which are generally taxed at ordinary income tax rates when distributed to shareholders). The transaction costs associated with portfolio turnover may adversely affect the Portfolio's performance. The portfolio turnover rates are reported in the Financial Highlights.

Purchases and sales of securities (excluding short-term investments) for the period ended June 30, 2020, were as follows (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

U.S. Government/Agency		All Other	
Purchases	Sales	Purchases	Sales
\$ 2,016,113	\$ 2,301,082	\$ 218,732	\$ 402,398

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

## 13. SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST

The Trust may issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest with a \$0.001 par value. Changes in shares of beneficial interest were as follows (shares and amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

	Six Months Ended 06/30/2020		Year Ended 12/31/2019	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
<b>Receipts for shares sold</b>				
Institutional Class	1,356	\$ 13,892	968	\$ 9,836
Administrative Class	16,213	166,093	17,957	182,695
Advisor Class	8,437	86,388	9,893	100,593
<b>Issued as reinvestment of distributions</b>				
Institutional Class	9	96	29	293
Administrative Class	799	8,188	2,856	29,078
Advisor Class	577	5,909	1,976	20,125
<b>Cost of shares redeemed</b>				
Institutional Class	(1,209)	(12,329)	(724)	(7,349)
Administrative Class	(16,919)	(172,767)	(40,939)	(415,268)
Advisor Class	(11,420)	(116,471)	(13,061)	(132,691)
<b>Net increase (decrease) resulting from Portfolio share transactions</b>	(2,157)	\$ (21,001)	(21,045)	\$ (212,688)

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

As of June 30, 2020, two shareholders each owned 10% or more of the Portfolio's total outstanding shares comprising 43% of the Portfolio.

## 14. REGULATORY AND LITIGATION MATTERS

The Portfolio is not named as a defendant in any material litigation or arbitration proceedings and is not aware of any material litigation or claim pending or threatened against it.

The foregoing speaks only as of the date of this report.

## 15. FEDERAL INCOME TAX MATTERS

The Portfolio intends to qualify as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code") and distribute all of its taxable income and net realized gains, if applicable, to shareholders. Accordingly, no provision for Federal income taxes has been made.

The Portfolio may be subject to local withholding taxes, including those imposed on realized capital gains. Any applicable foreign capital gains tax is accrued daily based upon net unrealized gains, and may be payable following the sale of any applicable investments.

In accordance with U.S. GAAP, the Adviser has reviewed the Portfolio's tax positions for all open tax years. As of June 30, 2020, the Portfolio has recorded no liability for net unrecognized tax benefits relating to uncertain income tax positions it has taken or expects to take in future tax returns.

The Portfolio files U.S. federal, state, and local tax returns as required. The Portfolio's tax returns are subject to examination by relevant tax authorities until expiration of the applicable statute of limitations, which is generally three years after the filing of the tax return but which can be extended to six years in certain circumstances. Tax returns for open years have incorporated no uncertain tax positions that require a provision for income taxes.

Shares of the Portfolio currently are sold to segregated asset accounts ("Separate Accounts") of insurance companies that fund variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies ("Variable

Contracts"). Please refer to the prospectus for the Separate Account and Variable Contract for information regarding Federal income tax treatment of distributions to the Separate Account.

Under the Regulated Investment Company Modernization Act of 2010, a portfolio is permitted to carry forward any new capital losses for an unlimited period. Additionally, such capital losses that are carried forward will retain their character as either short-term or long-term capital losses rather than being considered all short-term under previous law.

As of its last fiscal year ended December 31, 2019, the Portfolio had the following post-effective capital losses with no expiration (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

<b>Short-Term</b>	<b>Long-Term</b>
\$ 25,839	\$ 27,999

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

As of June 30, 2020, the aggregate cost and the net unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) of investments for federal income tax purposes are as follows (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

<b>Federal Tax Cost</b>	<b>Unrealized Appreciation</b>	<b>Unrealized (Depreciation)</b>	<b>Net Unrealized Appreciation/(Depreciation)<sup>(1)</sup></b>
\$ 1,810,515	\$ 38,767	\$ (19,771)	\$ 18,996

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

<sup>(1)</sup> Primary differences, if any, between book and tax net unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) are attributable to wash sale loss deferrals for federal income tax purposes.

