

**ALGER**

# THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS

Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT  
JUNE 30, 2021 (UNAUDITED)



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Dear Shareholders,

### **Recent Market Performance Masks the Appeal of Industry Disrupters**

In our opinion, unprecedented amounts of fiscal and monetary stimulus, anticipation of a grand re-opening of the economy and the widespread digitization of business models has resulted in investors assessing two approaches to pursuing investments that can potentially benefit from a growing economy. One approach involves conducting in-depth fundamental research to find companies with strong earnings that are using innovation to create secular growth, including in industries, such as leisure and restaurants, that generally benefit from economic expansion. The other approach relies on what we believe is a flawed shortcut of investing in businesses classified as value companies to gain exposure to cyclical opportunities, or businesses that may have weak fundamentals but have potential to benefit in the short term from economic growth.

For the six-month reporting period ended June 30, 2021, investors who favored value stocks benefited, with the Russell 3000 Value Index gaining 17.67% compared to the 12.71% return of the Index's growth-focused counterpart. In mid-June, however, investors rotated into growth stocks and the Russell 3000 Growth Index gained 3.63% during the final two weeks of the reporting period compared to the -1.11% return of the Russell 3000 Value Index. While the market rotation in late June was encouraging and provided additional fodder for the debate about the best investing styles for the near future, we believe it is important to focus on the potential for secular growth of innovative products to outperform over the long term. To that end, we are continuing to seek companies with strong fundamentals that we believe are benefiting from developing innovative products and services.

### **Optimism Supports Markets**

In the U.S., the S&P 500 Index generated a 15.25% return for the aforementioned six-month reporting period. During the reporting period, progress with inoculating individuals with COVID-19 vaccines supported optimism that economic shutdowns and other measures to contain the pandemic would be curtailed or eliminated. Simultaneously, analysts upgraded their outlook for 2021 earnings growth, while the March approval of President Biden's \$1.9 trillion stimulus program, which included \$1,400 checks for eligible individuals, was an additional tailwind. President Biden also signaled his commitment to provide additional stimulus with a proposed substantial infrastructure program.

### **Inflation and Valuations Spark Volatility**

Optimism was occasionally dampened by fears that strong economic growth and stimulus spending could spark inflation, even though the Federal Reserve in the earlier portion of 2021 maintained that inflationary pressures may be transitory and signaled that it is unlikely to curtail monetary stimulus prematurely. Inflation concerns eventually climbed after the May Consumer Price Index recorded a 5% year-over-year increase, its highest reading since August of 2008. The Federal Reserve, furthermore, appeared to shift its stance on inflation during its June meeting, signaling that it may raise interest rates in 2023 rather than 2024 and discussing an eventual tapering of its bond buying program, which created uncertainty about the potential duration of the economic recovery. This uncertainty caused the strong

rotation into growth stocks during the final weeks of the reporting period as investors sought companies, such as technology businesses, that can potentially generate secular earnings growth as the post COVID-19 economic recovery wanes.

Valuations also sparked concern among some investors, with the S&P 500 Index forward price-to-earnings ratio lingering above 21 times earnings compared to the 20-year average of 15.4 times earnings. We believe, however, that other metrics, such as free cash flow and the equity risk premium, are encouraging. Due to what we believe are outdated accounting standards, corporations' growing investments in intangible assets, such as software, marketing algorithms, research and patents, are expensed rather than capitalized, causing earnings to decline relative to free cash flow, which is the amount of cash remaining after expenditures for operations and the maintenance of capital assets. Free cash flow as a percentage of net income during the past three years has been more than 100% and has increased substantially since the 1990s when it was typically under 80%, which depicts stocks as more attractively valued compared to the price-to-earnings metric. The equity risk premium, which measures investors' required rate of return above the prevailing risk-free interest rate, furthermore, was only 5.3% for the S&P 500 Index as of June 30, 2021, which we believe is attractive from a historical perspective.

### **International Markets Also Advance**

International markets also advanced during the reporting period with the MSCI ACWI ex USA Index, the MSCI ACWI Index and the MSCI Emerging Markets Index returning 9.45%, 12.56% and 7.58%, respectively. Optimism about a global economic recovery combined with the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines supported markets, while rising commodity prices were an additional tailwind for certain emerging market countries.

### **Choosing the Path Forward**

We believe the post-pandemic economic recovery is benefiting not only from scaling back or eliminating social distancing requirements, but also from the strength of the U.S. consumer. The strong performance of equities and increasing home values during the past year helped household net worth, which as of the end of the first quarter of 2021 climbed approximately 23% year over year to approximately \$139 trillion, an increase of more than \$25 trillion. If Americans spend 2% of that increased wealth, approximately \$500 billion would surge through the economy, boosting GDP by approximately 2%. At the same time, stimulus checks are continuing to work their way through the economy.

As estimates for GDP growth climb and U.S. personal savings grow, it may be tempting to embrace cyclical stocks typically classified as value stocks in anticipation of strong economic expansion. At Alger, however, we are continuing to take a long-term approach that involves seeking growth companies with strong fundamentals that are using innovation to disrupt their specific industries.

First, value market rallies have historically been short-lived, which illustrates the difficulty of successfully timing value trades.

- The Trump election in the fall of 2016 resulted in the Russell 3000 Value Index rising 6% relative to the Russell 3000 Growth Index, as investors priced in lower corporate tax rates, which benefit more domestically oriented

companies like banks and retailers. Approximately half of the rally was concentrated in the two weeks after the election.

- When worries about the longevity of the European Union subsided in the spring of 2012, the Russell 3000 Value Index rallied over 8% relative to the Russell 3000 Growth Index through mid-2013. More than half of that move occurred in late 2012 and early 2013.
- After the Global Financial Crisis, the Russell 3000 Value Index rose over 4% relative to the Russell 3000 Growth Index in the summer of 2009, but most of the rally took place over only one month.

Second, these value rallies occurred within a long structural downward period for value underperformance, with the Russell 3000 Value Index generating an annualized return of 11.64% for the 10-year period ended June 30, 2021, compared to the 17.66% annualized return of the Russell 3000 Growth Index. Additionally, we maintain that broader structural issues, including the outdated practice of not fully valuing intangible assets, has made the common practice of using price-to-book ratios in classifying stocks as value equities obsolete.

Finally, growth companies are often leaders in innovation and can potentially benefit from corporations increasingly digitizing their business models, which over the years has become a competitive necessity. Indeed, during earnings calls, businesses are emphasizing the need to digitize rather than increase their exposure to more discretionary services or products within their respective industries. We believe that the intersection of digital innovation and certain end markets that may benefit from economic growth could be attractive for investors. These may include travel and leisure stocks, restaurant stocks, retailers or even certain commercial real estate and energy companies.

## **Portfolio Matters**

### **Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio**

The Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio return matched the 12.99% performance of the Russell 1000 Growth Index during the six-month fiscal period ended June 30, 2021. 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 Healthcare.

### **Contributors to Performance**

The Financials and Information Technology sectors provided the largest contributions to relative performance.

Regarding individual positions, Microsoft Corp.; Alphabet, Inc., Cl. C; Applied Materials, Inc.; Facebook, Inc., Cl. A; and NVIDIA Corp. were among the top contributors to absolute performance. Microsoft is a Positive Dynamic Change beneficiary of corporate America's transformative digitization. Microsoft's enterprise cloud product, Azure, is rapidly growing and accruing market share. Recently, Microsoft reported that Azure revenues grew 50% during the first three months of 2021. This high-unit volume growth is a primary driver of the company's higher share price, but Microsoft's strong operating execution has enabled notable margin expansion that has also helped to increase forward earnings estimates. We believe Microsoft's subscription-based software offerings and cloud computing services have a durable growth profile because they enhance customers' growth initiatives and

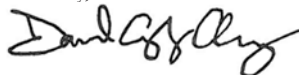
help them to diminish costs. Additionally, investors appreciate Microsoft's strong free cash flow generation and its return of cash to shareholders in the form of dividends and share repurchases. Microsoft's chief executive officer, furthermore, reiterated his comment from a few months back, when he said he expects technology spending as a percent of GDP to jump from about 5% today to 10% in a few years and that he believes Microsoft is well positioned to capture market share.

### **Detractors from Performance**

The Healthcare and Real Estate sectors were among the sectors that detracted from relative performance. Regarding individual positions, RingCentral, Inc., Cl. A; Qualcomm, Inc.; Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.; Discovery, Inc., Cl. A; and Tesla, Inc. were among the top detractors from absolute performance. Qualcomm is a leading semiconductor company with strong positions in telecommunications end markets that position the company as a primary beneficiary of the innovative 5G network rollout. Qualcomm is acknowledged as having the best technology specs for 5G chipsets as evidenced by signing up all 75 major original equipment manufacturers, including Apple. Additionally, beyond handsets, Qualcomm has meaningful growth drivers, including the Internet of Things, automobiles, industrials and gaming that provide the company with potential for generating increased earnings. Market demand for chips has been strong; however, Qualcomm hasn't been able to fully exploit the demand as it is capacity constrained. Expectations were high for Qualcomm and while the quarter generally exceeded consensus estimates and forward estimates did rise, the Street was anticipating a stronger positive surprise. We believe the production capacity constraints may abate in the second half of this year.

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

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.**

**Standard 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 quarter-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, 2021. 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 risks, including the potential loss of principal. 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. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness such as COVID-19 or other public health issues, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on investments. A significant portion of assets may be invested in securities of companies in related sectors, and may be similarly affected by economic, political, or market events and conditions and may be more vulnerable to unfavorable sector developments. 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.

Prior to April 2021, the Fund was co-managed by two portfolio managers.

**Before investing, carefully consider the Portfolio's investment objective, risks, charges, and expenses. For a prospectus containing this and other information or for the Portfolio's most recent quarter-end performance data, call us at (800) 992-3863, visit us at [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com), or consult your financial advisor. Read the prospectus and summary prospectus carefully before investing.**

**Fred Alger & Company, LLC, Distributor.**

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

Definitions:

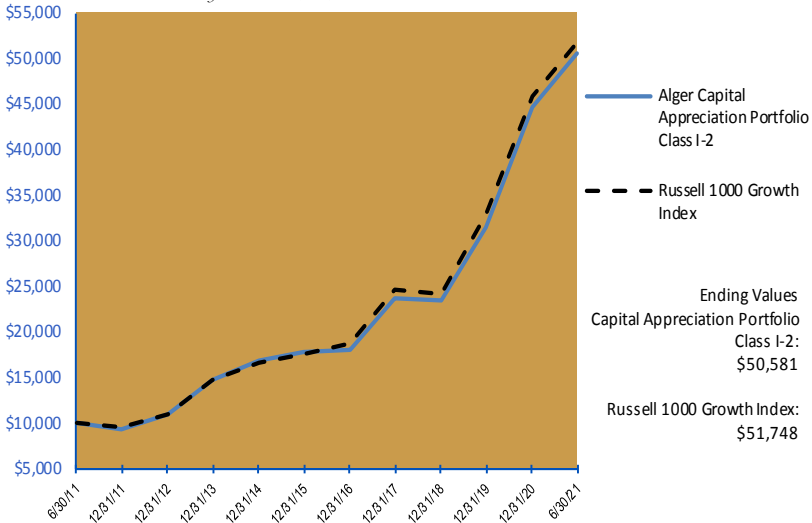
- The S&P 500 Index: An index of large company stocks considered to be representative of the U.S. stock market.
- The Russell 3000 Growth Index combines the large-cap Russell 1000 Growth, the small-cap Russell 2000 Growth and the Russell Microcap Growth Index. It includes companies that are considered more growth oriented relative to the overall market as defined by Russell's leading style methodology. The Russell 3000 Growth Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive, unbiased, and stable barometer of the growth opportunities within the broad market.
- The Russell 3000 Value Index measures the performance of the broad value segment of the U.S. equity value universe. It includes those Russell 3000 companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values. The Russell 3000 Value Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive, unbiased and stable barometer of the broad value market.
- The MSCI ACWI Index (gross) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed and emerging markets. The MSCI ACWI captures large and mid cap representation across 23 developed markets (DM) and 26 emerging markets (EM) countries.
- The MSCI ACWI ex USA Index (gross) captures large and mid cap representation across 22 of 23 developed markets (DM) countries (excluding the U.S.) and 26 emerging markets (EM) countries. The index covers approximately 85% of the global equity opportunity set outside the U.S.
- The Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) Emerging Markets Index (gross) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance in the global emerging markets.
- 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, 2021 (Unaudited)**

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

— 10 years ended 6/30/21



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, 2021. 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, 2021 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

**PERFORMANCE COMPARISON AS OF 6/30/21**

**AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS**

	1 YEAR	5 YEARS	10 YEARS	Since 1/25/1995
<b>Class I-2 (Inception 1/25/95)</b>	41.06%	23.80%	17.60%	14.68%
<b>Class S (Inception 5/1/02)<sup>(i)</sup></b>	40.71%	23.48%	17.27%	14.40%
Russell 1000 Growth Index	42.50%	23.66%	17.87%	11.39%

*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 quarter 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 the 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, 2021 (Unaudited)**

SECTORS	Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio
Communication Services	14.3%
Consumer Discretionary	19.8
Consumer Staples	1.1
Energy	0.5
Financials	3.0
Healthcare	8.7
Industrials	5.5
Information Technology	46.0
Materials	1.0
Real Estate	0.2
Total Equity Securities	100.1
Short-Term Investments and Net Other Assets	(0.1)
	<b>100.0%</b>

† *Based on net assets for the Portfolio.*

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—99.8%</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>AEROSPACE &amp; DEFENSE—1.6%</b>		
Raytheon Technologies Corp.	21,651	\$ 1,847,047
TransDigm Group, Inc.*	13,785	8,922,892
		<b>10,769,939</b>
<b>AIR FREIGHT &amp; LOGISTICS—0.6%</b>		
XPO Logistics, Inc.*	27,754	<b>3,882,507</b>
<b>APPAREL ACCESSORIES &amp; LUXURY GOODS—1.3%</b>		
Capri Holdings Ltd.*	46,395	2,653,330
LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE	7,902	6,216,950
		<b>8,870,280</b>
<b>APPLICATION SOFTWARE—9.6%</b>		
Adobe, Inc.*	44,289	25,937,410
Autodesk, Inc.*	9,661	2,820,046
Cadence Design Systems, Inc.*	27,725	3,793,334
Coupa Software, Inc.*	10,368	2,717,556
Five9, Inc.*	10,766	1,974,377
Intuit, Inc.	20,027	9,816,635
RingCentral, Inc., Cl. A*	13,329	3,873,141
salesforce.com, Inc.*	48,749	11,907,918
Unity Software, Inc.*	3,065	336,629
		<b>63,177,046</b>
<b>AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS—1.7%</b>		
General Motors Co.*	83,463	4,938,506
Tesla, Inc.*	9,513	6,465,986
		<b>11,404,492</b>
<b>AUTOMOTIVE RETAIL—1.6%</b>		
Carvana Co., Cl. A*	9,886	2,983,793
Lithia Motors, Inc., Cl. A	22,566	7,754,580
		<b>10,738,373</b>
<b>BIOTECHNOLOGY—0.6%</b>		
Biogen, Inc.*	3,836	1,328,292
Horizon Therapeutics PLC*	30,630	2,868,193
		<b>4,196,485</b>
<b>CASINOS &amp; GAMING—1.7%</b>		
DraftKings, Inc., Cl. A*	46,091	2,404,568
MGM Resorts International	201,965	8,613,807
		<b>11,018,375</b>
<b>COPPER—0.1%</b>		
Freeport-McMoRan, Inc.	26,484	<b>982,821</b>
<b>DATA PROCESSING &amp; OUTSOURCED SERVICES—9.2%</b>		
Fiserv, Inc.*	23,600	2,522,604
PayPal Holdings, Inc.*	71,308	20,784,856
Square, Inc., Cl. A*	25,292	6,166,190
Visa, Inc., Cl. A	133,905	31,309,667
		<b>60,783,317</b>
<b>DIVERSIFIED BANKS—0.1%</b>		
Bank of America Corp.	19,332	<b>797,058</b>
<b>DIVERSIFIED SUPPORT SERVICES—0.6%</b>		
Cintas Corp.	10,790	<b>4,121,780</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2021 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—99.8% (CONT.)</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS &amp; EQUIPMENT—0.9%</b>		
AMETEK, Inc.	20,390	\$ 2,722,065
Eaton Corp. PLC	20,314	3,010,129
		<b>5,732,194</b>
<b>FINANCIAL EXCHANGES &amp; DATA—1.4%</b>		
CME Group, Inc., Cl. A	14,054	2,989,005
S&P Global, Inc.	15,450	6,341,452
		<b>9,330,457</b>
<b>FOOD DISTRIBUTORS—0.6%</b>		
Sysco Corp.	47,314	<b>3,678,663</b>
<b>FOOTWEAR—1.1%</b>		
NIKE, Inc., Cl. B	48,262	<b>7,455,996</b>
<b>GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES—0.6%</b>		
Target Corp.	16,233	<b>3,924,165</b>
<b>HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT—4.5%</b>		
Danaher Corp.	48,694	13,067,522
Dexcom, Inc.*	5,328	2,275,056
Intuitive Surgical, Inc.*	9,980	9,178,007
Medtronic PLC	43,389	5,385,877
		<b>29,906,462</b>
<b>HEALTHCARE SERVICES—0.4%</b>		
Guardant Health, Inc.*	19,220	<b>2,386,932</b>
<b>HEALTHCARE SUPPLIES—0.7%</b>		
Align Technology, Inc.*	7,637	<b>4,666,207</b>
<b>HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGY—0.1%</b>		
Veeva Systems, Inc., Cl. A*	3,039	<b>944,977</b>
<b>HOME IMPROVEMENT RETAIL—0.5%</b>		
Lowe's Cos., Inc.	17,449	<b>3,384,583</b>
<b>HOTELS RESORTS &amp; CRUISE LINES—1.3%</b>		
Booking Holdings, Inc.*	565	1,236,271
Expedia Group, Inc.*	45,554	7,457,645
		<b>8,693,916</b>
<b>INDUSTRIAL GASES—0.3%</b>		
Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.	7,642	<b>2,198,451</b>
<b>INTERACTIVE MEDIA &amp; SERVICES—11.3%</b>		
Alphabet, Inc., Cl. C*	14,276	35,780,224
Facebook, Inc., Cl. A*	70,184	24,403,679
Pinterest, Inc., Cl. A*	87,804	6,932,126
Snap, Inc., Cl. A*	106,929	7,286,142
		<b>74,402,171</b>
<b>INTERNET &amp; DIRECT MARKETING RETAIL—7.8%</b>		
Amazon.com, Inc.*	14,892	<b>51,230,863</b>
<b>INTERNET SERVICES &amp; INFRASTRUCTURE—3.0%</b>		
Shopify, Inc., Cl. A*	6,734	9,838,239
Snowflake, Inc., Cl. A*	11,067	2,676,001
Twilio, Inc., Cl. A*	18,582	7,324,281
		<b>19,838,521</b>
<b>INVESTMENT BANKING &amp; BROKERAGE—0.8%</b>		
Morgan Stanley	54,679	<b>5,013,517</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2021 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—99.8% (CONT.)</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>MANAGED HEALTHCARE—1.4%</b>		
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	22,723	\$ 9,099,198
<b>MOVIES &amp; ENTERTAINMENT—2.3%</b>		
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc.*	69,477	6,085,490
Netflix, Inc.*	1,687	891,090
Roku, Inc., Cl. A*	17,802	8,175,569
		<b>15,152,149</b>
<b>OIL &amp; GAS EQUIPMENT &amp; SERVICES—0.2%</b>		
Schlumberger NV	39,332	1,259,017
<b>OIL &amp; GAS EXPLORATION &amp; PRODUCTION—0.3%</b>		
Pioneer Natural Resources Co.	10,886	1,769,193
<b>PERSONAL PRODUCTS—0.5%</b>		
The Estee Lauder Cos., Inc., Cl. A	10,426	3,316,302
<b>PHARMACEUTICALS—1.0%</b>		
Eli Lilly & Co.	7,685	1,763,861
Zoetis, Inc., Cl. A	24,495	4,564,888
		<b>6,328,749</b>
<b>RAILROADS—0.9%</b>		
Union Pacific Corp.	26,483	5,824,406
<b>REGIONAL BANKS—0.7%</b>		
Signature Bank	19,459	4,780,103
<b>RESEARCH &amp; CONSULTING SERVICES—0.3%</b>		
CoStar Group, Inc.*	22,319	1,848,460
<b>RESTAURANTS—2.2%</b>		
Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc., Cl. A*	4,212	6,530,032
Starbucks Corp.	74,130	8,288,475
		<b>14,818,507</b>
<b>SEMICONDUCTOR EQUIPMENT—2.6%</b>		
Applied Materials, Inc.	93,922	13,374,493
Enphase Energy, Inc.*	19,978	3,668,560
		<b>17,043,053</b>
<b>SEMICONDUCTORS—6.4%</b>		
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*	15,385	1,445,113
Microchip Technology, Inc.	15,007	2,247,148
Micron Technology, Inc.*	43,414	3,689,322
NVIDIA Corp.	19,600	15,681,960
NXP Semiconductors NV	31,717	6,524,821
QUALCOMM, Inc.	42,449	6,067,236
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd.#	55,607	6,681,737
		<b>42,337,337</b>
<b>SPECIALTY CHEMICALS—0.6%</b>		
The Sherwin-Williams Co.	13,755	3,747,550
<b>SYSTEMS SOFTWARE—11.2%</b>		
CrowdStrike Holdings, Inc., Cl. A*	23,964	6,022,393
Microsoft Corp.	231,583	62,735,835
Palo Alto Networks, Inc.*	1,663	617,056
ServiceNow, Inc.*	8,893	4,887,148
		<b>74,262,432</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2021 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—99.8% (CONT.)</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>TECHNOLOGY HARDWARE STORAGE &amp; PERIPHERALS—3.9%</b>		
Apple, Inc.	188,594	\$ 25,829,834
<b>TRUCKING—0.6%</b>		
Lyft, Inc., Cl. A*	13,167	796,340
Uber Technologies, Inc.*	57,313	2,872,528
		<b>3,668,868</b>
<b>WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES—0.7%</b>		
T-Mobile US, Inc.*	29,666	4,296,527
<b>TOTAL COMMON STOCKS</b>		
(Cost \$383,314,843)		<b>658,912,233</b>
<b>REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST—0.2%</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>RETAIL—0.2%</b>		
Simon Property Group, Inc.	11,844	1,545,405
(Cost \$1,062,146)		1,545,405
<b>SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLE—0.1%</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>DATA PROCESSING &amp; OUTSOURCED SERVICES—0.1%</b>		
Crosslink Ventures Capital LLC, Cl. A* <sup>(a),(b)</sup>	19	475,000
(Cost \$475,000)		475,000
<b>Total Investments</b>		
(Cost \$384,851,989)	100.1%	\$ 660,932,638
Affiliated Securities (Cost \$475,000)		475,000
Unaffiliated Securities (Cost \$384,376,989)		660,457,638
Liabilities in Excess of Other Assets	(0.1)%	(629,507)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 660,303,131</b>

# American Depositary Receipts.

\* Non-income producing security.

<sup>(a)</sup> Deemed an affiliate of the Portfolio in accordance with Section 2(a)(3) of the Investment Company Act of 1940. See Note 11 - Affiliated Securities.

<sup>(b)</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 Date(s)</u>	<u>Acquisition Cost</u>	<u>% of net assets</u>	
			<u>(Acquisition Date)</u>	<u>Market Value as of 6/30/2021</u>
Crosslink Ventures Capital LLC, Cl. A	10/2/20	\$475,000	0.08%	\$475,000 0.07%
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$475,000 0.07%</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)**

**Alger Capital  
Appreciation  
Portfolio**

**ASSETS:**

Investments in unaffiliated securities, at value (Identified cost below)* see accompanying schedule of investments	\$ 660,457,638
Investments in affiliated securities, at value (Identified cost below)** see accompanying schedule of investments	475,000
Cash and cash equivalents	767
Receivable for investment securities sold	4,447,293
Receivable for shares of beneficial interest sold	698,157
Dividends and interest receivable	145,617
Security litigation receivable	9,166
Prepaid expenses	22,558
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>666,256,196</b>

**LIABILITIES:**

Payable for investment securities purchased	3,123,560
Payable for shares of beneficial interest redeemed	1,485,981
Bank overdraft	11,217
Payable for interfund loans	740,000
Accrued investment advisory fees	471,397
Accrued distribution fees	13,771
Accrued shareholder administrative fees	5,820
Accrued administrative fees	16,004
Accrued custodian fees	6,083
Accrued transfer agent fees	9,084
Accrued printing fees	20,603
Accrued professional fees	22,988
Accrued fund accounting fees	21,793
Accrued other expenses	4,764
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>5,953,065</b>

<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 660,303,131</b>
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**NET ASSETS CONSIST OF:**

Paid in capital (par value of \$.001 per share)	303,094,559
Distributable earnings	357,208,572

<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 660,303,131</b>
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\* Identified cost \$ 384,376,989<sup>(a)</sup>

\*\* Identified cost \$ 475,000<sup>(a)</sup>

**See Notes to Financial Statements.**

<sup>(a)</sup> At June 30, 2021, the net unrealized appreciation on investments, based on cost for federal income tax purposes of \$390,536,765, amounted to \$270,395,873, which consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation of \$277,162,775 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation of \$6,766,902.



**ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities June 30, 2021 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

**Alger Capital  
Appreciation Portfolio**

**NET ASSETS BY CLASS:**

Class I-2	\$	597,322,388
Class S	\$	62,980,743

**SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST OUTSTANDING — NOTE 6:**

Class I-2	5,288,712
Class S	603,444

**NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE:**

Class I-2	\$	112.94
Class S	\$	104.37

***See Notes to Financial Statements.***

**ALGER CAPITAL APPRECIATION PORTFOLIO**

Statement of Operations for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

**Alger Capital  
Appreciation Portfolio****INCOME:**

Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes*)	\$	1,627,339
Interest		8
Total Income		1,627,347

**EXPENSES:**

Investment advisory fees — Note 3(a)		2,547,027
Distribution fees — Note 3(c)		
Class S		73,836
Shareholder administrative fees — Note 3(f)		31,445
Administration fees — Note 3(b)		86,473
Custodian fees		18,088
Interest expenses		3,816
Transfer agent fees — Note 3(f)		16,425
Printing fees		27,535
Professional fees		40,173
Registration fees		18,736
Trustee fees — Note 3(g)		7,751
Fund accounting fees		65,717
Other expenses		13,244
Total Expenses		2,950,266

**NET INVESTMENT LOSS** (1,322,919)**REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON INVESTMENTS AND FOREIGN CURRENCY:**

Net realized gain on unaffiliated investments		63,818,286
Net realized loss on foreign currency transactions		(3,271)
Net change in unrealized appreciation on unaffiliated investments		15,239,037
Net change in unrealized appreciation on foreign currency		162
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments and foreign currency		79,054,214

**NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS** \$ 77,731,295

\* Foreign withholding taxes \$ 27,743

**See Notes to Financial Statements.**

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

**Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio**

	For the	
	Six Months Ended	Year Ended
	June 30, 2021	December 31, 2020
Net investment loss	\$ (1,322,919)	\$ (1,602,757)
Net realized gain on investments and foreign currency	63,815,015	96,528,270
Net change in unrealized appreciation on investments and foreign currency	15,239,199	96,827,838
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	77,731,295	191,753,351
Dividends and distributions to shareholders:		
Class I-2	—	(73,710,073)
Class S	—	(7,998,816)
Total dividends and distributions to shareholders	—	(81,708,889)
Increase (decrease) from shares of beneficial interest transactions — Note 6:		
Class I-2	(46,414,085)	11,701,960
Class S	(2,747,463)	(1,365,019)
Net increase (decrease) from shares of beneficial interest transactions — Note 6	(49,161,548)	10,336,941
Total increase	28,569,747	120,381,403
Net Assets:		
Beginning of period	631,733,384	511,351,981
<b>END OF PERIOD</b>	<b>\$ 660,303,131</b>	<b>\$ 631,733,384</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 6/30/2021 <sup>(1)</sup>	Year ended 12/31/2020	Year ended 12/31/2019	Year ended 12/31/2018	Year ended 12/31/2017	Year ended 12/31/2016
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 99.96	\$ 80.93	\$ 68.07	\$ 82.64	\$ 67.11	\$ 67.42
INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>(2)</sup>	(0.21)	(0.25)	(0.01)	0.03	0.11	0.22
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	13.19	33.91	22.74	0.10	20.76	0.13
Total from investment operations	12.98	33.66	22.73	0.13	20.87	0.35
Dividends from net investment income	–	–	–	(0.08)	(0.13)	(0.13)
Distributions from net realized gains	–	(14.63)	(9.87)	(14.62)	(5.21)	(0.53)
Net asset value, end of period	\$ 112.94	\$ 99.96	\$ 80.93	\$ 68.07	\$ 82.64	\$ 67.11
Total return	12.99%	41.75%	33.58%	(0.10)%	31.08%	0.50%
RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:						
Net assets, end of period (000's omitted)	\$ 597,322	\$ 573,297	\$ 461,686	\$ 412,728	\$ 468,883	\$ 477,771
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	0.91%	0.93%	0.94%	0.95%	0.94%	0.94%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	(0.40)%	(0.27)%	(0.01)%	0.03%	0.13%	0.33%
Portfolio turnover rate	38.53%	89.91%	74.35%	67.68%	61.90%	89.78%

**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.

## THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS

### Financial Highlights for a share outstanding throughout the period (Unaudited)

#### Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio

Class S

	Six months ended 6/30/2021 <sup>(1)</sup>	Year ended 12/31/2020	Year ended 12/31/2019	Year ended 12/31/2018	Year ended 12/31/2017	Year ended 12/31/2016
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 92.49	\$ 75.85	\$ 64.44	\$ 79.13	\$ 64.50	\$ 64.87
<b>INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>(2)</sup>	(0.31)	(0.45)	(0.21)	(0.19)	(0.09)	0.04
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	12.19	31.72	21.49	0.12	19.93	0.12
Total from investment operations	11.88	31.27	21.28	(0.07)	19.84	0.16
Distributions from net realized gains	–	(14.63)	(9.87)	(14.62)	(5.21)	(0.53)
Net asset value, end of period	\$ 104.37	\$ 92.49	\$ 75.85	\$ 64.44	\$ 79.13	\$ 64.50
Total return	12.85%	41.40%	33.24%	(0.37)%	30.74%	0.22%
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>						
Net assets, end of period (000's omitted)	\$ 62,981	\$ 58,436	\$ 49,666	\$ 41,858	\$ 50,097	\$ 39,570
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	1.16%	1.18%	1.21%	1.21%	1.21%	1.21%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	(0.65)%	(0.52)%	(0.28)%	(0.23)%	(0.13)%	0.06%
Portfolio turnover rate	38.53%	89.91%	74.35%	67.68%	61.90%	89.78%

**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. Effective April 30, 2021, the Board of Trustees of the Fund (the “Board”) authorized a partial closing of the Portfolio’s Class S. Existing investors that hold Class S shares who had an open account with the Portfolio on April 30, 2021 may continue to invest in additional Class S shares of the Portfolio through exchanges, dividend reinvestment and additional purchases as provided in the Portfolio’s prospectus.

## 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 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 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 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 Fund. 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) *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 ("Custodian"), in an amount equal to at least 102% of the current market value of U.S. loaned securities or 105% 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 each day 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, 2021.

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

(g) *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 2017-2020. Management does not believe there are any uncertain tax positions that require recognition of a tax liability.

(b) *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, transfer agency fees, and shareholder servicing and related fees.

(i) *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.

**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, 2021, 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 and an affiliate of Alger Management (the "Distributor" or "Alger LLC"), 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, 2021, the Portfolio paid Alger LLC \$27,857 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 in the Alger Fund Complex. If the Portfolio has borrowed from other funds in the Alger Fund Complex 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 in the Alger Fund Complex. 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. As of June 30, 2021, the Portfolio borrowed \$740,021, including interest, from Alger Small Cap Focus Fund at a rate of 1.05%, which was payable July 1, 2021.

During the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Portfolio incurred interfund loan interest expenses of \$3,265, 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 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 \$142,000 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, Alger Global Focus Fund and The Alger ETF Trust, each of which is a registered investment company managed by Alger Management. The Independent Trustee appointed as Chairman of the Board 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 based

on net assets 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 Capital, LLC, an affiliated investment adviser of Alger Management. There were no interfund trades during the six months ended June 30, 2021.

(i) *Other Transactions with Affiliates:* Certain officers and one Trustee of the Fund are directors and/or officers of Alger Management, the Distributor, or their affiliates. No shares of the Portfolio were held by Alger Management and its affiliated entities as of June 30, 2021.

#### **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, 2021, were as follows:

	<b>PURCHASES</b>	<b>SALES</b>
Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	\$243,713,258	\$288,209,092

#### **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, 2021, the Portfolio had the following borrowings from the Custodian and other funds in the Alger Fund Complex:

	<b>AVERAGE DAILY BORROWING</b>	<b>WEIGHTED AVERAGE INTEREST RATE</b>
Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	\$ 703,266	1.14%

The highest amount borrowed from the Custodian and other funds during the six months ended June 30, 2021 by the Portfolio was as follows:

	<b>HIGHEST BORROWING</b>
Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	\$ 5,471,000

#### **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 period ended June 30, 2021 and the year ended December 31, 2020, transactions of shares of beneficial interest were as follows:

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

	FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2021		FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020	
	SHARES	AMOUNT	SHARES	AMOUNT
<b>Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio</b>				
<b>Class I-2:</b>				
Shares sold	299,354	\$ 31,173,807	887,694	\$ 81,782,523
Dividends reinvested	—	—	733,158	72,604,639
Shares redeemed	(745,934)	(77,587,892)	(1,590,029)	(142,685,202)
<b>Net increase (decrease)</b>	<b>(446,580)</b>	<b>\$ (46,414,085)</b>	<b>30,823</b>	<b>\$ 11,701,960</b>
<b>Class S:</b>				
Shares sold	15,648	\$ 1,519,872	55,068	\$ 4,546,407
Dividends reinvested	—	—	87,295	7,998,816
Shares redeemed	(44,044)	(4,267,335)	(165,316)	(13,910,242)
<b>Net decrease</b>	<b>(28,396)</b>	<b>\$ (2,747,463)</b>	<b>(22,953)</b>	<b>\$ (1,365,019)</b>

**NOTE 7 — Income Tax Information:**

At December 31, 2020, the Portfolio, for federal income tax purposes, had no capital loss carryforwards and no capital loss carryforwards were utilized in 2020.

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, 2021, 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	\$ 93,850,847	\$ 93,850,847	\$ —	—
Consumer Discretionary	131,539,550	125,322,600	6,216,950	—
Consumer Staples	6,994,965	6,994,965	—	—
Energy	3,028,210	3,028,210	—	—
Financials	19,921,135	19,921,135	—	—
Healthcare	57,529,010	57,529,010	—	—
Industrials	35,848,154	35,848,154	—	—
Information Technology	303,271,540	303,271,540	—	—
Materials	6,928,822	6,928,822	—	—
<b>TOTAL COMMON STOCKS</b>	<b>\$ 658,912,233</b>	<b>\$ 652,695,283</b>	<b>\$ 6,216,950</b>	<b>—</b>

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

Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	TOTAL	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
<b>REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST</b>				
Real Estate	\$ 1,545,405	\$ 1,545,405	\$ —	\$ —
<b>SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLE</b>				
Information Technology	475,000	—	—	475,000
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES</b>	<b>\$ 660,932,638</b>	<b>\$ 654,240,688</b>	<b>\$ 6,216,950</b>	<b>\$ 475,000</b>

**FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS USING SIGNIFICANT UNOBSERVABLE INPUTS (LEVEL 3)**

Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	Special Purpose Vehicle
Opening balance at January 1, 2021	\$ 475,000
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, 2021	475,000
<b>Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) attributable to investments still held at June 30, 2021*</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, 2021. 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.

Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio	Fair Value June 30, 2021	Valuation Methodology	Unobservable Input	Input/ Range	Weighted Average
Special Purpose Vehicle	\$ 475,000	Cost Approach	Priced at Cost	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 success of certain outcomes. Significant increases and decreases in these inputs in isolation and interrelationships between these inputs would have resulted 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, 2021, such assets were categorized within the ASC 820 disclosure hierarchy as follows:

	TOTAL FUND	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 767	\$ —	\$ 767	\$ —
Bank overdraft	(11,217)	—	(11,217)	—

### **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 options or other derivative instruments held by the Portfolio throughout the period or as of June 30, 2021.

### **NOTE 10 — Risk Disclosures:**

Investing in the stock market involves risks, including the potential loss of principal. 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. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness such as COVID-19 or other public health issues, recessions, or

other events could have a significant impact on investments. A significant portion of assets may be invested in securities of companies in related sectors, and may be similarly affected by economic, political, or market events and conditions and may be more vulnerable to unfavorable sector developments. Foreign securities involve special risks including currency fluctuations, inefficient trading, political and economic instability, and increased volatility.

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 11 — Affiliated Securities:**

The issuers of the securities listed below are deemed to be affiliates of the Portfolio because the Portfolio or its affiliates owned 5% or more of the issuer's voting securities during all or part of the period ended June 30, 2021 or because the Portfolio and the issuer are managed by the same investment adviser. Information regarding the Portfolio's holdings of such securities is set forth in the following table:

Security	Value at December 31, 2020	Purchases/ Conversion	Sales/ Conversion	Dividend/ Interest Income	Realized Gain (Loss)	Net Change in Unrealized App(Dep)	Value at June 30, 2021
<b>Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio</b>							
<b>Special Purpose Vehicle</b>							
Crosslink Ventures Capital LLC,							
Cl. A	\$ 475,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 475,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 475,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 475,000</b>

### **NOTE 12 — Subsequent Events:**

Management of the Portfolio has evaluated events that have occurred subsequent to June 30, 2021, 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, 2021 and ending June 30, 2021 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, 2021” 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, 2021	Ending Account Value June 30, 2021	Expenses Paid During the Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 <sup>(a)</sup>	Annualized Expense Ratio For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 <sup>(b)</sup>
<b>Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio</b>					
<b>Class I-2</b>	Actual	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,129.90	\$ 4.81	0.91%
	Hypothetical <sup>(c)</sup>	1,000.00	1,020.28	4.56	0.91
<b>Class S</b>	Actual	1,000.00	1,128.50	6.12	1.16
	Hypothetical <sup>(c)</sup>	1,000.00	1,019.04	5.81	1.16

<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 181/365 (to reflect the one-half year period).

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

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

## Privacy Policy

### U.S. Consumer Privacy Notice

Rev. 06/22/21

FACTS	WHAT DOES ALGER DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?
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.

Reasons we can share your personal information	Does Alger share?	Can you limit this sharing?
<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	Yes	No
<b>For our marketing purposes</b> — to offer our products and services to you	Yes	No
<b>For joint marketing with other financial companies</b>	No	We don't share
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes</b> — information about your transactions and experiences	Yes	No
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes</b> — information about your creditworthiness	No	We don't share
<b>For nonaffiliates to market to you</b>	No	We don't share
<b>Questions? Call 1-800-223-3810</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, Alger Global Focus Fund, and The Alger ETF Trust.
<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, Alger Global Focus Fund, and The Alger ETF Trust.</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

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 Portfolio's website at <http://www.alger.com> or on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

## Fund Holdings

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

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**

---

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 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.

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**ALGER**

**THE ALGER  
PORTFOLIOS**

Alger Balanced Portfolio

**SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT**  
JUNE 30, 2021 (UNAUDITED)



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Dear Shareholders,

## **Recent Market Performance Masks the Appeal of Industry Disrupters**

In our opinion, unprecedented amounts of fiscal and monetary stimulus, anticipation of a grand re-opening of the economy and the widespread digitization of business models has resulted in investors assessing two approaches to pursuing investments that can potentially benefit from a growing economy. One approach involves conducting in-depth fundamental research to find companies with strong earnings that are using innovation to create secular growth, including in industries, such as leisure and restaurants, that generally benefit from economic expansion. The other approach relies on what we believe is a flawed shortcut of investing in businesses classified as value companies to gain exposure to cyclical opportunities, or businesses that may have weak fundamentals but have potential to benefit in the short term from economic growth.

For the six-month reporting period ended June 30, 2021, investors who favored value stocks benefited, with the Russell 3000 Value Index gaining 17.67% compared to the 12.71% return of the Index's growth-focused counterpart. In mid-June, however, investors rotated into growth stocks and the Russell 3000 Growth Index gained 3.63% during the final two weeks of the reporting period compared to the -1.11% return of the Russell 3000 Value Index. While the market rotation in late June was encouraging and provided additional fodder for the debate about the best investing styles for the near future, we believe it is important to focus on the potential for secular growth of innovative products to outperform over the long term. To that end, we are continuing to seek companies with strong fundamentals that we believe are benefiting from developing innovative products and services.

## **Optimism Supports Markets**

In the U.S., the S&P 500 Index generated a 15.25% return for the aforementioned six-month reporting period. During the reporting period, progress with inoculating individuals with COVID-19 vaccines supported optimism that economic shutdowns and other measures to contain the pandemic would be curtailed or eliminated. Simultaneously, analysts upgraded their outlook for 2021 earnings growth, while the March approval of President Biden's \$1.9 trillion stimulus program, which included \$1,400 checks for eligible individuals, was an additional tailwind. President Biden also signaled his commitment to provide additional stimulus with a proposed substantial infrastructure program.

## **Inflation and Valuations Spark Volatility**

Optimism was occasionally dampened by fears that strong economic growth and stimulus spending could spark inflation, even though the Federal Reserve in the earlier portion of 2021 maintained that inflationary pressures may be transitory and signaled that it is unlikely to curtail monetary stimulus prematurely. Inflation concerns eventually climbed after the May Consumer Price Index recorded a 5% year-over-year increase, its highest reading since August of 2008. The Federal Reserve, furthermore, appeared to shift its stance on inflation during its June meeting, signaling that it may raise interest rates in 2023 rather than 2024 and discussing an eventual tapering of its bond buying program, which created uncertainty about the potential duration of the economic recovery. This uncertainty caused the strong

rotation into growth stocks during the final weeks of the reporting period as investors sought companies, such as technology businesses, that can potentially generate secular earnings growth as the post COVID-19 economic recovery wanes.

Valuations also sparked concern among some investors, with the S&P 500 Index forward price-to-earnings ratio lingering above 21 times earnings compared to the 20-year average of 15.4 times earnings. We believe, however, that other metrics, such as free cash flow and the equity risk premium, are encouraging. Due to what we believe are outdated accounting standards, corporations' growing investments in intangible assets, such as software, marketing algorithms, research and patents, are expensed rather than capitalized, causing earnings to decline relative to free cash flow, which is the amount of cash remaining after expenditures for operations and the maintenance of capital assets. Free cash flow as a percentage of net income during the past three years has been more than 100% and has increased substantially since the 1990s when it was typically under 80%, which depicts stocks as more attractively valued compared to the price-to-earnings metric. The equity risk premium, which measures investors' required rate of return above the prevailing risk-free interest rate, furthermore, was only 5.3% for the S&P 500 Index as of June 30, 2021, which we believe is attractive from a historical perspective.

### **International Markets Also Advance**

International markets also advanced during the reporting period with the MSCI ACWI ex USA Index, the MSCI ACWI Index and the MSCI Emerging Markets Index returning 9.45%, 12.56% and 7.58%, respectively. Optimism about a global economic recovery combined with the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines supported markets, while rising commodity prices were an additional tailwind for certain emerging market countries.

### **Choosing the Path Forward**

We believe the post-pandemic economic recovery is benefiting not only from scaling back or eliminating social distancing requirements, but also from the strength of the U.S. consumer. The strong performance of equities and increasing home values during the past year helped household net worth, which as of the end of the first quarter of 2021 climbed approximately 23% year over year to approximately \$139 trillion, an increase of more than \$25 trillion. If Americans spend 2% of that increased wealth, approximately \$500 billion would surge through the economy, boosting GDP by approximately 2%. At the same time, stimulus checks are continuing to work their way through the economy.

As estimates for GDP growth climb and U.S. personal savings grow, it may be tempting to embrace cyclical stocks typically classified as value stocks in anticipation of strong economic expansion. At Alger, however, we are continuing to take a long-term approach that involves seeking growth companies with strong fundamentals that are using innovation to disrupt their specific industries.

First, value market rallies have historically been short-lived, which illustrates the difficulty of successfully timing value trades.

- The Trump election in the fall of 2016 resulted in the Russell 3000 Value Index rising 6% relative to the Russell 3000 Growth Index, as investors priced in lower corporate tax rates, which benefit more domestically oriented companies like banks and retailers. Approximately half of the rally was con-

centrated in the two weeks after the election.

- When worries about the longevity of the European Union subsided in the spring of 2012, the Russell 3000 Value Index rallied over 8% relative to the Russell 3000 Growth Index through mid-2013. More than half of that move occurred in late 2012 and early 2013.
- After the Global Financial Crisis, the Russell 3000 Value Index rose over 4% relative to the Russell 3000 Growth Index in the summer of 2009, but most of the rally took place over only one month.

Second, these value rallies occurred within a long structural downward period for value underperformance, with the Russell 3000 Value Index generating an annualized return of 11.64% for the 10-year period ended June 30, 2021, compared to the 17.66% annualized return of the Russell 3000 Growth Index. Additionally, we maintain that broader structural issues, including the outdated practice of not fully valuing intangible assets, has made the common practice of using price-to-book ratios in classifying stocks as value equities obsolete.

Finally, growth companies are often leaders in innovation and can potentially benefit from corporations increasingly digitizing their business models, which over the years has become a competitive necessity. Indeed, during earnings calls, businesses are emphasizing the need to digitize rather than increase their exposure to more discretionary services or products within their respective industries. We believe that the intersection of digital innovation and certain end markets that may benefit from economic growth could be attractive for investors. These may include travel and leisure stocks, restaurant stocks, retailers or even certain commercial real estate and energy companies.