**Counterparty Abbreviations:**

<b>BPS</b>	BNP Paribas S.A.	<b>FICC</b>	Fixed Income Clearing Corporation	<b>MYI</b>	Morgan Stanley & Co. International PLC
<b>BRC</b>	Barclays Bank PLC	<b>GLM</b>	Goldman Sachs Bank USA	<b>SCX</b>	Standard Chartered Bank, London
<b>BSH</b>	Banco Santander S.A. - New York Branch	<b>GSC</b>	Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC	<b>TOR</b>	The Toronto-Dominion Bank
<b>CBK</b>	Citibank N.A.	<b>HUS</b>	HSBC Bank USA N.A.	<b>UAG</b>	UBS AG Stamford
<b>DUB</b>	Deutsche Bank AG	<b>MBC</b>	HSBC Bank Plc		

**Currency Abbreviations:**

<b>ARS</b>	Argentine Peso	<b>EUR</b>	Euro	<b>MYR</b>	Malaysian Ringgit
<b>AUD</b>	Australian Dollar	<b>GBP</b>	British Pound	<b>RUB</b>	Russian Ruble
<b>BRL</b>	Brazilian Real	<b>JPY</b>	Japanese Yen	<b>THB</b>	Thai Baht
<b>CAD</b>	Canadian Dollar	<b>MXN</b>	Mexican Peso	<b>USD (or \$)</b>	United States Dollar

**Exchange Abbreviations:**

<b>OTC</b>	Over the Counter
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**Index/Spread Abbreviations:**

<b>BBSW3M</b>	3 Month Bank Bill Swap Rate	<b>EUR003M</b>	3 Month EUR Swap Rate	<b>US0003M</b>	3 Month USD Swap Rate
<b>BP0003M</b>	3 Month GBP-LIBOR	<b>LIBOR03M</b>	3 Month USD-LIBOR		

**Other Abbreviations:**

<b>ALT</b>	Alternate Loan Trust	<b>LIBOR</b>	London Interbank Offered Rate	<b>TBA</b>	To-Be-Announced
<b>BBSW</b>	Bank Bill Swap Reference Rate	<b>Lunar</b>	Monthly payment based on 28-day periods. One year consists of 13 periods.	<b>TIIE</b>	Tasa de Interés Interbancaria de Equilibrio "Equilibrium Interbank Interest Rate"
<b>CLO</b>	Collateralized Loan Obligation				

In compliance with Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Liquidity Rule"), PIMCO Variable Insurance Trust (the "Trust") has adopted and implemented a liquidity risk management program (the "Program") for each series of the Trust (each a "Portfolio" and collectively, the "Portfolios"), which is reasonably designed to assess and manage the Portfolios' liquidity risk. The Trust's Board of Trustees (the "Board") previously approved the designation of the PIMCO Liquidity Risk Committee (the "Administrator") as Program administrator. The PIMCO Liquidity Risk Committee consists of senior members from certain PIMCO business areas, such as Portfolio Risk Management, Operations, Compliance, Funds Business Group, Account Management and Portfolio Management.

A Portfolio's "liquidity risk" is the risk that the Portfolio could not meet requests to redeem shares issued by the Portfolio without significant dilution of the remaining investors' interests in the Portfolio. In accordance with the Program, each Portfolio's liquidity risk is assessed no less frequently than annually taking into consideration a variety of factors, including, as applicable the Portfolio's investment strategy and liquidity of portfolio investments, cash flow projections, and holdings of cash and cash equivalents, as well as borrowing arrangements and other funding sources. Certain factors are considered under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Each Portfolio portfolio investment is classified into one of four liquidity categories (including "highly liquid investments" and "illiquid investments," discussed below) based on a determination of the number of days it is reasonably expected to take to convert the investment to cash, or sell or dispose of the investment, in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment's market value. Each Portfolio has adopted a "Highly Liquid Investment Minimum" (or "HLIM"), which is a minimum amount of Portfolio net assets to be invested in highly liquid investments that are assets. As required under the Liquidity Rule, each Portfolio's HLIM is periodically reviewed, no less frequently than annually, and the Portfolios have adopted policies and procedures for responding to a shortfall of a Portfolio's highly liquid investments below its HLIM. The Liquidity Rule also limits the Portfolios' investments in illiquid investments by prohibiting a Portfolio from acquiring any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Portfolio would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments that are assets. Certain non-public reporting is generally required if a Portfolio's holdings of illiquid investments that are assets were to exceed 15% of Portfolio net assets.

At a meeting of the Board held on February 11-12, 2020, the Board received a report (the "Report") from the Administrator addressing the Program's operation and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation for the period from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2019. The Report noted that the Program is operating effectively to assess and manage each Portfolio's liquidity risk and that the Program has been and continues to be adequately and effectively implemented to monitor and, as applicable, respond to the Portfolios' liquidity developments. This has remained true for the 12-month reporting period ended June 30, 2020.

## General Information

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### **Investment Adviser and Administrator**

Pacific Investment Management Company LLC  
650 Newport Center Drive  
Newport Beach, CA 92660

### **Distributor**

PIMCO Investments LLC  
1633 Broadway  
New York, NY 10019

### **Custodian**

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Kansas City, MO 64105

### **Transfer Agent**

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### **Legal Counsel**

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Washington, D.C. 20006

### **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
1100 Walnut Street, Suite 1300  
Kansas City, MO 64106

This report is submitted for the general information of the shareholders of the Portfolio listed on the Report cover.

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**P I M C O**