## **Portfolio Matters**

### **Alger Balanced Portfolio**

The Alger Balanced Portfolio returned 9.97% during the fiscal six-month period ended June 30, 2021. The equity portion of the Portfolio outperformed the 15.25% return of the S&P 500 Index and the fixed income portion outperformed the -1.96% return of the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Gov't/Credit Bond Index. Regarding the equity portion of the Portfolio, the largest sector weightings were Information Technology and Financials. The largest sector overweight was Financials and the largest sector underweight was Information Technology.

### **Contributors to Performance**

The Energy and Financials sectors provided the greatest contributions to relative performance. Regarding individual positions, Microsoft Corp.; Alphabet, Inc., Cl. C; Alphabet, Inc., Cl. A; JPMorgan Chase & Co.; and Morgan Stanley were among the top contributors to absolute performance. Microsoft is a Positive Dynamic Change beneficiary of corporate America's transformative digitization. Microsoft's enterprise cloud product, Azure, is rapidly growing and accruing market share. Recently, Microsoft reported that Azure revenues grew 50% during the first three months of 2021. This high-unit volume growth is a primary driver of the company's higher share price, but Microsoft's strong operating execution has enabled notable margin expansion that has also helped to increase forward earnings estimates. We believe Microsoft's subscription-based software offerings and cloud computing services have a durable growth profile because they enhance customers' growth initiatives and help them to diminish costs. Additionally, investors appreciate Microsoft's

strong free cash flow generation and its return of cash to shareholders in the form of dividends and share repurchases. Microsoft's chief executive officer, furthermore, reiterated his comment from a few months back, when he said he expects technology spending as a percent of GDP to jump from about 5% today to 10% in a few years and that he believes Microsoft is well positioned to capture market share.

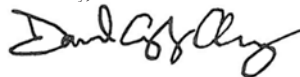
### **Detractors from Performance**

The Healthcare and Information Technology sectors were among the sectors that detracted from relative performance. Regarding individual positions, Qualcomm, Inc.; Viatris, Inc.; Southern Copper Corp.; Verizon Communications, Inc.; and Procter & Gamble Co. were among the top detractors from absolute performance. Qualcomm is a leading semiconductor company with strong positions in telecommunications end markets that position the company as a primary beneficiary of the innovative 5G network rollout. Qualcomm is acknowledged as having the best technology specs for 5G chipsets as evidenced by signing up all 75 major original equipment manufacturers, including Apple. Additionally, beyond handsets, Qualcomm has meaningful growth drivers, including the Internet of Things, automobiles, industrials and gaming, that provide the company with potential for generating increased earnings. Market demand for chips has been strong; however, Qualcomm hasn't been able to fully exploit the demand as it is capacity constrained. Expectations were high for Qualcomm and while the quarter generally exceeded consensus estimates and forward estimates did rise, the Street was anticipating a stronger positive surprise. We believe the production capacity constraints may abate in the second half of this year.

At the end of the reporting period, the fixed income portion of the Portfolio consisted of 18 corporate bonds and represented 31% of non-cash Portfolio assets. The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate Bond Index entered the year with yields at lows and spreads modestly above five-year lows. Yields backed up to one-year high levels with the continued reopening of the economy from the COVID-19 pandemic with the successful vaccine rollout, but remained below levels that existed prior to 2020. Spreads continued to tighten throughout the period, reflecting the improved environment for credit with the economy reopening. As a result, total returns for corporates were slightly negative for the quarter.

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

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.**

**Standard 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 quarter-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, 2021. 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 risks, including the potential loss of principal. 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. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness such as COVID-19 or other public health issues, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on investments. 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 may be invested in securities of companies in related sectors, and may be similarly affected by economic, political, or market events and conditions and may be more vulnerable to unfavorable sector developments.

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 or for the Portfolio's most recent quarter-end performance data, call us at (800) 992-3863, visit us at [www.alger.com](http://www.alger.com), or consult your financial advisor. Read the prospectus and summary prospectus carefully before investing.**

**Fred Alger & Company, LLC, Distributor.**

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

Definitions:

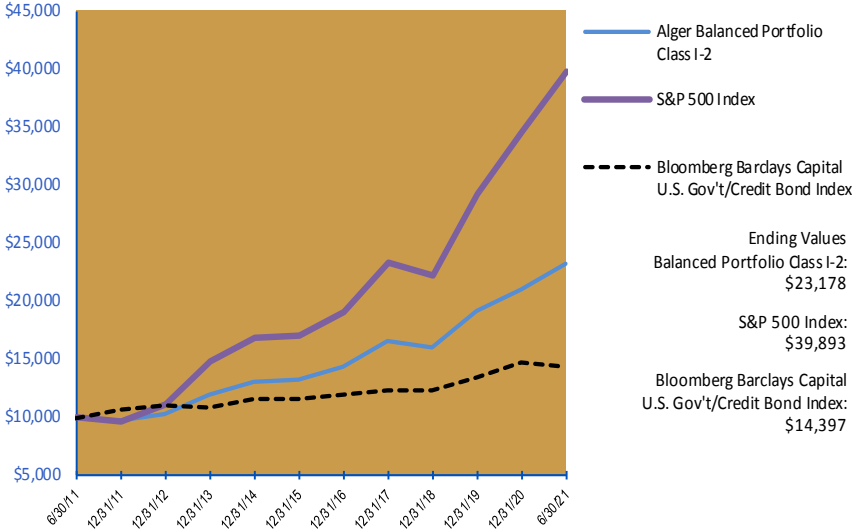
- The S&P 500 Index: An index of large company stocks considered to be representative of the U.S. stock market.
- The Russell 3000 Growth Index combines the large-cap Russell 1000 Growth, the small-cap Russell 2000 Growth and the Russell Microcap Growth Index. It includes companies that are considered more growth oriented relative to the overall market as defined by Russell's leading style methodology. The Russell 3000 Growth Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive, unbiased, and stable barometer of the growth opportunities within the broad market.
- The Russell 3000 Value Index measures the performance of the broad value segment of the U.S. equity value universe. It includes those Russell 3000 companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values. The Russell 3000 Value Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive, unbiased and stable barometer of the broad value market.
- The MSCI ACWI Index (gross) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed and emerging markets. The MSCI ACWI captures large and mid cap representation across 23 developed markets (DM) and 26 emerging markets (EM) countries.
- The MSCI ACWI ex USA Index (gross) captures large and mid cap representation across 22 of 23 developed markets (DM) countries (excluding the U.S.) and 26 emerging markets (EM) countries. The index covers approximately 85% of the global equity opportunity set outside the U.S.
- The Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) Emerging Markets Index (gross) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance in the global emerging markets.
- The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Gov't/Credit Bond Index is an index that measures performance and government and corporate bonds.



**ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Fund Highlights Through June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)**

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

— 10 years ended 6/30/21



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, 2021. 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, 2021 (Unaudited) (Continued)

**PERFORMANCE COMPARISON AS OF 6/30/21****AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS**

	1 YEAR	5 YEARS	10 YEARS	Since 9/5/1989
<b>Class I-2 (Inception 9/5/89)</b>	23.50%	11.12%	8.77%	7.98%
S&P 500 Index	40.79%	17.65%	14.84%	10.49%
Bloomberg Barclays Capital U.S. Gov't/Credit Bond Index	(0.39)%	3.31%	3.71%	5.96%

*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 quarter 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 the 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, 2021 (Unaudited)**

SECTORS	Alger Balanced Portfolio
Communication Services	8.8%
Consumer Discretionary	5.1
Consumer Staples	4.6
Energy	2.3
Financials	10.5
Healthcare	8.6
Industrials	4.1
Information Technology	17.8
Materials	1.3
Real Estate	3.0
Utilities	0.8
Total Equity Securities	66.9
Corporate Bonds	31.2
Total Debt Securities	31.2
Short-Term Investments and Net Other Assets	1.9
	<b>100.0%</b>

† Based on net assets for the Portfolio.

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—63.0%</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>AEROSPACE &amp; DEFENSE—1.0%</b>		
General Dynamics Corp.	1,083	\$ 203,886
Raytheon Technologies Corp.	2,371	202,270
TransDigm Group, Inc.*	290	187,714
		<b>593,870</b>
<b>ASSET MANAGEMENT &amp; CUSTODY BANKS—3.0%</b>		
BlackRock, Inc., Cl. A	952	832,972
The Blackstone Group, Inc.	5,831	566,423
The Carlyle Group, Inc.	6,227	289,431
		<b>1,688,826</b>
<b>AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS—0.2%</b>		
General Motors Co.*	1,472	<b>87,098</b>
<b>BIOTECHNOLOGY—1.6%</b>		
AbbVie, Inc.	4,877	549,345
Amgen, Inc.	749	182,569
Gilead Sciences, Inc.	2,516	173,252
		<b>905,166</b>
<b>BROADCASTING—0.1%</b>		
ViacomCBS, Inc., Cl. B	1,851	<b>83,665</b>
<b>BUILDING PRODUCTS—0.4%</b>		
Johnson Controls International PLC	3,449	<b>236,705</b>
<b>CABLE &amp; SATELLITE—1.0%</b>		
Comcast Corp., Cl. A	9,967	<b>568,318</b>
<b>COMMODITY CHEMICALS—0.2%</b>		
Dow, Inc.	2,258	<b>142,886</b>
<b>COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT—0.8%</b>		
Cisco Systems, Inc.	8,567	<b>454,051</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY &amp; HEAVY TRUCKS—0.1%</b>		
PACCAR, Inc.	868	<b>77,469</b>
<b>CONSUMER ELECTRONICS—0.4%</b>		
Garmin Ltd.	1,641	<b>237,354</b>
<b>COPPER—0.3%</b>		
Southern Copper Corp.	2,690	<b>173,021</b>
<b>DATA PROCESSING &amp; OUTSOURCED SERVICES—0.9%</b>		
Visa, Inc., Cl. A	2,140	<b>500,375</b>
<b>DIVERSIFIED BANKS—3.9%</b>		
Bank of America Corp.	13,900	573,097
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	10,405	1,618,394
		<b>2,191,491</b>
<b>ELECTRIC UTILITIES—0.5%</b>		
NextEra Energy, Inc.	3,500	<b>256,480</b>
<b>ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS &amp; EQUIPMENT—0.6%</b>		
Eaton Corp. PLC	2,452	<b>363,337</b>
<b>FINANCIAL EXCHANGES &amp; DATA—0.8%</b>		
CME Group, Inc., Cl. A	2,211	<b>470,235</b>
<b>FOOD DISTRIBUTORS—0.4%</b>		
Sysco Corp.	2,924	<b>227,341</b>
<b>HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT—0.6%</b>		
Medtronic PLC	2,696	<b>334,654</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2021 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—63.0% (CONT.)</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>HEALTHCARE SERVICES—0.8%</b>		
CVS Health Corp.	5,182	\$ 432,386
<b>HOME IMPROVEMENT RETAIL—2.0%</b>		
The Home Depot, Inc.	3,505	1,117,709
<b>HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS—1.0%</b>		
The Procter & Gamble Co.	4,400	593,692
<b>HYPERMARKETS &amp; SUPER CENTERS—0.6%</b>		
Walmart, Inc.	2,320	327,166
<b>INDUSTRIAL CONGLOMERATES—1.5%</b>		
Honeywell International, Inc.	3,810	835,723
<b>INDUSTRIAL GASES—0.8%</b>		
Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.	1,573	452,521
<b>INTEGRATED OIL &amp; GAS—1.6%</b>		
Chevron Corp.	4,047	423,883
Exxon Mobil Corp.	3,667	231,314
TotalEnergies SE#	5,051	228,608
		<b>883,805</b>
<b>INTEGRATED TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES—1.4%</b>		
AT&T, Inc.	8,245	237,291
Verizon Communications, Inc.	10,027	561,813
		<b>799,104</b>
<b>INTERACTIVE MEDIA &amp; SERVICES—6.3%</b>		
Alphabet, Inc., Cl. A*	536	1,308,799
Alphabet, Inc., Cl. C*	508	1,273,211
Facebook, Inc., Cl. A*	2,818	979,847
		<b>3,561,857</b>
<b>INTERNET &amp; DIRECT MARKETING RETAIL—1.6%</b>		
Amazon.com, Inc.*	269	925,403
<b>INVESTMENT BANKING &amp; BROKERAGE—2.0%</b>		
Morgan Stanley	12,323	1,129,896
<b>MANAGED HEALTHCARE—1.5%</b>		
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	2,138	856,141
<b>MULTI-LINE INSURANCE—0.3%</b>		
The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.	2,647	164,035
<b>MULTI-UTILITIES—0.3%</b>		
Sempra Energy	1,387	183,750
<b>OIL &amp; GAS STORAGE &amp; TRANSPORTATION—0.3%</b>		
ONEOK, Inc.	2,694	149,894
<b>PHARMACEUTICALS—4.1%</b>		
AstraZeneca PLC#	3,998	239,480
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	3,563	238,080
Eli Lilly & Co.	1,147	263,259
GlaxoSmithKline PLC#	5,029	200,255
Johnson & Johnson	4,248	699,815
Merck & Co., Inc.	2,793	217,212
Novartis AG#	2,161	197,170
Pfizer, Inc.	7,384	289,157
		<b>2,344,428</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2021 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

<b>COMMON STOCKS—63.0% (CONT.)</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>RAILROADS—0.5%</b>		
Union Pacific Corp.	1,307	\$ 287,449
<b>RESTAURANTS—0.9%</b>		
McDonald's Corp.	1,178	272,106
Starbucks Corp.	2,012	224,962
		<b>497,068</b>
<b>SEMICONDUCTOR EQUIPMENT—1.4%</b>		
KLA Corp.	2,479	803,717
<b>SEMICONDUCTORS—2.9%</b>		
Broadcom, Inc.	1,559	743,394
QUALCOMM, Inc.	3,952	564,859
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd.#	2,724	327,316
		<b>1,635,569</b>
<b>SOFT DRINKS—1.8%</b>		
PepsiCo, Inc.	3,622	536,672
The Coca-Cola Co.	8,431	456,201
		<b>992,873</b>
<b>SYSTEMS SOFTWARE—6.5%</b>		
Microsoft Corp.	13,601	3,684,511
<b>TECHNOLOGY HARDWARE STORAGE &amp; PERIPHERALS—5.3%</b>		
Apple, Inc.	21,799	2,985,591
<b>TOBACCO—0.8%</b>		
Altria Group, Inc.	5,677	270,679
Philip Morris International, Inc.	1,822	180,579
		<b>451,258</b>
<b>TOTAL COMMON STOCKS</b>		
(Cost \$14,787,504)		<b>35,687,888</b>
<b>MASTER LIMITED PARTNERSHIP—0.4%</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>OIL &amp; GAS STORAGE &amp; TRANSPORTATION—0.4%</b>		
Cheniere Energy Partners LP	4,546	201,342
(Cost \$150,738)		201,342
<b>REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST—3.5%</b>	<b>SHARES</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>HEALTHCARE—0.4%</b>		
Welltower, Inc.	2,793	232,098
<b>INDUSTRIAL—0.3%</b>		
Americold Realty Trust	4,853	183,686
<b>MORTGAGE—0.5%</b>		
Blackstone Mortgage Trust, Inc., Cl. A	9,169	292,400
<b>RETAIL—0.5%</b>		
Simon Property Group, Inc.	2,271	296,320
<b>SPECIALIZED—1.8%</b>		
Crown Castle International Corp.	2,997	584,715
CyrusOne, Inc.	2,548	182,233
Lamar Advertising Co., Cl. A	2,104	219,699
		<b>986,647</b>
<b>TOTAL REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST</b>		
(Cost \$1,292,320)		<b>1,991,151</b>

**THE ALGER PORTFOLIOS | ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**  
**Schedule of Investments June 30, 2021 (Unaudited) (Continued)**

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT	VALUE
<b>CORPORATE BONDS—31.2%</b>		
<b>AGRICULTURAL &amp; FARM MACHINERY—3.1%</b>		
John Deere Capital Corp., 2.75%, 3/15/22	1,750,000	\$ 1,781,990
<b>APPLICATION SOFTWARE—1.8%</b>		
salesforce.com, Inc., 0.63%, 7/15/24	1,000,000	999,746
<b>AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS—1.8%</b>		
General Motors Financial Co., Inc., 1.5%, 6/10/26	500,000	498,232
Toyota Motor Credit Corp., 0.45%, 7/22/22	500,000	501,500
		<b>999,732</b>
<b>BIOTECHNOLOGY—1.0%</b>		
AbbVie, Inc., 3.6%, 5/14/25	500,000	546,000
<b>DATA PROCESSING &amp; OUTSOURCED SERVICES—0.9%</b>		
PayPal Holdings, Inc., 1.35%, 6/1/23	500,000	508,976
<b>DIVERSIFIED BANKS—4.5%</b>		
Bank of America Corp., variable, 5/28/24	500,000	500,555
JPMorgan Chase & Co., 4.35%, 8/15/21	1,000,000	1,004,954
Wells Fargo & Co., 3.3%, 9/9/24	1,000,000	1,078,692
		<b>2,584,201</b>
<b>ELECTRIC UTILITIES—0.9%</b>		
NextEra Energy Capital Holdings, Inc., variable, 2/22/23	500,000	500,098
<b>INVESTMENT BANKING &amp; BROKERAGE—0.9%</b>		
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., 0.48%, 1/27/23	500,000	500,299
<b>PACKAGED FOODS &amp; MEATS—3.6%</b>		
Campbell Soup Co., 2.5%, 8/2/22	2,000,000	2,044,592
<b>SEMICONDUCTOR EQUIPMENT—1.0%</b>		
KLA Corp., 4.65%, 11/1/24	500,000	558,528
<b>SEMICONDUCTORS—3.7%</b>		
Altera Corp., 4.1%, 11/15/23	1,500,000	1,631,391
NVIDIA Corp., 0.31%, 6/15/23	500,000	500,360
		<b>2,131,751</b>
<b>SPECIALIZED—2.3%</b>		
Crown Castle International Corp., 3.2%, 9/1/24	1,200,000	1,282,370
<b>TECHNOLOGY HARDWARE STORAGE &amp; PERIPHERALS—5.7%</b>		
Apple, Inc., 1.13%, 5/11/25	1,200,000	1,215,044
HP, Inc., 4.38%, 9/15/21	2,000,000	2,016,949
		<b>3,231,993</b>
<b>TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS</b>		
(Cost \$17,331,932)		<b>17,670,276</b>
<b>Total Investments</b>		
(Cost \$33,562,494)	98.1%	\$ 55,550,657
Unaffiliated Securities (Cost \$33,562,494)		55,550,657
Other Assets in Excess of Liabilities	1.9%	1,085,049
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 56,635,706</b>

# American Depositary Receipts.

\* Non-income producing security.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO****Statement of Assets and Liabilities June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)****Alger Balanced  
Portfolio****ASSETS:**

Investments in unaffiliated securities, at value (Identified cost below)* see accompanying schedule of investments	\$	55,550,657
Cash and cash equivalents		1,995,283
Receivable for shares of beneficial interest sold		18,232
Dividends and interest receivable		155,626
Security litigation receivable		109
Prepaid expenses		13,063
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>57,732,970</b>

**LIABILITIES:**

Payable for investment securities purchased		999,490
Payable for shares of beneficial interest redeemed		11,559
Accrued investment advisory fees		36,087
Accrued shareholder administrative fees		508
Accrued administrative fees		1,398
Accrued custodian fees		1,484
Accrued transfer agent fees		788
Accrued printing fees		15,926
Accrued professional fees		17,818
Accrued fund accounting fees		9,486
Accrued other expenses		2,720
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>1,097,264</b>

<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>56,635,706</b>
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**NET ASSETS CONSIST OF:**

Paid in capital (par value of \$.001 per share)		33,261,167
Distributable earnings		23,374,539

<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>56,635,706</b>
* Identified cost	\$	33,562,494 <sup>(a)</sup>

**See Notes to Financial Statements.**

<sup>(a)</sup> At June 30, 2021, the net unrealized appreciation on investments, based on cost for federal income tax purposes of \$33,416,776, amounted to \$22,133,881, which consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation of \$22,335,351 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation of \$201,470.



**ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**

Statement of Assets and Liabilities June 30, 2021 (Unaudited) (Continued)

	<b>Alger Balanced Portfolio</b>
<b>NET ASSETS BY CLASS:</b>	
Class I-2	\$ 56,635,706
<b>SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST OUTSTANDING — NOTE 6:</b>	
Class I-2	3,020,646
<b>NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE:</b>	
Class I-2	\$ 18.75

*See Notes to Financial Statements.*

**ALGER BALANCED PORTFOLIO**

Statement of Operations for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Alger Balanced Portfolio	
<b>INCOME:</b>		
Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes*)	\$	387,806
Interest		192,212
Total Income		580,018
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
Investment advisory fees — Note 3(a)		192,375
Shareholder administrative fees — Note 3(f)		2,710
Administration fees — Note 3(b)		7,451
Custodian fees		2,257
Transfer agent fees — Note 3(f)		1,450
Printing fees		5,410
Professional fees		18,045
Registration fees		8,506
Trustee fees — Note 3(g)		654
Fund accounting fees		29,958
Other expenses		839
Total Expenses		269,655
<b>NET INVESTMENT INCOME</b>		<b>310,363</b>
<b>REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN ON INVESTMENTS:</b>		
Net realized gain on unaffiliated investments		813,111
Net change in unrealized appreciation on unaffiliated investments		4,067,797
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments		4,880,908
<b>NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,191,271</b>
* Foreign withholding taxes	\$	2,466

*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, 2021	For the Year Ended December 31, 2020
Net investment income	\$ 310,363	\$ 644,317
Net realized gain on investments	813,111	209,801
Net change in unrealized appreciation on investments	4,067,797	3,965,002
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	5,191,271	4,819,120
Dividends and distributions to shareholders:		
Class I-2	—	(802,995)
Total dividends and distributions to shareholders	—	(802,995)
Decrease from shares of beneficial interest transactions — Note 6:		
Class I-2	(860,985)	(1,185,718)
Total increase	4,330,286	2,830,407
Net Assets:		
Beginning of period	52,305,420	49,475,013
<b>END OF PERIOD</b>	<b>\$ 56,635,706</b>	<b>\$ 52,305,420</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 6/30/2021 <sup>(i)</sup>	Year ended 12/31/2020	Year ended 12/31/2019	Year ended 12/31/2018	Year ended 12/31/2017	Year ended 12/31/2016
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 17.05	\$ 15.71	\$ 13.67	\$ 17.20	\$ 15.32	\$ 14.39
<b>INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>						
Net investment income <sup>(ii)</sup>	0.10	0.21	0.25	0.28	0.29	0.29
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	1.60	1.39	2.41	(0.84)	2.08	0.94
Total from investment operations	1.70	1.60	2.66	(0.56)	2.37	1.23
Dividends from net investment income	–	(0.20)	(0.23)	(0.72)	(0.49)	(0.30)
Distributions from net realized gains	–	(0.06)	(0.39)	(2.25)	–	–
Net asset value, end of period	\$ 18.75	\$ 17.05	\$ 15.71	\$ 13.67	\$ 17.20	\$ 15.32
Total return	9.97%	10.23%	19.50%	(3.32)%	15.44%	8.51%
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>						
Net assets, end of period (000's omitted)	\$ 56,636	\$ 52,305	\$ 49,475	\$ 42,037	\$ 47,501	\$ 71,534
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	1.00%	1.07%	1.10%	1.14%	0.96%	0.96%
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	1.15%	1.34%	1.67%	1.61%	1.77%	1.97%
Portfolio turnover rate	3.34%	15.41%	5.71%	5.04%	10.89%	3.58%

**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.

## 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.

## 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

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.

FRS 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

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 Fund. 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) 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 ("Custodian"), in an amount equal to at least 102% of the current market value of U.S. loaned securities or 105% 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 each day 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, 2021.

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

*(g) 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 2017-2020. Management does not believe there are any uncertain tax positions that require recognition of a tax liability.

(b) *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.

(i) *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.

**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, 2021, 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, 2021, there were no payments to Fred Alger & Company, LLC, the Fund's distributor and affiliate of Alger Management (the "Distributor"), 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 in the Alger Fund Complex. If the Portfolio has borrowed from other funds in the Alger Fund Complex 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 in the Alger Fund Complex. 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, 2021.

(e) *Other Transactions with Affiliates:* Certain officers and one Trustee of the Fund are directors and/or officers of Alger Management, the Distributor, or their affiliates. No shares of the Portfolio were held by Alger Management and its affiliated entities as of June 30, 2021.

(f) *Shareholder Administrative Fees:* The Fund has entered into a Shareholder Administrative Services Agreement with Alger Management to compensate Alger Management for 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 \$142,000 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, Alger Global Focus Fund and The Alger ETF Trust, each of which is a registered investment company managed by Alger Management. The Independent Trustee appointed as Chairman of the Board 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 based on net assets 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 Capital, LLC, an affiliated investment adviser of Alger Management. There were no interfund trades during the six months ended June 30, 2021.

#### **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, 2021, were as follows:

	<b>PURCHASES</b>	<b>SALES</b>
Alger Balanced Portfolio	\$4,530,072	\$1,732,909

#### **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, 2021, 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 period ended June 30, 2021 and the year ended December 31, 2020, transactions of shares of beneficial interest were as follows:

	FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2021		FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020	
	SHARES	AMOUNT	SHARES	AMOUNT
<b>Alger Balanced Portfolio</b>				
<b>Class I-2:</b>				
Shares sold	133,920	\$ 2,368,129	283,838	\$ 4,474,631
Dividends reinvested	—	—	47,571	802,995
Shares redeemed	(181,286)	(3,229,114)	(411,858)	(6,463,344)
<b>Net decrease</b>	<b>(47,366)</b>	<b>\$ (860,985)</b>	<b>(80,449)</b>	<b>\$ (1,185,718)</b>

### NOTE 7 — Income Tax Information:

At December 31, 2020, the Portfolio, for federal income tax purposes, had no capital loss carryforwards and no capital loss carryforwards were utilized in 2020.

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, 2021, 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	\$ 5,012,944	\$ 5,012,944	\$ —	—
Consumer Discretionary	2,864,632	2,864,632	—	—
Consumer Staples	2,592,330	2,592,330	—	—
Energy	1,033,699	1,033,699	—	—
Financials	5,644,483	5,644,483	—	—
Healthcare	4,872,775	4,872,775	—	—
Industrials	2,394,553	2,394,553	—	—
Information Technology	10,063,814	10,063,814	—	—
Materials	768,428	768,428	—	—
Utilities	440,230	440,230	—	—
<b>TOTAL COMMON STOCKS</b>	<b>\$ 35,687,888</b>	<b>\$ 35,687,888</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>—</b>

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

<b>Alger Balanced Portfolio</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>LEVEL 1</b>	<b>LEVEL 2</b>	<b>LEVEL 3</b>
<b>MASTER LIMITED PARTNERSHIP</b>				
Energy	\$ 201,342	\$ 201,342	\$ —	—
<b>REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST</b>				
Financials	292,400	292,400	—	—
Real Estate	1,698,751	1,698,751	—	—
<b>TOTAL REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST</b>				
	\$ 1,991,151	\$ 1,991,151	\$ —	—
<b>CORPORATE BONDS</b>				
Consumer Discretionary	999,732	—	999,732	—
Consumer Staples	2,044,592	—	2,044,592	—
Financials	3,084,500	—	3,084,500	—
Healthcare	546,000	—	546,000	—
Industrials	1,781,990	—	1,781,990	—
Information Technology	7,430,994	—	7,430,994	—
Real Estate	1,282,370	—	1,282,370	—
Utilities	500,098	—	500,098	—
<b>TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS</b>	<b>\$ 17,670,276</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 17,670,276</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES</b>				
	<b>\$ 55,550,657</b>	<b>\$ 37,880,381</b>	<b>\$ 17,670,276</b>	<b>—</b>

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 success of certain outcomes. Significant increases and decreases in these inputs in isolation and interrelationships between these inputs would have resulted 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, 2021, such assets were categorized within the ASC 820 disclosure hierarchy as follows:

	<b>TOTAL FUND</b>	<b>LEVEL 1</b>	<b>LEVEL 2</b>	<b>LEVEL 3</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,995,283	\$ —	\$ 1,995,283	\$ —

**NOTE 9 — Derivatives:**

FRS 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 options or other derivative instruments held by the Portfolio throughout the period or as of June 30, 2021.

#### **NOTE 10 — Risk Disclosures:**

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Investing in the stock market involves risks, including the potential loss of principal. 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. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness such as COVID-19 or other public health issues, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on investments. 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 may be invested in securities of companies in related sectors, and may be similarly affected by economic, political, or market events and conditions and may be more vulnerable to unfavorable sector developments.

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 11 — Subsequent Events:**

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Management of the Portfolio has evaluated events that have occurred subsequent to June 30, 2021, 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, 2021 and ending June 30, 2021 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, 2021” 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, 2021	Ending Account Value June 30, 2021	Expenses Paid During the Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 <sup>(a)</sup>	Annualized Expense Ratio For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 <sup>(b)</sup>
<b>Alger Balanced Portfolio</b>					
<b>Class I-2</b>	Actual	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,099.70	\$ 5.21	1.00%
	Hypothetical <sup>(c)</sup>	1,000.00	1,019.84	5.01	1.00

<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 181/365 (to reflect the one-half year period).

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

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

## Privacy Policy

U.S. Consumer Privacy Notice

Rev. 06/22/21

FACTS	WHAT DOES ALGER DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?
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.

Reasons we can share your personal information	Does Alger share?	Can you limit this sharing?
<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	Yes	No
<b>For our marketing purposes</b> — to offer our products and services to you	Yes	No
<b>For joint marketing with other financial companies</b>	No	We don't share
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes</b> — information about your transactions and experiences	Yes	No
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes</b> — information about your creditworthiness	No	We don't share
<b>For nonaffiliates to market to you</b>	No	We don't share
<b>Questions? Call 1-800-223-3810</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, Alger Global Focus Fund, and The Alger ETF Trust.
<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, Alger Global Focus Fund, and The Alger ETF Trust.</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

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 Portfolio's website at <http://www.alger.com> or on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

## Fund Holdings

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

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**

---

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

### **Distributor**

---

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.

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# ALGER

Inspired by Change, Driven by Growth.



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BalancedSAR



# BNY Mellon Investment Portfolios, MidCap Stock Portfolio

**SEMIANNUAL REPORT**  
June 30, 2021



**BNY MELLON**  
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

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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.

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## DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE (Unaudited)

*For the period from January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021, 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, 2021, BNY Mellon Investment Portfolios, MidCap Stock Portfolio Initial shares produced a total return of 18.11%, and its Service shares produced a total return of 18.02.<sup>1</sup> In comparison, the fund's benchmark, the S&P MidCap 400® Index (the "Index"), produced a total return of 17.59% for the same period.<sup>2</sup>

Mid-cap stocks delivered strongly positive returns, outperforming their large-cap counterparts as COVID-19 restrictions began to lift, and previously stricken segments of the economy showed signs of recovery. The portfolio outperformed the Index, largely on the strength of positive security selection in the industrials and health care sectors, which more than made up for relatively weak selection among financials and utilities.

### **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.

### **Equities Gain as the Pandemic Wanes**

U.S. equities gained ground as the coronavirus pandemic showed signs of easing during the first quarter of 2021. Although fresh lockdowns were enforced across several major economies, the accelerating rollout of COVID-19 vaccination programs and the promising results witnessed in the countries most advanced in this process bolstered the risk appetite of investors and encouraged them to discount wider economic reopening expected later in 2021. Among equities, strength shifted from momentum to value as investors once again

took notice of quality and fundamentals rather than seeking growth at any price. Cyclical sectors saw the greatest gains, with energy stocks rising sharply on increasing oil and gas prices. By contrast, the influence of monetary accommodation, which undoubtedly provided critical support for financial asset prices, took a somewhat different turn. With reflation underway and an elevated pace of growth expected in the second half of the year, investors began to anticipate a dialing back of the exceptional levels of monetary stimulus witnessed over the prior 12 months. This contributed to a sharp rise in government bond yields during the review period, with the long end of the U.S. Treasury market experiencing its worst quarter since 1980. The nature of fiscal stimulus also continued to evolve as President Biden formally announced his long-awaited \$2 trillion infrastructure program to underpin and accelerate the U.S. recovery while also encompassing more strategic goals.

U.S. equity markets proceeded to deliver another quarter of gains from April through June 2021, drawing strength from an impressive slate of U.S. economic data, robust corporate earnings and further evidence that vaccination programs were paving the way for a full reopening of economies. Investors shifted focus back to growth over value without abandoning their renewed appreciation for company fundamentals. The inflation debate remained a high-profile and contentious issue, with a series of elevated data points prompting many to question the narrative that this phase would be transitory. The inextricable linkage between interest rates and the direction of monetary policy further affected investor sentiment. Significantly, the two brief bouts of equity market weakness experienced during the review period, first at the start of May, and then toward the end of the quarter, were both prompted by the airing of more hawkish commentary from U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, later echoed by some of her former colleagues at the Federal Reserve (Fed). Against this backdrop, markets saw a retracement in longer-dated government bond yields, which had climbed sharply higher in the first quarter. This downward move was exacerbated in late June by Fed members' comments, which caused investors to discount a weaker outlook for medium-term growth.

### **Strong Selections in Industrials and Health Care**

The fund's performance compared to the Index benefited from good security selection among industrials and health care. As is typically the case for the portfolio, strength was spread across a large number of issues, with individual holdings making small contributions to relative performance. Among the portfolio's top holdings, shares in residential, commercial and industrial generator manufacturer Generac rose sharply on increasing residential demand in the face of more frequent, weather-related power outages and the need for dependable power sources by employees working from home. Stock in another top holding, pharmaceutical research tool and support services provider Charles River Laboratories International, benefited from the company's role in providing support and distribution services for COVID-19 vaccine efforts. In the energy sector, which led the market's overall rise due to increasing oil and gas prices, holdings in independent exploration and production company Murphy Oil performed notably well. The company proved well positioned for prevailing market conditions as a producer of both crude oil and natural gas in the United States and Canada.

On the negative side, the portfolio's relative performance was constrained by stock selection in the financials and utilities sectors. Among financials, underweight exposure to First Horizon detracted from relative returns. The portfolio focused instead on more liquid

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

financial stocks that appeared more attractive from a momentum perspective. In the lagging utilities sector, holdings in IDACORP, an integrated electric utility located in the Pacific Northwest, trailed the broader market along with most other high-yielding stocks in a market subject to rising interest-rate pressure.

### Positioned for an Environment of Improving Fundamentals

As of the end of the reporting period, we continue to identify what we believe are attractive investment opportunities across a broad spectrum of mid-cap companies and industry groups. The portfolio currently holds 295 individual securities, so performance is not dependent on any individual holding, reflecting instead our disciplined, quantitative analysis of company valuations and fundamentals, while controlling sector and market capitalization risks against the portfolio's benchmark. Our systematic approach to evaluating securities and building portfolios allows us to create an investment process that participates in rising equity markets and helps protect capital during times of stress in the marketplace.

July 15, 2021

<sup>1</sup> ***DUE TO RECENT MARKET VOLATILITY, CURRENT PERFORMANCE MAY BE DIFFERENT THAN THE FIGURES SHOWN. Investors should note that the fund's short-term performance is highly unusual, in part to unusually favorable market conditions, and is unlikely to be repeated or consistently achieved in the future.*** 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 April 30, 2022, 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.

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, 2021 to June 30, 2021. 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, 2021		
	<b>Initial Shares</b>	<b>Service Shares</b>
Expenses paid per \$1,000†	\$4.76	\$6.11
Ending value (after expenses)	\$1,181.10	\$1,180.20

## 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, 2021		
	<b>Initial Shares</b>	<b>Service Shares</b>
Expenses paid per \$1,000†	\$4.41	\$5.66
Ending value (after expenses)	\$1,020.43	\$1,019.19

† 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 181/365 (to reflect the one-half year period).

# STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS

June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 99.6%</b>		
<b>Automobiles &amp; Components - 1.9%</b>		
Adient	6,090 <sup>a</sup>	275,268
Dana	28,400	674,784
Fox Factory Holding	2,700 <sup>a</sup>	420,282
Gentex	19,290	638,306
Harley-Davidson	11,905	545,487
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company	26,420 <sup>a</sup>	453,103
Thor Industries	1,580	178,540
Visteon	2,170 <sup>a</sup>	262,440
		<b>3,448,210</b>
<b>Banks - 6.7%</b>		
Associated Banc-Corp	89,575	1,834,496
BancorpSouth Bank	22,610	640,541
BOK Financial	4,250 <sup>b</sup>	368,050
Cathay General Bancorp	49,035	1,930,018
First Horizon	46,900	810,432
Fulton Financial	32,495	512,771
Hancock Whitney	9,350	415,514
MGIC Investment	45,850	623,560
New York Community Bancorp	59,080	651,062
Regions Financial	47,630	961,173
Sterling Bancorp	36,970	916,486
UMB Financial	14,260	1,327,036
Webster Financial	8,370	446,456
Wintrust Financial	6,590	498,402
		<b>11,935,997</b>
<b>Capital Goods - 12.8%</b>		
A.O. Smith	3,030	218,342
AECOM	4,995 <sup>a</sup>	316,283
AGCO	8,150	1,062,597
Axon Enterprise	2,350 <sup>a</sup>	415,480
Builders FirstSource	6,930 <sup>a</sup>	295,634
Carlisle	3,300	631,554
Crane	8,750	808,237
Donaldson	22,790	1,447,849
Dycom Industries	3,810 <sup>a</sup>	283,959
EMCOR Group	12,970	1,597,774
EnerSys	6,410	626,449
Fortive	6,100	425,414
Fortune Brands Home & Security	4,060	404,417
GATX	5,730	506,933
Generac Holdings	1,490 <sup>a</sup>	618,573



Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 99.6% (continued)</b>		
<b>Capital Goods - 12.8% (continued)</b>		
ITT	10,040	919,564
Lennox International	3,250	1,140,100
Lincoln Electric Holdings	4,470	588,744
MasTec	8,390 <sup>a,b</sup>	890,179
Nordson	4,200	921,942
Owens Corning	8,550	837,045
Pentair	3,430 <sup>b</sup>	231,491
Quanta Services	2,910	263,559
Regal Beloit	6,480	865,145
Simpson Manufacturing	5,660	625,090
Stanley Black & Decker	3,450	707,215
Sunrun	5,670 <sup>a,b</sup>	316,273
Terex	12,000	571,440
The Middleby	4,610 <sup>a</sup>	798,729
The Timken Company	13,210	1,064,594
The Toro Company	10,245	1,125,721
Valmont Industries	1,020	240,771
Woodward	8,040	987,955
		<b>22,755,052</b>
<b>Commercial &amp; Professional Services - 2.4%</b>		
ASGN	6,760 <sup>a</sup>	655,247
CACI International, Cl. A	1,990 <sup>a</sup>	507,689
Clean Harbors	4,130 <sup>a</sup>	384,668
Healthcare Services Group	7,840 <sup>b</sup>	247,509
Herman Miller	5,920	279,069
Insperty	4,190	378,650
KAR Auction Services	14,230 <sup>a</sup>	249,737
ManpowerGroup	4,560	542,230
Tetra Tech	5,970	728,579
The Brink's Company	4,760	365,758
		<b>4,339,136</b>
<b>Consumer Durables &amp; Apparel - 5.7%</b>		
Brunswick	7,840	781,021
Capri Holdings	6,170 <sup>a</sup>	352,862
Carter's	5,560	573,625
Crocs	3,345 <sup>a</sup>	389,759
Deckers Outdoor	4,610 <sup>a</sup>	1,770,563
Leggett & Platt	5,030	260,604
Mattel	30,210 <sup>a</sup>	607,221
Peloton Interactive, Cl. A	4,140 <sup>a</sup>	513,443
Polaris	7,860	1,076,506
PulteGroup	4,380	239,017
Tempur Sealy International	23,770	931,546

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 99.6% (continued)</b>		
<b>Consumer Durables &amp; Apparel - 5.7% (continued)</b>		
Toll Brothers	6,790	392,530
TopBuild	4,040 <sup>a</sup>	799,031
Tri Pointe Homes	33,420 <sup>a</sup>	716,191
YETI Holdings	7,980 <sup>a</sup>	732,724
		<b>10,136,643</b>
<b>Consumer Services - 3.7%</b>		
Adtalem Global Education	7,550 <sup>a</sup>	269,082
Boyd Gaming	8,870 <sup>a</sup>	545,416
Chipotle Mexican Grill	380 <sup>a</sup>	589,129
Churchill Downs	1,180 <sup>a</sup>	233,947
Graham Holdings, Cl. B	950	602,205
Grand Canyon Education	6,170 <sup>a</sup>	555,115
Jack in the Box	6,370	709,873
Marriott Vacations Worldwide	1,640 <sup>a</sup>	261,252
Planet Fitness, Cl. A	6,270 <sup>a</sup>	471,818
Scientific Games	4,450 <sup>a</sup>	344,608
Service Corp. International	22,050	1,181,659
Texas Roadhouse	4,030	387,686
The Wendy's Company	8,965	209,960
Wingstop	1,110	174,969
		<b>6,536,719</b>
<b>Diversified Financials - 2.9%</b>		
Affiliated Managers Group	4,755 <sup>b</sup>	733,268
Evercore, Cl. A	2,640	371,633
FactSet Research Systems	1,100	369,171
Federated Hermes	7,875	267,041
Interactive Brokers Group, Cl. A	4,700	308,931
Janus Henderson Group	13,980	542,564
Jefferies Financial Group	21,300	728,460
OneMain Holdings	6,350	380,429
PROG Holdings	11,420	549,645
Stifel Financial	12,890	836,045
		<b>5,087,187</b>
<b>Energy - 2.2%</b>		
Antero Midstream	13,820	143,590
ChampionX	21,340 <sup>a</sup>	547,371
Cimarex Energy	7,270	526,712
CNX Resources	14,820 <sup>a</sup>	202,441
Continental Resources	9,545 <sup>b</sup>	362,996
EQT	14,940 <sup>a</sup>	332,564
Equitrans Midstream	33,620	286,106
Marathon Oil	37,440	509,933
Murphy Oil	20,715 <sup>b</sup>	482,245

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 99.6% (continued)</b>		
<b>Energy - 2.2% (continued)</b>		
Targa Resources	3,035	134,906
World Fuel Services	10,460	331,896
		<b>3,860,760</b>
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing - .8%</b>		
BJ's Wholesale Club Holdings	13,060 <sup>a</sup>	621,395
Casey's General Stores	1,800	350,352
Sprouts Farmers Market	19,930 <sup>a</sup>	495,261
		<b>1,467,008</b>
<b>Food, Beverage &amp; Tobacco - 2.0%</b>		
Darling Ingredients	13,745 <sup>a</sup>	927,787
Flowers Foods	38,530	932,426
Pilgrim's Pride	7,240 <sup>a</sup>	160,583
Sanderson Farms	2,555	480,263
The Boston Beer Company, Cl. A	500 <sup>a</sup>	510,400
The Hain Celestial Group	12,560 <sup>a</sup>	503,907
		<b>3,515,366</b>
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Services - 6.2%</b>		
Acadia Healthcare	9,790 <sup>a</sup>	614,322
Align Technology	1,030 <sup>a</sup>	629,330
Amedisys	4,120 <sup>a</sup>	1,009,112
Cerner	6,610	516,638
Chemed	3,020	1,432,990
Envista Holdings	14,610 <sup>a</sup>	631,298
Globus Medical, Cl. A	3,320 <sup>a</sup>	257,400
HealthEquity	2,740 <sup>a</sup>	220,515
Hill-Rom Holdings	8,110	921,215
LHC Group	3,980 <sup>a</sup>	797,035
Molina Healthcare	3,720 <sup>a</sup>	941,383
Patterson Companies	6,480	196,927
STAAR Surgical	4,110 <sup>a</sup>	626,775
Steris	5,720	1,180,036
Teladoc Health	2,340 <sup>a</sup>	389,119
Tenet Healthcare	9,970 <sup>a</sup>	667,890
		<b>11,031,985</b>
<b>Household &amp; Personal Products - .3%</b>		
Nu Skin Enterprises, Cl. A	10,640	<b>602,756</b>
<b>Insurance - 5.3%</b>		
Alleghany	930 <sup>a</sup>	620,375
American Financial Group	6,690	834,377
Brown & Brown	5,800	308,212
First American Financial	11,870	740,094
Globe Life	7,750	738,187
Kemper	5,390	398,321

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 99.6% (continued)</b>		
<b>Insurance - 5.3% (continued)</b>		
Kinsale Capital Group	3,160	520,673
Mercury General	4,040	262,398
Old Republic International	39,550	985,190
Primerica	8,245	1,262,639
Reinsurance Group of America	7,210	821,940
RLI	5,070	530,271
Selective Insurance Group	11,110	901,576
The Hanover Insurance Group	4,205	570,366
		<b>9,494,619</b>
<b>Materials - 5.4%</b>		
CF Industries Holdings	5,940	305,613
Cleveland-Cliffs	38,630 <sup>a,b</sup>	832,863
Commercial Metals	24,200	743,424
Eagle Materials	7,340	1,043,087
Ingevity	11,850 <sup>a</sup>	964,116
Louisiana-Pacific	8,120	489,555
Minerals Technologies	9,320	733,204
Olin	11,530	533,378
Reliance Steel & Aluminum	6,840	1,032,156
RPM International	6,895	611,449
Silgan Holdings	8,300	344,450
The Chemours Company	18,130	630,924
The Mosaic Company	8,000	255,280
United States Steel	18,640 <sup>b</sup>	447,360
Westlake Chemical	3,300	297,297
Worthington Industries	5,920	362,186
		<b>9,626,342</b>
<b>Media &amp; Entertainment - 2.2%</b>		
Cable One	550	1,052,045
Cinemark Holdings	8,070 <sup>a,b</sup>	177,137
John Wiley & Sons, Cl. A	7,040	423,667
The Interpublic Group of Companies	18,040	586,120
The New York Times Company, Cl. A	20,940	911,937
World Wrestling Entertainment, Cl. A	7,270 <sup>b</sup>	420,860
Yelp	6,570 <sup>a</sup>	262,537
		<b>3,834,303</b>
<b>Pharmaceuticals Biotechnology &amp; Life Sciences - 5.1%</b>		
Bio-Rad Laboratories, Cl. A	550 <sup>a</sup>	354,360
Bio-Techne	1,190	535,809
Bruker	3,795	288,344
Catalent	3,070 <sup>a</sup>	331,928
Charles River Laboratories International	6,095 <sup>a</sup>	2,254,662
Emergent BioSolutions	3,620 <sup>a</sup>	228,024

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 99.6% (continued)</b>		
<b>Pharmaceuticals Biotechnology &amp; Life Sciences - 5.1% (continued)</b>		
Exelixis	18,610 <sup>a</sup>	339,074
Halozyme Therapeutics	9,580 <sup>a</sup>	435,028
Jazz Pharmaceuticals	3,410 <sup>a</sup>	605,752
Medpace Holdings	2,410 <sup>a</sup>	425,678
Neurocrine Biosciences	3,345 <sup>a</sup>	325,535
Repligen	6,380 <sup>a</sup>	1,273,576
Royalty Pharma, Cl. A	9,640	395,144
Sage Therapeutics	3,060 <sup>a</sup>	173,839
Seagen	2,660 <sup>a</sup>	419,961
Syneos Health	5,440 <sup>a</sup>	486,826
United Therapeutics	1,080 <sup>a</sup>	193,763
		<b>9,067,303</b>
<b>Real Estate - 9.7%</b>		
Brandywine Realty Trust	90,200 <sup>b,c</sup>	1,236,642
Brixmor Property Group	10,725 <sup>c</sup>	245,495
Camden Property Trust	3,400 <sup>c</sup>	451,078
Corporate Office Properties Trust	46,190 <sup>c</sup>	1,292,858
EastGroup Properties	5,710 <sup>c</sup>	939,009
First Industrial Realty Trust	46,310 <sup>c</sup>	2,418,771
Healthcare Realty Trust	35,920 <sup>c</sup>	1,084,784
Highwoods Properties	16,990 <sup>c</sup>	767,438
Jones Lang LaSalle	3,070 <sup>a</sup>	600,062
Kimco Realty	21,300 <sup>c</sup>	444,105
Life Storage	7,485 <sup>c</sup>	803,515
National Retail Properties	23,065 <sup>c</sup>	1,081,287
National Storage Affiliates Trust	9,445 <sup>c</sup>	477,539
Omega Healthcare Investors	17,590 <sup>c</sup>	638,341
Paramount Group	37,270 <sup>c</sup>	375,309
Physicians Realty Trust	41,130 <sup>c</sup>	759,671
PS Business Parks	9,720 <sup>c</sup>	1,439,338
Sabra Health Care REIT	22,270 <sup>c</sup>	405,314
SL Green Realty	7,930 <sup>b,c</sup>	634,400
Urban Edge Properties	37,220 <sup>c</sup>	710,902
VEREIT	6,480 <sup>c</sup>	297,626
Weingarten Realty Investors	7,780 <sup>c</sup>	249,505
		<b>17,352,989</b>
<b>Retailing - 4.4%</b>		
American Eagle Outfitters	5,760	216,173
AutoNation	5,680 <sup>a</sup>	538,521
Dick's Sporting Goods	7,320	733,391
Five Below	3,405 <sup>a</sup>	658,084
Foot Locker	8,180	504,133

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 99.6% (continued)</b>		
<b>Retailing - 4.4% (continued)</b>		
Kohl's	14,200	782,562
Lithia Motors, Cl. A	1,970	676,971
Murphy USA	2,300	306,751
Ollie's Bargain Outlet Holdings	4,010 <sup>a,b</sup>	337,361
Pool	900	412,794
RH	735 <sup>a,b</sup>	499,065
Urban Outfitters	10,415 <sup>a</sup>	429,306
Wayfair, Cl. A	1,980 <sup>a,b</sup>	625,106
Williams-Sonoma	6,840 <sup>b</sup>	1,092,006
		<b>7,812,224</b>
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment - 4.3%</b>		
Brooks Automation	6,280	598,358
Cirrus Logic	4,180 <sup>a</sup>	355,802
CMC Materials	3,060	461,264
Cree	4,280 <sup>a,b</sup>	419,140
First Solar	7,220 <sup>a</sup>	653,482
Lattice Semiconductor	9,175 <sup>a</sup>	515,452
MKS Instruments	3,540	629,943
Monolithic Power Systems	3,380	1,262,261
Qorvo	1,330 <sup>a</sup>	260,215
Semtech	13,720 <sup>a</sup>	943,936
SolarEdge Technologies	3,190 <sup>a</sup>	881,620
Teradyne	3,060	409,918
Universal Display	1,440	320,155
		<b>7,711,546</b>
<b>Software &amp; Services - 5.9%</b>		
ACI Worldwide	12,170 <sup>a</sup>	451,994
Alliance Data Systems	5,530 <sup>b</sup>	576,171
Aspen Technology	1,695 <sup>a,b</sup>	233,130
Concentrix	2,030 <sup>a</sup>	326,424
DocuSign	1,950 <sup>a</sup>	545,162
Fair Isaac	2,230 <sup>a</sup>	1,120,976
Genpact	11,685	530,850
HubSpot	1,190 <sup>a</sup>	693,437
Manhattan Associates	4,750 <sup>a</sup>	687,990
Medallia	15,510 <sup>a,b</sup>	523,463
Nuance Communications	11,130 <sup>a</sup>	605,917
Palo Alto Networks	1,550 <sup>a</sup>	575,128
PTC	8,270 <sup>a</sup>	1,168,220
Qualys	2,600 <sup>a</sup>	261,794
Splunk	2,960 <sup>a</sup>	427,957
Teradata	12,900 <sup>a</sup>	644,613
Twilio, Cl. A	1,480 <sup>a</sup>	583,357

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 99.6% (continued)</b>		
<b>Software &amp; Services - 5.9% (continued)</b>		
WEX	3,255 <sup>a</sup>	631,144
		<b>10,587,727</b>
<b>Technology Hardware &amp; Equipment - 4.7%</b>		
Arrow Electronics	5,400 <sup>a</sup>	614,682
Avnet	18,920	758,314
Belden	7,370	372,701
Ciena	10,965 <sup>a</sup>	623,799
Cognex	12,270	1,031,293
Corning	7,460	305,114
EchoStar, Cl. A	8,720 <sup>a</sup>	211,809
II-VI	10,630 <sup>a,b</sup>	771,632
Jabil	4,370	253,984
Littelfuse	3,550	904,504
Lumentum Holdings	6,170 <sup>a,b</sup>	506,125
NCR	18,940 <sup>a</sup>	863,853
NETSCOUT Systems	8,160 <sup>a</sup>	232,886
SYNNEX	3,220	392,067
Trimble	5,900 <sup>a</sup>	482,797
		<b>8,325,560</b>
<b>Telecommunication Services - .3%</b>		
Iridium Communications	13,000 <sup>a,b</sup>	<b>519,870</b>
<b>Transportation - 1.1%</b>		
Avis Budget Group	2,100 <sup>a</sup>	163,569
Kansas City Southern	650	184,191
Old Dominion Freight Line	1,725	437,805
Ryder System	3,090	229,680
Werner Enterprises	6,650	296,058
XPO Logistics	4,440 <sup>a</sup>	621,112
		<b>1,932,415</b>
<b>Utilities - 3.6%</b>		
Black Hills	17,420	1,143,275
DTE Energy	2,200	285,120
Hawaiian Electric Industries	7,795	329,573
IDACORP	11,130	1,085,175
MDU Resources Group	26,180	820,481
NorthWestern	4,520	272,194
ONE Gas	10,750	796,790
Pinnacle West Capital	9,460	775,436
PPL	11,110	310,747
Public Service Enterprise Group	5,210	311,245
UGI	7,260	336,211
		<b>6,466,247</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (cost \$140,549,373)		<b>177,447,964</b>

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

Description	1-Day Yield (%)	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Investment Companies - .5%</b>			
<b>Registered Investment Companies - .5%</b>			
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund, Institutional Shares (cost \$834,462)	0.05	834,462 <sup>d</sup>	<b>834,462</b>
<b>Investment of Cash Collateral for Securities Loaned - 1.6%</b>			
<b>Registered Investment Companies - 1.6%</b>			
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund, SL Shares (cost \$2,864,609)	0.01	2,864,609 <sup>d</sup>	<b>2,864,609</b>
<b>Total Investments</b> (cost \$144,248,444)		<b>101.7%</b>	<b>181,147,035</b>
<b>Liabilities, Less Cash and Receivables</b>		<b>(1.7%)</b>	<b>(2,998,957)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>100.0%</b>	<b>178,148,078</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, 2021, the value of the fund's securities on loan was \$11,800,449 and the value of the collateral was \$12,100,022, consisting of cash collateral of \$2,864,609 and U.S. Government & Agency securities valued at \$9,235,413.

<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 (%)
Industrials	16.3
Consumer Discretionary	15.7
Information Technology	15.0
Financials	14.9
Health Care	11.3
Real Estate	9.7
Materials	5.4
Utilities	3.6
Consumer Staples	3.1
Communication Services	2.4
Energy	2.2
Investment Companies	2.1
	<b>101.7</b>

† Based on net assets.

See notes to financial statements.



**STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS IN AFFILIATED ISSUERS**  
(Unaudited)

Investment Companies	Value 12/31/20 (\$)	Purchases (\$) <sup>†</sup>	Sales (\$)	Value 6/30/21 (\$)	Net Assets(%)	Dividends/ Distributions (\$)
<b>Registered Investment Companies;</b>						
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund, Institutional Shares	1,225,389	14,437,063	(14,827,990)	834,462	.5	416
<b>Investment of Cash Collateral for Securities Loaned;</b>						
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund, SL Shares	827,423	6,417,276	(4,380,090)	2,864,609	1.6	11,790 <sup>††</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,052,812</b>	<b>20,854,339</b>	<b>(19,208,080)</b>	<b>3,699,071</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>12,206</b>

<sup>†</sup> Included reinvested dividends/ distributions.

<sup>††</sup> Represents securities lending income earned from the reinvestment of cash collateral from loaned securities, net of fees and collateral investment expenses, and other payments to and from borrowers of securities.

See notes to financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Cost	Value
<b>Assets (\$):</b>		
Investments in securities—See Statement of Investments (including securities on loan, valued at \$11,800,449)—Note 1(b):		
Unaffiliated issuers	140,549,373	177,447,964
Affiliated issuers	3,699,071	3,699,071
Dividends and securities lending income receivable		112,712
Receivable for shares of Beneficial Interest subscribed		8,721
Prepaid expenses		2,058
		<b>181,270,526</b>
<b>Liabilities (\$):</b>		
Due to BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. and affiliates—Note 3(b)		142,120
Liability for securities on loan—Note 1(b)		2,864,609
Payable for shares of Beneficial Interest redeemed		64,797
Trustees' fees and expenses payable		1,705
Other accrued expenses		49,217
		<b>3,122,448</b>
<b>Net Assets (\$)</b>		<b>178,148,078</b>
<b>Composition of Net Assets (\$):</b>		
Paid-in capital		119,159,557
Total distributable earnings (loss)		58,988,521
<b>Net Assets (\$)</b>		<b>178,148,078</b>
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>		
	Initial Shares	Service Shares
Net Assets (\$)	86,440,665	91,707,413
Shares Outstanding	3,718,890	3,960,320
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share (\$)</b>	<b>23.24</b>	<b>23.16</b>

*See notes to financial statements.*

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income (\$):</b>	
<b>Income:</b>	
Cash dividends:	
Unaffiliated issuers	1,245,564
Affiliated issuers	416
Income from securities lending—Note 1(b)	11,790
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,257,770</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Management fee—Note 3(a)	641,300
Distribution fees—Note 3(b)	109,352
Professional fees	53,223
Custodian fees—Note 3(b)	15,032
Prospectus and shareholders' reports	14,001
Chief Compliance Officer fees—Note 3(b)	7,862
Trustees' fees and expenses—Note 3(c)	6,414
Loan commitment fees—Note 2	1,441
Shareholder servicing costs—Note 3(b)	832
Registration fees	161
Interest expense—Note 2	101
Miscellaneous	9,925
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>859,644</b>
<b>Investment Income—Net</b>	<b>398,126</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments—Note 4 (\$):</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) on investments	21,930,288
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	5,230,444
<b>Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments</b>	<b>27,160,732</b>
<b>Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>27,558,858</b>

*See notes to financial statements.*

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Operations (\$):</b>		
Investment income—net	398,126	894,861
Net realized gain (loss) on investments	21,930,288	3,459,022
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	5,230,444	6,471,918
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>27,558,858</b>	<b>10,825,801</b>
<b>Distributions (\$):</b>		
Distributions to shareholders:		
Initial Shares	(1,082,003)	(552,702)
Service Shares	(940,992)	(343,563)
<b>Total Distributions</b>	<b>(2,022,995)</b>	<b>(896,265)</b>
<b>Beneficial Interest Transactions (\$):</b>		
Net proceeds from shares sold:		
Initial Shares	6,187,722	7,458,751
Service Shares	10,517,260	14,678,777
Distributions reinvested:		
Initial Shares	1,082,003	552,702
Service Shares	940,992	343,563
Cost of shares redeemed:		
Initial Shares	(9,022,169)	(13,780,638)
Service Shares	(10,604,023)	(16,960,443)
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets from Beneficial Interest Transactions</b>	<b>(898,215)</b>	<b>(7,707,288)</b>
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>24,637,648</b>	<b>2,222,248</b>
<b>Net Assets (\$):</b>		
Beginning of Period	153,510,430	151,288,182
<b>End of Period</b>	<b>178,148,078</b>	<b>153,510,430</b>
<b>Capital Share Transactions (Shares):</b>		
<b>Initial Shares</b>		
Shares sold	278,207	456,232
Shares issued for distributions reinvested	48,783	45,155
Shares redeemed	(403,807)	(828,281)
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Shares Outstanding</b>	<b>(76,817)</b>	<b>(326,894)</b>
<b>Service Shares</b>		
Shares sold	478,459	938,110
Shares issued for distributions reinvested	42,560	28,138
Shares redeemed	(484,454)	(1,060,385)
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Shares Outstanding</b>	<b>36,565</b>	<b>(94,137)</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. Net asset value total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at net asset value during the period, and redemption at net asset value on the last day of the period. Net asset value total return 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. 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, 2021 (Unaudited)	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Initial Shares</b>						
<b>Per Share Data (\$):</b>						
Net asset value, beginning of period	19.93	18.64	16.80	22.56	20.09	18.95
Investment Operations:						
Investment income—net <sup>a</sup>	.07	.13	.13	.12	.10	.21
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	3.52	1.30	3.15	(3.19)	2.92	2.50
Total from Investment Operations	3.59	1.43	3.28	(3.07)	3.02	2.71
Distributions:						
Dividends from investment income—net	(.14)	(.14)	(.12)	(.13)	(.22)	(.21)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(.14)	-	(1.32)	(2.56)	(.33)	(1.36)
Total Distributions	(.28)	(.14)	(1.44)	(2.69)	(.55)	(1.57)
Net asset value, end of period	23.24	19.93	18.64	16.80	22.56	20.09
<b>Total Return (%)</b>	18.11 <sup>b</sup>	8.11	20.18	(15.49)	15.38	15.47
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>						
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.88 <sup>c</sup>	.87	.86	.86	.87	.85
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	.59 <sup>c</sup>	.81	.73	.59	.50	1.16
Portfolio Turnover Rate	48.55 <sup>b</sup>	92.40	82.88	68.02	64.86	65.52
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	86,441	75,649	76,835	72,374	92,776	123,226

<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)

	Six Months Ended		Year Ended December 31,			
	June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Service Shares</b>						
<b>Per Share Data (\$):</b>						
Net asset value, beginning of period	19.84	18.53	16.71	22.45	20.00	18.88
Investment Operations:						
Investment income—net <sup>a</sup>	.04	.09	.09	.07	.06	.17
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	3.52	1.31	3.12	(3.18)	2.90	2.47
Total from Investment Operations	3.56	1.40	3.21	(3.11)	2.96	2.64
Distributions:						
Dividends from investment income—net	(.10)	(.09)	(.07)	(.07)	(.18)	(.16)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(.14)	-	(1.32)	(2.56)	(.33)	(1.36)
Total Distributions	(.24)	(.09)	(1.39)	(2.63)	(.51)	(1.52)
Net asset value, end of period	23.16	19.84	18.53	16.71	22.45	20.00
<b>Total Return (%)</b>	18.02 <sup>b</sup>	7.85	19.85	(15.69)	15.04	15.20
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>						
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.13 <sup>c</sup>	1.12	1.11	1.11	1.12	1.10
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	.35 <sup>c</sup>	.56	.48	.34	.28	.94
Portfolio Turnover Rate	48.55 <sup>b</sup>	92.40	82.88	68.02	64.86	65.52
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	91,707	77,862	74,454	63,202	76,948	63,972

<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 “Trust”), 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.

On February 10, 2021, BNY Mellon Investment Management announced its intention to realign several of its investment firms. As a result of this realignment, which is scheduled to occur, subject to regulatory requirements, in the third quarter of 2021 (the “Effective Date”), portfolio managers responsible for managing the fund’s investments who are employees of Mellon Investments Corporation (“Mellon”) in a dual employment arrangement with the Adviser, will become employees of Newton Investment Management North America, LLC (“Newton”), which, like Mellon, will be an affiliate of the Adviser, and will no longer be employees of Mellon. Consequently, as of the Effective Date and subject to the approval of the Trust’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”), the Adviser will engage Newton to serve as the fund’s sub-adviser, pursuant to a sub-investment advisory agreement between the Adviser and Newton. As the fund’s sub-adviser, Newton will provide the day-to-day management of the fund’s investments, subject to the Adviser’s supervision and approval. It is currently anticipated that the fund’s portfolio managers who are responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund’s investments will continue to manage the fund’s investments as of the Effective Date. It is also currently anticipated that there will be no material changes to the fund’s investment objective, strategies or policies, no reduction in the nature or level of services provided to the fund, and no increase in the management fee payable by the fund as a result of the engagement of Newton as the fund’s sub-adviser. The Adviser (and not the fund) will pay Newton for its sub-advisory services.

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 Trust 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 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 Trust 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 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 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, 2021 in valuing the fund's investments:

	Level 1- Unadjusted Quoted Prices	Level 2- Other Significant Observable Inputs	Level 3- Significant Unobservable Inputs	Total
<b>Assets (\$)</b>				
Investments In Securities:†				
Equity Securities -				
Common Stocks	177,447,964	-	-	<b>177,447,964</b>
Investment				
Companies	3,699,071	-	-	<b>3,699,071</b>

† See Statement of Investments for additional detailed categorizations, if any.

**(b) 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 maturity of security lending transactions are on an overnight and continuous basis. During the period ended June 30, 2021, The Bank of New York Mellon earned \$1,604 from the lending of the fund's portfolio securities, pursuant to the securities lending agreement.

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

**(d) 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.

**(e) 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.

**(f) 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, 2021, 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, 2021, the fund did not incur any interest or penalties.

Each tax year in the three-year period ended December 31, 2020 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, 2020 was as follows: ordinary income \$896,265. 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 \$823.5 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 \$688.5 million and is available to all long-term open-ended funds, including the fund, and (ii) Tranche B is an amount equal to \$135 million and is available only to BNY Mellon Floating Rate Income Fund, a series of BNY Mellon Investment Funds IV, Inc. 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.

The average amount of borrowings outstanding under the Facilities during the period ended June 30, 2021 was approximately \$16,575 with a related weighted average annualized rate of 1.22%.

**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 January 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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 April 30, 2022, the Adviser may terminate this expense limitation at any time. During the period ended June 30, 2021, 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, 2021, Service shares were charged \$109,352 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 shareholder servicing costs 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 Statement 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 inclusive of earnings credits,

if any, 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, 2021, the fund was charged \$736 for transfer agency services, inclusive of earnings credit, if any. 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, 2021, the fund was charged \$15,032 pursuant to the custody agreement.

During the period ended June 30, 2021, the fund was charged \$7,862 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 \$110,264, Distribution Plan fees of \$18,932, custodian fees of \$4,800, Chief Compliance Officer fees of \$7,862 and transfer agency fees of \$262.

(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, 2021, amounted to \$81,687,224 and \$83,659,845, respectively.

At June 30, 2021, accumulated net unrealized appreciation on investments was \$36,898,591, consisting of \$38,948,598 gross unrealized appreciation and \$2,050,007 gross unrealized depreciation.

At June 30, 2021, 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 APPROVAL OF THE FUND'S MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT AND APPROVAL OF SUB- INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT (Unaudited)

At a meeting of the fund's Board of Trustees held on May 18, 2021 (the "Meeting"), the Board discussed with representatives of the Adviser plans to realign Mellon Investments Corporation's ("Mellon") equities and multi-asset capabilities with Newton Investment Management North America, LLC ("Newton US") (the "Firm Realignment"), with such realignment scheduled to occur, subject to regulatory requirements, in the third quarter of 2021 (the "Effective Date"). The Adviser noted that, as a result of the Firm Realignment, the portfolio managers who are currently responsible for managing the investments of the fund as employees of Mellon in a dual employment arrangement with the Adviser, will become employees of Newton US as of the Effective Date. Consequently, the Adviser proposed to engage Newton US to serve as the fund's sub-investment adviser, pursuant to a sub-investment advisory agreement between the Adviser and Newton US (the "New Sub-Advisory Agreement"), to be effective on the Effective Date. In addition, the Adviser proposed amending the Fund's current management agreement (the "Current Management Agreement") to reflect the engagement of Newton US as sub-investment adviser to the fund (as proposed to be amended, the "Amended Management Agreement"), to be effective on the Effective Date.

At the Meeting, the Adviser recommended the approval of the New Sub-Advisory Agreement, pursuant to which Newton US would serve as sub-investment adviser to the fund, and the Amended Management Agreement. The recommendation for the approval of the New Sub-Advisory Agreement and the Amended Management Agreement was based on the following considerations, among others: (i) approval of the New Sub-Advisory Agreement and the Amended Management Agreement would permit the fund's current portfolio managers to continue to be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio after the Effective Date as employees of Newton US; (ii) there will be no material changes to the fund's investment objective, strategies or policies, no reduction in the nature or level of services provided to the fund, and no increases in the management fee payable by the fund as a result of the proposed changes to the investment advisory arrangements; and (iii) the Adviser (and not the fund) will pay Newton US for its sub-investment advisory services. The Board also considered the fact that the Adviser stated that it believes there are no material changes to the information the Board had previously considered at a Board meeting on July 20-21, 2020 (the "15(c) Meeting"), at which the Board re-approved the Current Management Agreement for the ensuing year, other than the information about the Firm Realignment and Newton US.

At the Meeting, the Board members, none of whom are "interested persons" (as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act")) of the fund (the "Independent Trustees"), considered and approved the New Sub-Advisory Agreement and the Amended Management Agreement. In determining whether to approve the New Sub-Advisory Agreement and the Amended Management Agreement, the Board considered the materials prepared by the Adviser received in advance of the Meeting and other information presented at the

INFORMATION ABOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE FUND'S MANAGEMENT  
AGREEMENT AND APPROVAL OF SUB-INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT  
(Unaudited) (continued)

Meeting, which included: (i) a form of the New Sub-Advisory Agreement and a form of the Amended Management Agreement; (ii) information regarding the Firm Realignment and how it is expected to enhance investment capabilities; (iii) information regarding Newton US; and (iv) an opinion of counsel that the proposed changes to the investment advisory arrangements would not result in an "assignment" of the Current Management Agreement under the 1940 Act and the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and, therefore, do not require the approval of fund shareholders. The Board also considered the substance of discussions with representatives of the Adviser at the Meeting and the 15(c) Meeting.

Nature, Extent and Quality of Services to be Provided. In examining the nature, extent and quality of the services that were expected to be provided by Newton US to the fund under the New Sub-Advisory Agreement, the Board considered: (i) Newton US's organization, qualification and background, as well as the qualifications of its personnel; (ii) the expertise of the personnel providing portfolio management services, which would remain the same after the Effective Date; and (iii) the investment strategy for the fund, which would remain the same after the Effective Date. The Board also considered the review process undertaken by the Adviser and the Adviser's favorable assessment of the nature and quality of the sub-investment advisory services expected to be provided to the fund by Newton US after the Effective Date. Based on their consideration and review of the foregoing information, the Board concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the sub-investment advisory services to be provided by Newton US under the New Sub-Advisory Agreement, as well as Newton US's ability to render such services based on its resources and the experience of the investment team, which will include the fund's current portfolio managers, were adequate and appropriate for the fund in light of the fund's investment objective, and supported a decision to approve the New Sub-Advisory Agreement. The Board also considered, as it related to the Amended Management Agreement, that the nature, extent and quality of the services that are provided by the Adviser are expected to remain the same, including the Adviser's extensive administrative, accounting and compliance infrastructures, as well as the Adviser's supervisory activities over the fund's portfolio management personnel.

Investment Performance. The Board had considered the fund's investment performance and that of the investment team managing the fund's portfolio at the 15(c) Meeting (including comparative data provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.). The Board considered the performance and that the same investment professionals would continue to manage the fund's assets after the Effective Date, as factors in evaluating the services to be provided by Newton US under the New Sub-Advisory Agreement after the Effective Date, and determined that these factors, when viewed together with the other factors considered by the Board, supported a decision to approve the New Sub-Advisory Agreement and the Amended Management Agreement.



Costs of Services to be Provided and Profitability. The Board considered the proposed fee payable under the New Sub-Advisory Agreement, noting that the proposed fee would be paid by the Adviser and, thus, would not impact the fees paid by the fund or the Adviser's profitability. The Board considered the fee payable to Newton US in relation to the fee paid to the Adviser by the fund and the respective services provided by Newton US and the Adviser. The Board recognized that, because Newton US's fee would be paid by the Adviser, and not the fund, an analysis of profitability was more appropriate in the context of the Board's consideration of the fund's Current Management Agreement, and that the Board had received and considered a profitability analysis of the Adviser and its affiliates, including Newton US, at the 15(c) Meeting. The Board concluded that the proposed fee payable to Newton US by the Adviser was appropriate and the Adviser's profitability was not excessive in light of the nature, extent and quality of the services to be provided to the fund by the Adviser under the Amended Management Agreement and Newton US under the New Sub-Advisory Agreement.

Economies of Scale to be Realized. The Board recognized that, because the fee payable to Newton US would be paid by the Adviser, and not the fund, an analysis of economies of scale was more appropriate in the context of the Board's consideration of the Current Management Agreement, which had been done at the 15(c) Meeting. At the 15(c) Meeting, 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 Current Management 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.

The Board also considered whether there were any ancillary benefits that would accrue to Newton US as a result of its relationship with the fund, and such ancillary benefits, if any, were determined to be reasonable.

In considering the materials and information described above, the Independent Trustees received assistance from, and met separately with, their independent legal counsel, and were provided with a written description of their statutory responsibilities and the legal standards that are applicable to the approval of investment advisory and sub-investment advisory agreements.

After full consideration of the factors discussed above, with no single factor identified as being of paramount importance, the Board members, all of whom are Independent Trustees, with the assistance of independent legal counsel, approved the New Sub-Advisory Agreement and Amended Management Agreement for the fund effective as of the Effective Date.

## 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 fund 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 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 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 January 1, 2020 to December 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.

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# 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.im.bnymellon.com](http://www.im.bnymellon.com)

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.im.bnymellon.com](http://www.im.bnymellon.com) 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, 2021



**BNY MELLON**  
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

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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.

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## DISCUSSION OF FUND PERFORMANCE (Unaudited)

*For the period from January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021, as provided by portfolio managers Jeff Munroe and Yuko Takano of Newton Investment Management Limited, Sub-Investment Adviser*

### Market and Fund Performance Overview

For the six-month period ended June 30, 2021, BNY Mellon Sustainable U.S. Equity Portfolio, Inc.'s Initial shares produced a total return of 13.03%, and the fund's Service shares returned 12.87%.<sup>1</sup> In comparison, the fund's benchmark, the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index (the "Index"), produced a total return of 15.25% for the same period.<sup>2</sup>

U.S. equities posted strong gains over the reporting period as COVID-19 restrictions began to lift, and previously stricken segments of the economy showed signs of recovery. The fund underperformed the Index, largely due to security selection in the health care sector, as well as a lack of exposure to the rebounding energy sector.

### 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.

### Equities Gain as the Pandemic Wanes

U.S. equities made headway as the coronavirus pandemic showed signs of easing during the first quarter of 2021. Although fresh lockdowns were enforced across several major economies, the accelerating rollout of COVID-19 vaccination programs and the promising results witnessed in the countries most advanced in this process bolstered investors' risk appetite and encouraged them to discount wider economic reopening expected later in 2021. By contrast, the influence of monetary accommodation, which undoubtedly provided critical support for financial asset prices, took a somewhat different turn. With reflation underway and an elevated pace of growth expected in the second half of the year, investors began to anticipate a dialing back of the exceptional levels of monetary stimulus witnessed over the prior 12 months. This contributed to a sharp rise in government bond yields during the review period, with the long end of the U.S. Treasury market experiencing its worst quarter since 1980. The nature of fiscal stimulus also continued to evolve as President Biden formally announced his long-awaited \$2 trillion infrastructure program to underpin and accelerate the U.S. recovery, while also encompassing more strategic goals.

U.S. equity markets proceeded to deliver another quarter of gains from April through June 2021, drawing strength from an impressive slate of U.S. economic data, robust corporate earnings and further evidence that vaccination programs were paving the way for a full reopening of



economies. The inflation debate remained a high-profile and contentious issue throughout the quarter, with a series of elevated data points prompting many to question the narrative that this phase would be transitory. The inextricable linkage between interest rates and the direction of monetary policy further affected investor sentiment. Significantly, the two brief bouts of equity market weakness experienced during the review period, first at the start of May, and then toward the end of the quarter, were both prompted by the airing of more hawkish commentary from U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, later echoed by some of her former colleagues at the Federal Reserve (Fed). Against this backdrop, markets saw a retracement in longer-dated government bond yields, which had climbed sharply higher in the first quarter. This downward move was exacerbated in late June by Fed members' comments, which caused investors to discount a weaker outlook for medium-term growth.

### **Cyclical Outperformance Detracts from Relative Returns**

Stock selection in the communication services and consumer discretionary sectors had a positive impact on the portfolio's relative returns. Top performing individual holdings included semiconductor equipment maker Applied Materials and financial services company The Goldman Sachs Group. Applied Materials shares benefited in early 2021 from news that Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, one of the world's largest chip makers, planned to increase capital spending to \$25-\$28 billion in 2021, a move with positive implications for Applied Materials' sales. Shares continued to perform well throughout the remainder of the reporting period, aided by a succession of strong financial results due to strong demand for semiconductor equipment. The Goldman Sachs Group shares rose along with the broader banking sector on optimism regarding the prospects for economic reopening and recovery. Rising yields were perceived to be supportive of bank profitability, as was news that pandemic-induced divided restrictions were set to be relaxed by the Fed at the end of June. Results later in the review period were strong as all of Goldman's businesses delivered revenues that exceeded consensus estimates.

On the other hand, the portfolio's relative performance suffered as improving prospects for the world economy were reflected in the outperformance of cyclical areas for much of the first half of 2021. Stock selection in health care weighed on relative returns, as did a lack of exposure to energy. Notably weak individual holdings included wireless communications company Qualcomm and regulated electric utility Eversource Energy. Qualcomm stock struggled during the initial phases of the year, mirroring broader weakness among other growth names. Although results for the first quarter of 2021 were strong, shares retreated against a backdrop of heightened expectations in the market. Concerns regarding supply-chain constraints amid component shortages also negatively affected sentiment toward the stock. Eversource shares declined against a backdrop of rising bond yields for much of the year, a trend that typically detracts from utility performance. Eversource shares were further undermined as regulatory issues in Connecticut drew the attention of investors, and as the company slightly missed earnings estimates for the first quarter due to costs relating to Storm Isaias.

### **A Balanced Approach with Leverage to Economic Recovery**

While the market favored traditional cyclical sectors for much of the reporting period, the secular winners in the portfolio began to exhibit some stronger performance towards the end of the second quarter of 2021 as U.S. Treasury yields dipped. We remain positive on the potential for these secular areas as we continue to draw on our themes as a long-term guide to the most likely areas of strength moving forwards.

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

Accordingly, we continue to maintain a balanced approach to the portfolio's investments, with longer-term secular growth situations represented alongside businesses with more leverage to a recovery. We believe this approach positions the portfolio to better navigate the challenges posed by a rotational and rapidly shifting market backdrop. Indeed, we have continued to advocate patience where the longer duration and more stable areas of the portfolio are concerned. At the same time, our focus on the sustainability of the portfolio's investments plays an important role in ensuring we meet our shareholders' expectations.

July 15, 2021

<sup>1</sup> ***DUE TO RECENT MARKET VOLATILITY, CURRENT PERFORMANCE MAY BE DIFFERENT THAN THE FIGURES SHOWN. Investors should note that the fund's short-term performance is highly unusual, in part due to unusually favorable market conditions, and is unlikely to be repeated or consistently achieved in the future.*** 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 April 30, 2022, 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.

References to specific securities, asset classes and financial markets are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to be and should not be interpreted as recommendations.

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.

The fund may, but is not required to, use derivative instruments. A small investment in derivatives could have a potentially large impact on the fund's performance. The use of derivatives involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in the underlying assets.

## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021. 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, 2021		
	<b>Initial Shares</b>	<b>Service Shares</b>
Expenses paid per \$1,000†	\$3.59	\$4.91
Ending value (after expenses)	\$1,130.30	\$1,128.70

## 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, 2021		
	<b>Initial Shares</b>	<b>Service Shares</b>
Expenses paid per \$1,000†	\$3.41	\$4.66
Ending value (after expenses)	\$1,021.42	\$1,020.18

† Expenses are equal to the fund's annualized expense ratio of .68% for Initial Shares and .93% for Service Shares, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 181/365 (to reflect the one-half year period).

# STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS

June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 98.2%</b>		
<b>Banks - 7.1%</b>		
Citigroup	120,790	8,545,892
First Republic Bank	47,324	8,857,633
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	38,308	5,958,426
		<b>23,361,951</b>
<b>Capital Goods - 1.8%</b>		
Ferguson	41,166	<b>5,722,965</b>
<b>Consumer Durables &amp; Apparel - 5.5%</b>		
Lennar, Cl. A	74,231	7,374,850
NIKE, Cl. B	67,840	10,480,602
		<b>17,855,452</b>
<b>Diversified Financials - 2.8%</b>		
The Goldman Sachs Group	23,858	<b>9,054,827</b>
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing - 2.2%</b>		
Costco Wholesale	18,195	<b>7,199,216</b>
<b>Food, Beverage &amp; Tobacco - 3.0%</b>		
Beyond Meat	7,211 <sup>a</sup>	1,135,661
PepsiCo	58,923	8,730,621
		<b>9,866,282</b>
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Services - 8.8%</b>		
Abbott Laboratories	83,817	9,716,905
Medtronic	83,751	10,396,012
The Cooper Companies	21,927	8,689,012
		<b>28,801,929</b>
<b>Materials - 4.0%</b>		
Albemarle	47,331	7,973,380
Ecolab	25,462	5,244,408
		<b>13,217,788</b>
<b>Media &amp; Entertainment - 4.8%</b>		
Alphabet, Cl. A	6,434 <sup>a</sup>	<b>15,710,477</b>
<b>Pharmaceuticals Biotechnology &amp; Life Sciences - 2.2%</b>		
Merck & Co.	93,162	<b>7,245,209</b>
<b>Retailing - 11.6%</b>		
Amazon.com	6,062 <sup>a</sup>	20,854,250
Dollar General	31,906	6,904,139
eBay	147,410	10,349,656
		<b>38,108,045</b>
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment - 6.8%</b>		
Applied Materials	62,804	8,943,290
Qualcomm	35,035	5,007,553
Texas Instruments	43,034	8,275,438
		<b>22,226,281</b>

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks - 98.2% (continued)</b>		
<b>Software &amp; Services - 22.0%</b>		
Accenture, Cl. A	42,894	12,644,722
Fidelity National Information Services	45,874	6,498,970
Intuit	20,425	10,011,722
Mastercard, Cl. A	25,619	9,353,241
Microsoft	90,027	24,388,314
salesforce.com	37,116 <sup>a</sup>	9,066,325
		<b>71,963,294</b>
<b>Technology Hardware &amp; Equipment - 9.1%</b>		
Apple	164,099	22,474,999
TE Connectivity	53,927	7,291,470
		<b>29,766,469</b>
<b>Telecommunication Services - 1.6%</b>		
Verizon Communications	94,513	<b>5,295,563</b>
<b>Transportation - 1.6%</b>		
Norfolk Southern	20,138	<b>5,344,827</b>
<b>Utilities - 3.3%</b>		
CMS Energy	59,376	3,507,934
Eversource Energy	91,031	7,304,327
		<b>10,812,261</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (cost \$180,840,993)		<b>321,552,836</b>
	1-Day Yield (%)	
<b>Investment Companies - 1.8%</b>		
<b>Registered Investment Companies - 1.8%</b>		
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund, Institutional Shares (cost \$5,806,918)	0.05	5,806,918 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Total Investments</b> (cost \$186,647,911)	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>327,359,754</b>
<b>Liabilities, Less Cash and Receivables</b>	<b>(.0%)</b>	<b>(82,315)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>327,277,439</b>

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

<sup>b</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.

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

Portfolio Summary (Unaudited) †	Value (%)
Information Technology	37.9
Consumer Discretionary	17.1
Health Care	11.0
Financials	9.9
Communication Services	6.4
Consumer Staples	5.2
Materials	4.0
Industrials	3.4
Utilities	3.3
Investment Companies	1.8
	<b>100.0</b>

† Based on net assets.

See notes to financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS IN AFFILIATED ISSUERS**  
(Unaudited)

Investment Companies	Value 12/31/20(\$)	Purchases(\$) <sup>†</sup>	Sales(\$)	Value 6/30/21(\$)	Net Assets(%)	Dividends/ Distributions(\$)
<b>Registered Investment Companies;</b>						
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund, Institutional Shares	3,426,748	27,513,829	(25,133,659)	5,806,918	1.8	1,495

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

# STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Cost	Value
<b>Assets (\$):</b>		
Investments in securities—See Statement of Investments		
Unaffiliated issuers	180,840,993	321,552,836
Affiliated issuers	5,806,918	5,806,918
Dividends receivable		162,817
Receivable for shares of Common Stock subscribed		120,998
Prepaid expenses		4,970
		<b>327,648,539</b>
<b>Liabilities (\$):</b>		
Due to BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. and affiliates—Note 3(c)		173,236
Payable for shares of Common Stock redeemed		147,275
Directors' fees and expenses payable		3,314
Other accrued expenses		47,275
		<b>371,100</b>
<b>Net Assets (\$)</b>		<b>327,277,439</b>
<b>Composition of Net Assets (\$):</b>		
Paid-in capital		173,591,216
Total distributable earnings (loss)		153,686,223
<b>Net Assets (\$)</b>		<b>327,277,439</b>
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>		
	Initial Shares	Service Shares
Net Assets (\$)	303,575,738	23,701,701
Shares Outstanding	5,873,507	465,478
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share (\$)</b>	<b>51.69</b>	<b>50.92</b>

See notes to financial statements.



**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income (\$):</b>	
<b>Income:</b>	
Cash dividends:	
Unaffiliated issuers	1,919,769
Affiliated issuers	1,495
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,921,264</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Management fee—Note 3(a)	925,602
Professional fees	59,907
Distribution fees—Note 3(b)	25,483
Prospectus and shareholders' reports	25,401
Directors' fees and expenses—Note 3(d)	8,831
Chief Compliance Officer fees—Note 3(c)	7,862
Shareholder servicing costs—Note 3(c)	4,392
Loan commitment fees—Note 2	4,148
Custodian fees—Note 3(c)	3,522
Miscellaneous	12,316
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,077,464</b>
<b>Investment Income—Net</b>	<b>843,800</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments—Note 4 (\$):</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) on investments and foreign currency transactions	12,296,307
Net realized gain (loss) on forward foreign currency exchange contracts	15,664
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>12,311,971</b>
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments and foreign currency transactions	24,937,144
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on forward foreign currency exchange contracts	66
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>24,937,210</b>
<b>Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments</b>	<b>37,249,181</b>
<b>Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>38,092,981</b>

*See notes to financial statements.*

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Operations (\$):</b>		
Investment income—net	843,800	2,443,416
Net realized gain (loss) on investments	12,311,971	7,395,059
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	24,937,210	48,215,379
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>38,092,981</b>	<b>58,053,854</b>
<b>Distributions (\$):</b>		
Distributions to shareholders:		
Initial Shares	(9,105,383)	(5,450,358)
Service Shares	(620,217)	(278,338)
<b>Total Distributions</b>	<b>(9,725,600)</b>	<b>(5,728,696)</b>
<b>Capital Stock Transactions (\$):</b>		
Net proceeds from shares sold:		
Initial Shares	6,000,758	13,185,483
Service Shares	3,907,159	5,892,682
Distributions reinvested:		
Initial Shares	9,105,383	5,450,358
Service Shares	620,217	278,338
Cost of shares redeemed:		
Initial Shares	(15,555,566)	(27,686,362)
Service Shares	(862,379)	(4,001,592)
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets from Capital Stock Transactions</b>	<b>3,215,572</b>	<b>(6,881,093)</b>
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>31,582,953</b>	<b>45,444,065</b>
<b>Net Assets (\$):</b>		
Beginning of Period	295,694,486	250,250,421
<b>End of Period</b>	<b>327,277,439</b>	<b>295,694,486</b>
<b>Capital Share Transactions (Shares):</b>		
<b>Initial Shares</b>		
Shares sold	122,934	337,739
Shares issued for distributions reinvested	191,289	195,143
Shares redeemed	(316,036)	(695,969)
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Shares Outstanding</b>	<b>(1,813)</b>	<b>(163,087)</b>
<b>Service Shares</b>		
Shares sold	80,274	145,537
Shares issued for distributions reinvested	13,216	10,096
Shares redeemed	(17,784)	(100,741)
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Shares Outstanding</b>	<b>75,706</b>	<b>54,892</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. Net asset value total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at net asset value during the period, and redemption at net asset value on the last day of the period. Net asset value total return 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. 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.

Initial Shares	Six Months Ended	Year Ended December 31,				
	June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Per Share Data (\$):</b>						
Net asset value, beginning of period	47.24	39.30	30.73	40.27	37.86	38.56
Investment Operations:						
Investment income—net <sup>a</sup>	.14	.39	.40	.41	.38	.44
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	5.88	8.47	9.85	(1.69)	5.14	3.15
Total from Investment Operations	6.02	8.86	10.25	(1.28)	5.52	3.59
Distributions:						
Dividends from investment income—net	(.40)	(.44)	(.52)	(.71)	(.46)	(.50)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(1.17)	(.48)	(1.16)	(7.55)	(2.65)	(3.79)
Total Distributions	(1.57)	(.92)	(1.68)	(8.26)	(3.11)	(4.29)
Net asset value, end of period	51.69	47.24	39.30	30.73	40.27	37.86
<b>Total Return (%)</b>	13.03 <sup>b</sup>	24.14	34.36	(4.41)	15.33	10.38
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>						
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.68 <sup>c</sup>	.68	.68	.74	.80	.86
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	.68 <sup>c</sup>	.68	.68	.70	.77	.86
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	.56 <sup>c</sup>	.97	1.14	1.19	.99	1.21
Portfolio Turnover Rate	9.72 <sup>b</sup>	24.81	25.43	51.68	119.51	60.67
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	303,576	277,555	237,287	193,538	226,078	221,172

<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, 2021 (Unaudited)	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Per Share Data (\$):</b>						
Net asset value, beginning of period	46.54	38.71	30.30	39.80	37.46	38.19
Investment Operations:						
Investment income—net <sup>a</sup>	.07	.29	.31	.32	.28	.34
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	5.79	8.38	9.71	(1.66)	5.08	3.12
Total from Investment Operations	5.86	8.67	10.02	(1.34)	5.36	3.46
Distributions:						
Dividends from investment income—net	(.31)	(.36)	(.45)	(.61)	(.37)	(.40)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(1.17)	(.48)	(1.16)	(7.55)	(2.65)	(3.79)
Total Distributions	(1.48)	(.84)	(1.61)	(8.16)	(3.02)	(4.19)
Net asset value, end of period	50.92	46.54	38.71	30.30	39.80	37.46
<b>Total Return (%)</b>	12.87 <sup>b</sup>	23.86	34.01	(4.64)	15.04	10.08
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>						
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.93 <sup>c</sup>	.93	.93	.99	1.05	1.11
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	.93 <sup>c</sup>	.93	.93	.95	1.02	1.11
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	.31 <sup>c</sup>	.72	.88	.95	.74	.96
Portfolio Turnover Rate	9.72 <sup>b</sup>	24.81	25.43	51.68	119.51	60.67
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	23,702	18,139	12,964	9,410	10,274	10,884

<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 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

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.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2021 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:†				
Equity Securities -				
Common Stocks	321,552,836	-	-	<b>321,552,836</b>

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

	Level 1- Unadjusted Quoted Prices	Level 2- Other Significant Observable Inputs	Level 3- Significant Unobservable Inputs	<b>Total</b>
<b>Assets \$(continued)</b>				
Investments In Securities: <sup>†</sup> (continued)				
Investment Companies	5,806,918	-	-	<b>5,806,918</b>

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

**(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.

**(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.

**(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, 2021, 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, 2021, the fund did not incur any interest or penalties.

Each tax year in the three-year period ended December 31, 2020 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, 2020 was as follows: ordinary income \$3,974,173

and long-term capital gains \$1,754,523. 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 \$823.5 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 \$688.5 million and is available to all long-term open-ended funds, including the fund, and (ii) Tranche B is an amount equal to \$135 million and is available only to BNY Mellon Floating Rate Income Fund, a series of BNY Mellon Investment Funds IV, Inc. 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, 2021, 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, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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 April 30, 2022, the Adviser may terminate this expense limitation agreement at any time. During the period ended June 30, 2021, there was no expense reimbursement pursuant to the undertaking.

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 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, 2021, Service shares were charged \$25,483 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, 2021, Initial shares were charged \$3,397 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 shareholder servicing costs 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 Statement 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 inclusive of earnings credits, if any, 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, 2021, the fund was charged \$864 for transfer agency services, inclusive of earnings credit, if any. 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, 2021, the fund was charged \$3,522 pursuant to the custody agreement.

During the period ended June 30, 2021, the fund was charged \$7,862 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 \$158,039, Distribution Plan fees of \$4,623, Shareholder Service Plan fees of \$578, custodian fees of \$1,800, Chief Compliance Officer fees of \$7,862 and transfer agency fees of \$334.

(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 foreign currency exchange contracts (“forward contracts”), during the period ended June 30, 2021, amounted to \$29,608,065 and \$37,766,588, 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, 2021 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 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. At June 30, 2021, there were no outstanding forward contracts.

The following summarizes the average market value of derivatives outstanding during the period ended June 30, 2021:

	Average Market Value (\$)
Forward contracts	14,554

At June 30, 2021, accumulated net unrealized appreciation on investments was \$140,711,843, consisting of \$141,609,657 gross unrealized appreciation and \$897,814 gross unrealized depreciation.

At June 30, 2021, 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 MANAGEMENT AND SUB-INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENTS (Unaudited)

At a meeting of the fund's Board of Directors held on May 18, 2021, 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"), and the Sub-Investment Advisory Agreement (together, the "Agreements"), pursuant to which Newton Investment Management Limited (the "Subadviser") provides day-to-day management of the fund's investments. 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 and the Subadviser. In considering the renewal of the Agreements, 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, as well as the Adviser's supervisory activities over the Subadviser. 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 based on classifications provided by Thomson Reuters Lipper, which included information comparing (1) the performance of the fund's Initial shares with the performance of a group of large-cap core funds underlying variable insurance products ("VIPs") selected by Broadridge as comparable to the fund ("Performance Group 1") and with a broader

INFORMATION ABOUT THE RENEWAL OF THE FUND'S MANAGEMENT AND SUB-INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENTS (Unaudited) (*continued*)

group of funds consisting of all large-cap core funds underlying VIPs (the "Performance Universe"), all for various periods ended March 31, 2021; (2) at the request of the Adviser, the performance of the fund's Initial shares with the performance of a second group of large-cap core funds underlying VIPs with an above average Morningstar ESG (environmental, social and governance) Sustainable Ranking selected by Broadridge ("Performance Group 2"), all for various periods ended March 31, 2021; (3) the fund's actual and contractual management fees and total expenses of the fund's Initial shares with those of two groups of comparable funds, one identical to Performance Group 1 ("Expense Group 1") and the other identical to Performance Group 2 ("Expense Group 2"), and with a broader group of all large-cap core funds underlying VIPs with similar 12b-1/non-12b-1 structures, excluding outliers (the "Expense Universe"); and (4) at the request of the Adviser, the total expenses of the fund's Service shares with those of Expense Group 1, Expense Group 2 and 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 Groups and Performance Universe and the Expense Groups and Expense Universe.

*Performance Comparisons.* 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 and the end date selected. The Board discussed with representatives of the Adviser and the Subadviser the results of the comparisons and considered that the fund's total return performance was above the Performance Group 1, Performance Group 2 and Performance Universe medians for all periods, except the one-year period when the total return performance was below the Performance Group 1 median, ranking in the first quartile of Performance Group 1 and Performance Group 2 in most of the periods shown. The Adviser also provided a comparison of the fund's calendar year total returns to the returns of the fund's benchmark index.

*Management Fee and Expense Ratio Comparisons.* The Board reviewed and considered the contractual management fee rate payable by the fund to the Adviser in light of the nature, extent and quality of the management and sub-advisory services provided by the Adviser and the Subadviser, respectively. In addition, the Board reviewed and considered the actual management fee rate paid by the fund over the fund's last fiscal year. 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 below the Expense Groups 1 and 2 contractual management fee medians, the fund's actual management fee was above the Expense Group 1 median, below the Expense Group 2 median and slightly above the Expense Universe median actual management fee, the total expenses of the fund's Initial shares were below the Expense Groups 1 and 2 medians and the Expense Universe median total expenses, and the total expenses of the



fund's Service shares were above the Expense Group 1 median, approximately equal to the Expense Group 2 median and above the Expense Universe median total expenses.

Representatives of the Adviser stated that the Adviser has contractually agreed, until April 30, 2022, to waive receipt of its fees and/or assume the direct expenses of the fund so that the direct expenses of none of its classes (excluding Rule 12b-1 fees, shareholder services fees, taxes, interest, brokerage commissions, commitment fees on borrowings and extraordinary expenses) exceed 0.70% of the fund's average daily net assets.

Representatives of the Adviser reviewed with the Board the management or investment advisory fees paid by the one fund advised or administered by the Adviser that is in the same Lipper category as the fund (the "Similar Fund"), and explained the nature of the Similar Fund. 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 Board considered the relevance of the fee information provided for the Similar Fund to evaluate the appropriateness of the fund's management fee. Representatives of the Adviser noted that there were no separate accounts and/or other types of client portfolios advised by the Adviser or the Subadviser that are considered to have similar investment strategies and policies as the fund.

The Board considered the fee payable to the Subadviser in relation to the fee payable to the Adviser by the fund and the respective services provided by the Subadviser and the Adviser. The Board also took into consideration that the Subadviser's fee is paid by the Adviser, out of its fee from the fund, and not the fund.

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 Agreements, considered in relation to the mix of services provided by the Adviser and the Subadviser, including the nature, extent and quality of such services, supported the renewal of the Agreements 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. Since the Adviser, and not the fund, pays the Subadviser pursuant to the Sub-Investment Advisory Agreement, the Board did not

INFORMATION ABOUT THE RENEWAL OF THE FUND'S MANAGEMENT AND SUB-INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

consider the Subadviser's profitability to be relevant to its deliberations. 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 and the Subadviser from acting as investment adviser and sub-investment adviser, respectively, and took into consideration that there were no 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 Agreements. 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 and the Subadviser are adequate and appropriate.
- The Board was satisfied with the fund's performance and determined to approve renewal of the Agreement through August 31, 2021, not due to the fund's performance, but to align with the renewal of the advisory agreements of other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds with the same Board.
- The Board concluded that the fees paid to the Adviser and the Subadviser continued to be appropriate under the circumstances and in light of the factors and the totality of the services provided as discussed above, subject to review no later than the next renewal consideration.
- 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 Agreements, 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 and the Subadviser, of the Adviser and the Subadviser and the services provided to the fund by the Adviser and the Subadviser. 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 Agreements, 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

Agreements 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 Agreements through August 31, 2021.

## 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 fund 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 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 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 January 1, 2020 to December 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.

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# For More Information

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

240 Greenwich Street  
New York, NY 10286

### **Adviser**

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

### **Sub-Adviser**

Newton Investment Management Limited  
160 Queen Victoria Street  
London, EC4V, 4LA, UK

### **Custodian**

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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  
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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.im.bnymellon.com](http://www.im.bnymellon.com)

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.im.bnymellon.com](http://www.im.bnymellon.com) 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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**BNY MELLON**  
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT



June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I

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**DWS Capital Growth VIP**



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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 ongoing 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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# Performance Summary

June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

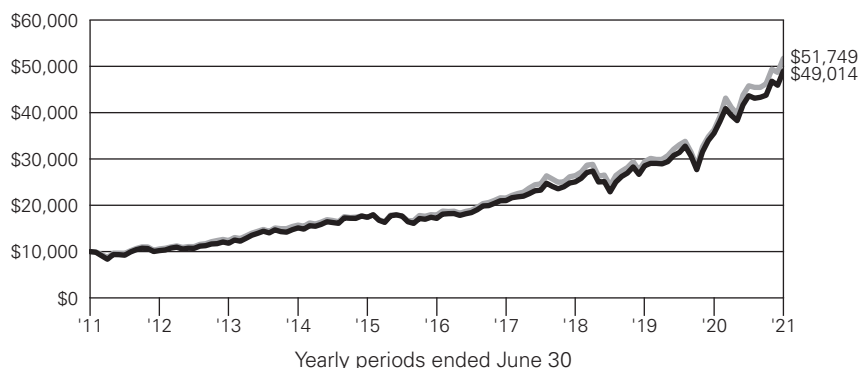
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original 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, 2021 are 0.49% and 0.75% 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*	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,228	\$13,782	\$19,558	\$28,554	\$49,014
	Average annual total return	12.28%	37.82%	25.06%	23.35%	17.23%
Russell 1000® Growth Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,299	\$14,250	\$19,598	\$28,913	\$51,749
	Average annual total return	12.99%	42.50%	25.14%	23.66%	17.87%

DWS Capital Growth VIP		6-Month*	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,213	\$13,745	\$19,409	\$28,194	\$47,666
	Average annual total return	12.13%	37.45%	24.74%	23.04%	16.90%
Russell 1000® Growth Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,299	\$14,250	\$19,598	\$28,913	\$51,749
	Average annual total return	12.99%	42.50%	25.14%	23.66%	17.87%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

\* 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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Common Stocks	100%	99%
Cash Equivalents	0%	1%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Information Technology	43%	43%
Consumer Discretionary	15%	14%
Communication Services	13%	13%
Health Care	10%	11%
Industrials	9%	8%
Financials	4%	5%
Consumer Staples	3%	3%
Real Estate	2%	2%
Materials	1%	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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Manager

Sebastian P. Werner, PhD, Head of Investment Strategy Equity

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 99.8%</b>					
<b>Communication Services 13.5%</b>					
<b>Entertainment 5.4%</b>					
Activision Blizzard, Inc.	131,708	12,570,212			
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc.*	86,952	7,616,126			
Netflix, Inc.*	26,036	13,752,476			
Roku, Inc.*	17,210	7,903,692			
Spotify Technology SA*	47,328	13,043,123			
Walt Disney Co.*	54,776	9,627,978			
		<b>64,513,607</b>			
<b>Interactive Media &amp; Services 7.0%</b>					
Alphabet, Inc. "A"*	11,079	27,052,591			
Alphabet, Inc. "C"*	11,875	29,762,550			
Facebook, Inc. "A"*	38,449	13,369,102			
Match Group, Inc.*	77,640	12,519,450			
		<b>82,703,693</b>			
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 1.1%</b>					
T-Mobile U.S., Inc.*	88,405	12,803,696			
<b>Consumer Discretionary 14.8%</b>					
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 1.4%</b>					
Chegg, Inc.*	79,407	6,599,516			
Terminix Global Holdings, Inc.*	216,248	10,317,192			
		<b>16,916,708</b>			
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 1.7%</b>					
Airbnb, Inc. "A"*	6,157	942,883			
DraftKings, Inc. "A"* (a)	62,229	3,246,487			
McDonald's Corp.	49,517	11,437,932			
Planet Fitness, Inc. "A"*	64,576	4,859,344			
		<b>20,486,646</b>			
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 5.2%</b>					
Amazon.com, Inc.*	18,016	61,977,922			
<b>Multiline Retail 0.5%</b>					
Dollar General Corp.	28,853	6,243,501			
<b>Specialty Retail 4.2%</b>					
Burlington Stores, Inc.*	36,662	11,804,797			
CarMax, Inc.*	91,344	11,797,078			
Home Depot, Inc.	80,879	25,791,504			
		<b>49,393,379</b>			
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 1.8%</b>					
Lululemon Athletica, Inc.*	34,163	12,468,470			
NIKE, Inc. "B"	54,278	8,385,408			
		<b>20,853,878</b>			
<b>Consumer Staples 2.7%</b>					
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 1.1%</b>					
Costco Wholesale Corp.	31,388	12,419,290			
<b>Food Products 0.9%</b>					
Mondelez International, Inc. "A"	176,219	11,003,114			
<b>Personal Products 0.7%</b>					
Estee Lauder Companies, Inc. "A"	25,273	8,038,836			
<b>Financials 4.2%</b>					
<b>Capital Markets 1.3%</b>					
Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	135,464	16,079,577			
<b>Consumer Finance 0.6%</b>					
American Express Co.	42,110	6,957,835			
<b>Insurance 2.3%</b>					
Progressive Corp.	276,143	27,120,004			
<b>Health Care 10.4%</b>					
<b>Biotechnology 0.5%</b>					
Exact Sciences Corp.*	50,494	6,276,909			
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 4.8%</b>					
Danaher Corp.	78,634	21,102,220			
DexCom, Inc.*	41,666	17,791,382			
Hologic, Inc.*	192,477	12,842,066			
The Cooper Companies, Inc.	11,844	4,693,422			
		<b>56,429,090</b>			
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services 3.9%</b>					
Charles River Laboratories International, Inc.*	30,549	11,300,686			
Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc.	69,436	35,028,379			
		<b>46,329,065</b>			
<b>Pharmaceuticals 1.2%</b>					
Zoetis, Inc.	76,887	14,328,661			
<b>Industrials 8.5%</b>					
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 0.3%</b>					
TransDigm Group, Inc.*	6,715	4,346,552			
<b>Building Products 0.6%</b>					
Trex Co., Inc.*	66,391	6,785,824			
<b>Electrical Equipment 2.6%</b>					
AMETEK, Inc.	125,978	16,818,063			
Generac Holdings, Inc.*	32,935	13,672,965			
		<b>30,491,028</b>			
<b>Industrial Conglomerates 1.2%</b>					
Roper Technologies, Inc.	29,918	14,067,444			
<b>Machinery 0.3%</b>					
Deere & Co.	9,101	3,210,014			
<b>Professional Services 2.4%</b>					
TransUnion	163,931	18,001,263			
Verisk Analytics, Inc.	60,772	10,618,084			
		<b>28,619,347</b>			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Road &amp; Rail 1.1%</b>		
Norfolk Southern Corp.	28,423	7,543,748
Uber Technologies, Inc.*	118,189	5,923,633
		<b>13,467,381</b>

### Information Technology 42.8%

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>IT Services 7.9%</b>		
Fiserv, Inc.*	136,677	14,609,405
Global Payments, Inc.	80,212	15,042,958
PayPal Holdings, Inc.*	30,734	8,958,346
Snowflake, Inc. "A"*	1,338	323,528
Twilio, Inc. "A"*	41,718	16,443,567
Visa, Inc. "A"	164,207	38,394,881
		<b>93,772,685</b>

### Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment 6.1%

	Shares	Value (\$)
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*	117,364	11,024,001
Analog Devices, Inc.	56,754	9,770,769
Applied Materials, Inc.	98,473	14,022,555
MKS Instruments, Inc.	32,828	5,841,743
NVIDIA Corp.	39,875	31,903,987
		<b>72,563,055</b>

### Software 20.4%

	Shares	Value (\$)
Adobe, Inc.*	44,635	26,140,041
Alteryx, Inc. "A"*	25,932	2,230,671
Avalara, Inc.*	42,966	6,951,899
Cloudflare, Inc. "A"*	75,956	8,039,183
DocuSign, Inc.*	42,766	11,956,091
Dynatrace, Inc.*	129,013	7,536,939
Intuit, Inc.	29,653	14,535,011
Microsoft Corp.	404,106	109,472,315
RingCentral, Inc. "A"*	17,411	5,059,288
salesforce.com, Inc.*	70,202	17,148,243
ServiceNow, Inc.*	32,403	17,807,069
Synopsys, Inc.*	53,595	14,780,965
		<b>241,657,715</b>

### Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals 8.4%

Apple, Inc.	731,776	<b>100,224,041</b>
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### Materials 1.2%

<b>Chemicals 0.7%</b>		
Ecolab, Inc.	39,416	<b>8,118,514</b>

### Construction Materials 0.5%

Vulcan Materials Co.	36,901	<b>6,423,357</b>
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### Real Estate 1.7%

#### Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

Equinix, Inc.	13,362	10,724,341
Prologis, Inc.	74,220	8,871,517
		<b>19,595,858</b>

**Total Common Stocks** (Cost \$395,084,320) **1,184,218,226**

### Securities Lending Collateral 0.3%

DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (b) (c)	3,312,896	<b>3,312,896</b>
--	-----------	------------------

### Cash Equivalents 0.2%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (b) (Cost \$2,719,474)	2,719,474	<b>2,719,474</b>
---	-----------	------------------

	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$401,116,690)	100.3	<b>1,190,250,596</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(0.3)	<b>(4,147,560)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>1,186,103,036</b>

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/(Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 0.3%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (b) (c)								
60,706,321	—	57,393,425 (d)	—	—	10,119	—	3,312,896	3,312,896
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.2%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (b)								
5,792,769	77,470,939	80,544,234	—	—	675	—	2,719,474	2,719,474
<b>66,499,090</b>	<b>77,470,939</b>	<b>137,937,659</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>10,794</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>6,032,370</b>	<b>6,032,370</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

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

- (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, 2021 amounted to \$3,245,704, which is 0.3% 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, 2021.

## 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, 2021 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 (a)	\$ 1,184,218,226	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,184,218,226
Short-Term Investments (a)	6,032,370	—	—	6,032,370
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,190,250,596</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 1,190,250,596</b>

- (a) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$395,084,320) — including \$3,245,704 of securities loaned	\$ 1,184,218,226
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$3,312,896)*	3,312,896
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$2,719,474)	2,719,474
Receivable for Fund shares sold	9,507
Dividends receivable	124,723
Interest receivable	1,802
Other assets	11,864
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>1,190,398,492</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	3,312,896
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	460,884
Accrued management fee	345,353
Accrued Trustees' fees	3,439
Other accrued expenses and payables	172,884
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>4,295,456</b>

**Net assets, at value** **\$ 1,186,103,036**

## Net Assets Consist of

Distributable earnings (loss)	858,066,236
Paid-in capital	328,036,800

**Net assets, at value** **\$ 1,186,103,036**

## Net Asset Value

### Class A

**Net Asset Value**, offering and redemption price per share (\$1,179,596,144 ÷ 26,265,643 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized) **\$ 44.91**

### Class B

**Net Asset Value**, offering and redemption price per share (\$6,506,892 ÷ 145,407 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized) **\$ 44.75**

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends	\$ 3,354,362
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	675
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	10,119
<b>Total income</b>	<b>3,365,156</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	2,052,178
Administration fee	541,264
Services to shareholders	972
Record keeping fee (Class B)	195
Distribution service fee (Class B)	7,532
Custodian fee	5,274
Professional fees	42,262
Reports to shareholders	24,768
Trustees' fees and expenses	17,253
Other	26,755
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>2,718,453</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>646,703</b>

## Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)

Net realized gain (loss) from investments	68,700,598
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	62,400,901

**Net gain (loss)** **131,101,499**

**Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations** **\$131,748,202**

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



# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 646,703	\$ 2,413,174
Net realized gain (loss)	68,700,598	62,781,949
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	62,400,901	260,409,153
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	131,748,202	325,604,276
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(65,033,932)	(67,556,274)
Class B	(342,026)	(308,190)
Total distributions	(65,375,958)	(67,864,464)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	13,950,252	70,444,423
Reinvestment of distributions	65,033,932	67,556,274
Payments for shares redeemed	(92,177,788)	(129,614,047)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(13,193,604)	8,386,650
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	499,592	1,384,411
Reinvestment of distributions	342,026	308,190
Payments for shares redeemed	(686,360)	(1,250,517)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	155,258	442,084
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	53,333,898	266,568,546
Net assets at beginning of period	1,132,769,138	866,200,592
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$1,186,103,036</b>	<b>\$1,132,769,138</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	26,599,512	25,934,145
Shares sold	324,763	2,030,040
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	1,495,721	2,306,462
Shares redeemed	(2,154,353)	(3,671,135)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(333,869)	665,367
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>26,265,643</b>	<b>26,599,512</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	141,745	127,162
Shares sold	11,792	39,019
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	7,890	10,547
Shares redeemed	(16,020)	(34,983)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	3,662	14,583
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>145,407</b>	<b>141,745</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS Capital Growth VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$42.36</b>	<b>\$33.24</b>	<b>\$27.27</b>	<b>\$30.86</b>	<b>\$26.70</b>	<b>\$28.22</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.02	.09	.17	.14	.20	.21
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	5.10	11.69	9.53	(.53)	6.47	.83
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>5.12</b>	<b>11.78</b>	<b>9.70</b>	<b>(.39)</b>	<b>6.67</b>	<b>1.04</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.10)	(.18)	(.14)	(.23)	(.22)	(.22)
Net realized gains	(2.47)	(2.48)	(3.59)	(2.97)	(2.29)	(2.34)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(2.57)</b>	<b>(2.66)</b>	<b>(3.73)</b>	<b>(3.20)</b>	<b>(2.51)</b>	<b>(2.56)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$44.91</b>	<b>\$42.36</b>	<b>\$33.24</b>	<b>\$27.27</b>	<b>\$30.86</b>	<b>\$26.70</b>
Total Return (%)	12.28*	39.04	37.14	(1.60)	26.30	4.25
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	1,180	1,127	862	725	776	745
Ratio of expenses (%) <sup>b</sup>	.49**	.49	.50	.50	.50	.50
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.12**	.25	.55	.46	.70	.82
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	6*	13	11	26	15	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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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

## DWS Capital Growth VIP — Class B

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$42.18</b>	<b>\$33.10</b>	<b>\$27.16</b>	<b>\$30.75</b>	<b>\$26.61</b>	<b>\$28.12</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	(.03)	(.00)*	.09	.07	.13	.15
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	5.07	11.66	9.49	(.54)	6.44	.83
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>5.04</b>	<b>11.66</b>	<b>9.58</b>	<b>(.47)</b>	<b>6.57</b>	<b>.98</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	—	(.10)	(.05)	(.15)	(.14)	(.15)
Net realized gains	(2.47)	(2.48)	(3.59)	(2.97)	(2.29)	(2.34)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(2.47)</b>	<b>(2.58)</b>	<b>(3.64)</b>	<b>(3.12)</b>	<b>(2.43)</b>	<b>(2.49)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$44.75</b>	<b>\$42.18</b>	<b>\$33.10</b>	<b>\$27.16</b>	<b>\$30.75</b>	<b>\$26.61</b>
Total Return (%)	12.13**	38.70	36.79	(1.87)	25.96	4.00
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	7	6	4	3	6	5
Ratio of expenses (%) <sup>b</sup>	.75***	.75	.76	.76	.75	.76
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	(.15)***	(.01)	.29	.21	.45	.58
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	6**	13	11	26	15	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.

\* Amount is less than \$.005.

\*\* Not annualized

\*\*\* 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 of 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 efforts 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, 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, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$401,360,829. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$788,889,767. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$790,959,318 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$2,069,551.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$71,170,193 and \$145,262,054, 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 average daily net assets of the Fund, 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, 2021, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.368% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, 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 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. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee (“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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$541,264, of which \$91,200 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, 2021, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2021
Class A	\$ 499	\$ 148
Class B	131	43
	<b>\$ 630</b>	<b>\$ 191</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, 2021, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$7,532, of which \$1,289 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$633, of which \$274 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, 2021, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$762.

#### D. Ownership of the Fund

At June 30, 2021, 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 20%, respectively. Three participating insurance companies were the owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, each owning 41%, 28% and 12%, 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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

## **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.



## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,122.80	\$ 1,121.30
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 2.58	\$ 3.94

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,022.36	\$ 1,021.08
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 2.46	\$ 3.76

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series I — DWS Capital Growth VIP	.49%	.75%

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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, the Fund’s performance (Class A shares) was in the 1st 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

outperformed its benchmark in the one-year period and has underperformed its benchmark in the three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2019.

**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, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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



VS1capgro-3 (R-028374-10 8/21)



June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I

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**DWS Core Equity VIP**



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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 ongoing 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

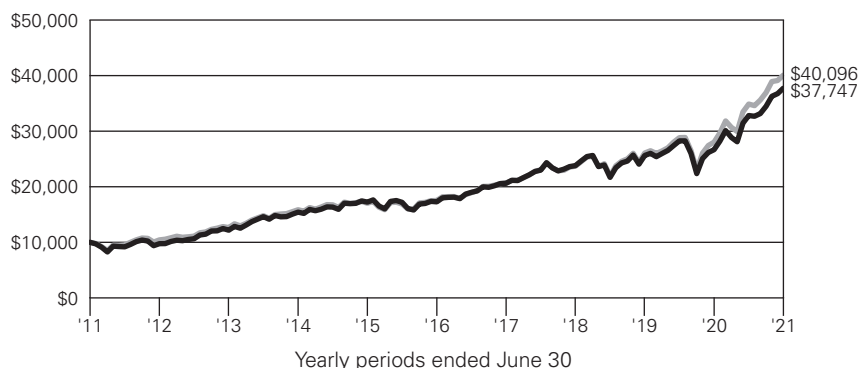
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original 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, 2021 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	\$11,503	\$14,153	\$15,858	\$21,843	\$37,747
	Average annual total return	15.03%	41.53%	16.61%	16.91%	14.21%
Russell 1000® Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,495	\$14,307	\$16,918	\$22,871	\$40,096
	Average annual total return	14.95%	43.07%	19.16%	17.99%	14.90%

DWS Core Equity VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,494	\$14,121	\$15,704	\$21,504	\$36,680
	Average annual total return	14.94%	41.21%	16.23%	16.55%	13.88%
Russell 1000® Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,495	\$14,307	\$16,918	\$22,871	\$40,096
	Average annual total return	14.95%	43.07%	19.16%	17.99%	14.90%

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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Common Stocks	100%	99%
Cash Equivalents	0%	1%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Information Technology	29%	27%
Health Care	14%	14%
Consumer Discretionary	12%	13%
Financials	11%	10%
Communication Services	10%	11%
Industrials	8%	9%
Consumer Staples	5%	6%
Real Estate	3%	3%
Materials	3%	2%
Energy	3%	2%
Utilities	2%	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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Pankaj Bhatnagar, PhD, Head of Investment Strategy Equity

Di Kumble, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager Equity

Arno V. Puskar, Senior Portfolio Manager Equity

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 99.6%</b>					
<b>Communication Services 10.2%</b>					
<b>Entertainment 4.6%</b>					
Activision Blizzard, Inc.	12,591	1,201,685			
Electronic Arts, Inc.	3,296	474,064			
Netflix, Inc.*	1,240	654,981			
Roku, Inc.*	5,077	2,331,612			
Spotify Technology SA*	3,036	836,691			
		<b>5,499,033</b>			
<b>Interactive Media &amp; Services 4.4%</b>					
Alphabet, Inc. "A"*	768	1,875,295			
Alphabet, Inc. "C"*	1,327	3,325,886			
		<b>5,201,181</b>			
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 1.2%</b>					
T-Mobile U.S., Inc.*	10,008	1,449,459			
<b>Consumer Discretionary 12.2%</b>					
<b>Auto Components 0.6%</b>					
BorgWarner, Inc.	9,211	447,102			
Gentex Corp.	8,058	266,639			
		<b>713,741</b>			
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 0.5%</b>					
Terminix Global Holdings, Inc.*	11,717	559,018			
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 2.9%</b>					
Choice Hotels International, Inc.	6,173	733,723			
Darden Restaurants, Inc.	3,292	480,599			
Vail Resorts, Inc.*	1,352	427,935			
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, Inc.	16,224	1,172,833			
Yum China Holdings, Inc.	9,093	602,411			
		<b>3,417,501</b>			
<b>Household Durables 2.0%</b>					
D.R. Horton, Inc.	21,234	1,918,917			
Newell Brands, Inc.	17,190	472,209			
		<b>2,391,126</b>			
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 4.8%</b>					
Amazon.com, Inc.*	1,649	5,672,824			
<b>Leisure Products 0.5%</b>					
Peloton Interactive, Inc. "A"*	4,641	575,577			
<b>Specialty Retail 0.5%</b>					
Carvana Co.*	2,032	613,298			
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 0.4%</b>					
NIKE, Inc. "B"	3,082	476,138			
<b>Consumer Staples 5.1%</b>					
<b>Beverages 2.7%</b>					
Coca-Cola Co.	25,140	1,360,325			
			PepsiCo, Inc.	12,509	1,853,459
					<b>3,213,784</b>
			<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 1.4%</b>		
			Beyond Meat, Inc.* (a)	3,004	473,100
			Costco Wholesale Corp.	1,778	703,501
			Kroger Co.	13,579	520,212
					<b>1,696,813</b>
			<b>Personal Products 0.3%</b>		
			Estee Lauder Companies, Inc. "A"	1,115	354,659
			<b>Tobacco 0.7%</b>		
			Altria Group, Inc.	15,845	755,490
			<b>Energy 2.8%</b>		
			<b>Energy Equipment &amp; Services 0.3%</b>		
			Baker Hughes Co.	16,238	371,363
			<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 2.5%</b>		
			Devon Energy Corp.	24,482	714,630
			Hess Corp.	9,344	815,918
			Marathon Petroleum Corp.	23,148	1,398,602
					<b>2,929,150</b>
			<b>Financials 10.8%</b>		
			<b>Banks 4.1%</b>		
			Bank of America Corp.	21,642	892,300
			JPMorgan Chase & Co.	18,958	2,948,727
			Wells Fargo & Co.	21,232	961,597
					<b>4,802,624</b>
			<b>Capital Markets 3.9%</b>		
			Ameriprise Financial, Inc.	3,716	924,838
			Carlyle Group, Inc.	18,404	855,418
			Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	4,002	475,037
			MSCI, Inc.	2,867	1,528,340
			T. Rowe Price Group, Inc.	2,438	482,651
			Tradeweb Markets, Inc. "A"	4,278	361,748
					<b>4,628,032</b>
			<b>Insurance 2.8%</b>		
			Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.	6,200	868,496
			Everest Re Group Ltd.	1,728	435,474
			Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.	6,825	422,945
			MetLife, Inc.	20,505	1,227,224
			Progressive Corp.	4,275	419,848
					<b>3,373,987</b>
			<b>Health Care 14.0%</b>		
			<b>Biotechnology 4.8%</b>		
			AbbVie, Inc.	8,782	989,204
			Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	3,410	626,451
			Amgen, Inc.	9,957	2,427,019

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Biogen, Inc.*	3,433	1,188,745	DXC Technology Co.*	15,915	619,730
BioMarin Pharmaceutical, Inc.*	5,673	473,355	Visa, Inc. "A"	13,525	3,162,416
		<b>5,704,774</b>			<b>4,282,994</b>
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 6.4%</b>			<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 5.2%</b>		
Anthem, Inc.	6,281	2,398,086	Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*	9,190	863,217
Centene Corp.*	19,598	1,429,282	Intel Corp.	28,473	1,598,474
DaVita, Inc.*	6,716	808,808	NVIDIA Corp.	1,145	916,114
Guardant Health, Inc.*	3,596	446,587	QUALCOMM, Inc.	12,606	1,801,776
HCA Healthcare, Inc.	2,235	462,064	Teradyne, Inc.	7,133	955,537
McKesson Corp.	2,575	492,443			<b>6,135,118</b>
Molina Healthcare, Inc.*	4,177	1,057,032	<b>Software 11.6%</b>		
Premier, Inc. "A"	12,908	449,069	ANSYS, Inc.*	853	296,042
		<b>7,543,371</b>	Cadence Design Systems, Inc.*	2,307	315,644
<b>Pharmaceuticals 2.8%</b>			Citrix Systems, Inc.	3,136	367,759
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	14,697	982,054	Dynatrace, Inc.*	9,141	534,017
Johnson & Johnson	8,689	1,431,426	Intuit, Inc.	742	363,706
Viatrix, Inc.	32,032	457,737	Microsoft Corp.	28,928	7,836,595
Zoetis, Inc.	2,325	433,287	Oracle Corp.	30,486	2,373,030
		<b>3,304,504</b>	salesforce.com, Inc.*	2,844	694,704
<b>Industrials 8.0%</b>			Splunk, Inc.*	3,310	478,560
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 0.9%</b>			Synopsys, Inc.*	1,850	510,211
Howmet Aerospace, Inc.*	7,460	257,146			<b>13,770,268</b>
Textron, Inc.	12,673	871,522	<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals 7.3%</b>		
		<b>1,128,668</b>	Apple, Inc.	63,226	<b>8,659,433</b>
<b>Building Products 1.0%</b>			<b>Materials 2.8%</b>		
Owens Corning	11,575	<b>1,133,192</b>	<b>Chemicals 1.4%</b>		
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 2.1%</b>			Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.	1,648	474,097
Cintas Corp.	974	372,068	DuPont de Nemours, Inc.	5,945	460,202
Republic Services, Inc.	2,761	303,738	Linde PLC *	1,668	482,219
Waste Management, Inc.	12,937	1,812,603	The Mosaic Co.	8,512	271,618
		<b>2,488,409</b>			<b>1,688,136</b>
<b>Electrical Equipment 0.4%</b>			<b>Containers &amp; Packaging 0.3%</b>		
Emerson Electric Co.	5,019	<b>483,029</b>	International Paper Co.	5,570	<b>341,496</b>
<b>Machinery 2.4%</b>			<b>Metals &amp; Mining 1.1%</b>		
AGCO Corp.	5,479	714,351	Arconic Corp.*	24,583	875,647
Caterpillar, Inc.	2,214	481,833	Newmont Corp.	6,885	436,371
Cummins, Inc.	1,253	305,494			<b>1,312,018</b>
Ingersoll Rand, Inc.*	8,419	410,931	<b>Real Estate 3.0%</b>		
Parker-Hannifin Corp.	3,135	962,790	<b>Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)</b>		
		<b>2,875,399</b>	AvalonBay Communities, Inc.	5,324	1,111,066
<b>Road &amp; Rail 1.2%</b>			Iron Mountain, Inc. (a)	30,489	1,290,295
Norfolk Southern Corp.	2,396	635,922	Prologis, Inc.	9,910	1,184,542
Union Pacific Corp.	3,617	795,487			<b>3,585,903</b>
		<b>1,431,409</b>	<b>Utilities 2.1%</b>		
<b>Information Technology 28.6%</b>			<b>Electric Utilities 0.4%</b>		
<b>Communications Equipment 0.9%</b>			NextEra Energy, Inc.	6,941	<b>508,637</b>
Cisco Systems, Inc.	19,889	<b>1,054,117</b>			
<b>IT Services 3.6%</b>					
Accenture PLC "A"	1,699	500,848			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Multi-Utilities 0.9%</b>		
Dominion Energy, Inc.	6,265	460,916
Public Service Enterprise Group, Inc.	10,734	641,249
		<b>1,102,165</b>
<b>Water Utilities 0.8%</b>		
American Water Works Co., Inc.	5,976	921,081
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$65,486,128)		<b>118,148,919</b>

### Securities Lending Collateral 1.3%

DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (b) (c) (Cost \$1,590,558)	1,590,558	<b>1,590,558</b>
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### Cash Equivalents 0.5%

	Shares	Value (\$)
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (b) (Cost \$561,005)	561,005	<b>561,005</b>
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$67,637,691)	101.4	<b>120,300,482</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(1.4)	<b>(1,659,412)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>118,641,070</b>

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 1.3%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (b) (c)								
3,846,941	—	2,256,383 (d)	—	—	2,739	—	1,590,558	1,590,558
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.5%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (b)								
740,536	5,641,383	5,820,914	—	—	82	—	561,005	561,005
<b>4,587,477</b>	<b>5,641,383</b>	<b>8,077,297</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,821</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,151,563</b>	<b>2,151,563</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, 2021 amounted to \$1,562,083, which is 1.3% 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, 2021.

### 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, 2021 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 (a)	\$ 118,148,919	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 118,148,919
Short-Term Investments (a)	2,151,563	—	—	2,151,563
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 120,300,482</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 120,300,482</b>

(a) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$65,486,128) — including \$1,562,083 of securities loaned	\$ 118,148,919
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$1,590,558)*	1,590,558
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$561,005)	561,005
Cash	10,000
Receivable for Fund shares sold	8,205
Dividends receivable	69,934
Interest receivable	313
Other assets	709
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>120,389,643</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	1,590,558
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	59,967
Accrued management fee	37,862
Accrued Trustees' fees	309
Other accrued expenses and payables	59,877
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>1,748,573</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 118,641,070</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	61,075,628
Paid-in capital	57,565,442
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 118,641,070</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$115,234,673 ÷ 8,647,190 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 13.33</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$3,406,397 ÷ 255,622 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 13.33</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends	\$ 911,177
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	82
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	2,739
<b>Total income</b>	<b>913,998</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	221,348
Administration fee	55,053
Services to shareholders	757
Record keeping fee (Class B)	1,108
Distribution service fee (Class B)	4,241
Custodian fee	2,745
Professional fees	37,017
Reports to shareholders	15,961
Trustees' fees and expenses	3,015
Other	3,289
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>344,534</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>569,464</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	8,211,873
Payments by affiliates (see Note F)	2,512
	8,214,385
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	7,319,896
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>15,534,281</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$16,103,745</b>

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



# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 569,464	\$ 997,393
Net realized gain (loss)	8,214,385	5,117,424
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	7,319,896	8,536,882
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	16,103,745	14,651,699
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(6,046,519)	(5,813,005)
Class B	(170,977)	(175,513)
Total distributions	(6,217,496)	(5,988,518)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,349,763	2,502,706
Reinvestment of distributions	6,046,519	5,813,005
Payments for shares redeemed	(8,840,644)	(16,323,485)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(1,444,362)	(8,007,774)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	61,964	141,998
Reinvestment of distributions	170,977	175,513
Payments for shares redeemed	(650,425)	(428,535)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	(417,484)	(111,024)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>8,024,403</b>	<b>544,383</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	110,616,667	110,072,284
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$118,641,070</b>	<b>\$110,616,667</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	8,760,193	9,438,162
Shares sold	103,758	240,122
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	469,450	652,414
Shares redeemed	(686,211)	(1,570,505)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(113,003)	(677,969)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>8,647,190</b>	<b>8,760,193</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	288,118	295,485
Shares sold	4,773	12,670
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	13,265	19,676
Shares redeemed	(50,534)	(39,713)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	(32,496)	(7,367)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>255,622</b>	<b>288,118</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS Core Equity VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$12.23</b>	<b>\$11.31</b>	<b>\$9.83</b>	<b>\$14.64</b>	<b>\$13.16</b>	<b>\$13.29</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.06	.11	.14	.14	.17	.17
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.75	1.47	2.70	(.71)	2.44	1.09
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>1.81</b>	<b>1.58</b>	<b>2.84</b>	<b>(.57)</b>	<b>2.61</b>	<b>1.26</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.10)	(.15)	(.12)	(.27)	(.17)	(.19)
Net realized gains	(.61)	(.51)	(1.24)	(3.97)	(.96)	(1.20)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.71)</b>	<b>(.66)</b>	<b>(1.36)</b>	<b>(4.24)</b>	<b>(1.13)</b>	<b>(1.39)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$13.33</b>	<b>\$12.23</b>	<b>\$11.31</b>	<b>\$9.83</b>	<b>\$14.64</b>	<b>\$13.16</b>
Total Return (%)	15.03*	16.13	30.30	(5.69)	21.02	10.48
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	115	107	107	92	105	163
Ratio of expenses (%) <sup>b</sup>	.60**	.62	.62	.61	.57	.57
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.01**	1.01	1.32	1.14	1.22	1.34
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	16*	45	40	43	39	43

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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

## DWS Core Equity VIP — Class B

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$12.21</b>	<b>\$11.29</b>	<b>\$9.81</b>	<b>\$14.62</b>	<b>\$13.14</b>	<b>\$13.26</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.04	.07	.11	.10	.13	.13
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.75	1.48	2.70	(.72)	2.44	1.10
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>1.79</b>	<b>1.55</b>	<b>2.81</b>	<b>(.62)</b>	<b>2.57</b>	<b>1.23</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.06)	(.12)	(.09)	(.22)	(.13)	(.15)
Net realized gains	(.61)	(.51)	(1.24)	(3.97)	(.96)	(1.20)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.67)</b>	<b>(.63)</b>	<b>(1.33)</b>	<b>(4.19)</b>	<b>(1.09)</b>	<b>(1.35)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$13.33</b>	<b>\$12.21</b>	<b>\$11.29</b>	<b>\$9.81</b>	<b>\$14.62</b>	<b>\$13.14</b>
Total Return (%)	14.94*	15.67	29.92	(6.02)	20.68	10.25
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	3	4	3	3	3	2
Ratio of expenses (%) <sup>b</sup>	.92**	.94	.94	.93	.86	.86
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.68**	.69	1.00	.82	.94	1.06
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	16*	45	40	43	39	43

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* 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 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 up to 0.25% and of 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 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 efforts 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, 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, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$67,945,455. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$52,355,027. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$53,054,868 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$699,841.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term instruments) aggregated \$18,395,916 and \$25,826,879, 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 average daily net assets of the Fund, 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, 2021, 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, 2021 through September 30, 2021, 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.72%
Class B	1.04%

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee (“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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$55,053, of which \$9,417 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, 2021, amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2021
Class A	\$ 379	\$ 123
Class B	76	24
	<b>\$ 455</b>	<b>\$ 147</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, 2021, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$4,241, of which \$716 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$656, of which \$300 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, 2021, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$206.

## D. Ownership of the Fund

At June 30, 2021, two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 58% and 16%, 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 49% and 36%, 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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

#### **F. Payments by Affiliates**

During the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Advisor agreed to reimburse the Fund \$2,512 for commission costs incurred in connection with purchases and sales of portfolio assets. The amount reimbursed was less than 0.01% of the Fund's average net assets, thus having no impact on the Fund's total return.

#### **G. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.



## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,150.30	\$ 1,149.40
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.20	\$ 4.90

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,021.82	\$ 1,020.23
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.01	\$ 4.61

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series I — DWS Core Equity VIP	.60%	.92%

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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, 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, 2019.

**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, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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



VS1coreq-3 (R-028376-10 8/21)



June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I

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**DWS CROCI® International VIP**



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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<sup>®</sup> Economic P/E Ratios may outperform stocks with higher CROCI<sup>®</sup> 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 ongoing 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.

On January 31, 2020, the United Kingdom officially withdrew from the European Union (EU) pursuant to a withdrawal agreement, providing for a transition period in which the United Kingdom negotiated and finalized a trade deal with the EU, the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement, provisionally applied effective January 1, 2021. As a result, as of January 1, 2021 the United Kingdom is no longer part of the EU customs union and single market, nor is it subject to EU policies and international agreements. The long-term impact of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU is still unknown and could have adverse economic and political effects on the United Kingdom, the EU and its member countries, and the global economy, including financial markets and asset valuations.

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

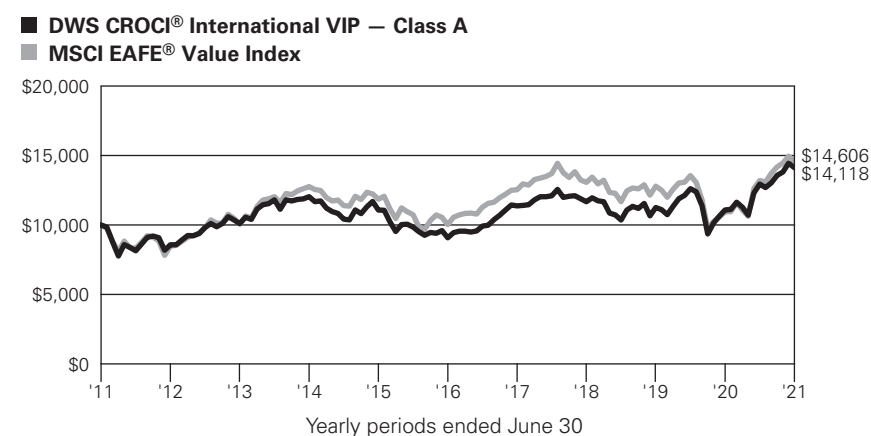
June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

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, 2021 are 0.99% and 1.27% 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



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
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,910	\$12,740	\$12,096	\$15,555	\$14,118
	Average annual total return	9.10%	27.40%	6.55%	9.24%	3.51%
MSCI EAFE Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,068	\$13,350	\$11,178	\$14,567	\$14,606
	Average annual total return	10.68%	33.50%	3.78%	7.81%	3.86%
DWS CROCI® International VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,880	\$12,699	\$12,000	\$15,368	\$13,766
	Average annual total return	8.80%	26.99%	6.27%	8.97%	3.25%
MSCI EAFE Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,068	\$13,350	\$11,178	\$14,567	\$14,606
	Average annual total return	10.68%	33.50%	3.78%	7.81%	3.86%

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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Common Stocks	97%	97%
Preferred Stocks	3%	3%
Cash Equivalents	0%	0%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Financials	18%	15%
Health Care	17%	20%
Materials	13%	12%
Industrials	13%	8%
Consumer Discretionary	13%	16%
Consumer Staples	11%	11%
Communication Services	7%	5%
Information Technology	6%	10%
Utilities	2%	3%
	100%	100%

<b>Geographical Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Japan	28%	27%
United Kingdom	14%	14%
Germany	10%	10%
France	10%	13%
Australia	9%	8%
Denmark	6%	3%
Netherlands	5%	3%
Switzerland	5%	10%
Belgium	3%	2%
Sweden	3%	2%
Singapore	2%	3%
Spain	2%	—
Italy	1%	3%
Other	2%	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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Di Kumble, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager Equity

John Moody, Portfolio Manager Equity

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 96.5%</b>					
<b>Australia 9.1%</b>					
Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd.	83,768	1,768,434	Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc.	104,700	565,556
BHP Group Ltd.	110,019	4,007,451	Nintendo Co., Ltd.	3,800	2,210,325
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	4,381	328,126	Nitto Denko Corp.	4,300	320,870
National Australia Bank Ltd.	62,080	1,220,722	Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	73,000	1,628,939
Sonic Healthcare, Ltd.	11,598	334,000	Otsuka Holdings Co., Ltd.	29,200	1,210,895
(Cost \$5,524,442)		<b>7,658,733</b>	Sekisui House Ltd.	70,600	1,447,969
<b>Belgium 3.4%</b>			Seven & i Holdings Co., Ltd.	9,100	433,887
Solvay SA	3,819	485,442	Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd.	6,309	1,055,144
UCB SA	22,716	2,374,634	Shionogi & Co., Ltd.	20,100	1,047,744
(Cost \$2,427,846)		<b>2,860,076</b>	Sony Group Corp.	6,800	661,974
<b>Denmark 5.8%</b>			Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.	113,656	3,918,290
AP Moller - Maersk AS "B"	857	2,463,213	Takeda Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	29,100	974,147
Novo Nordisk AS "B"	29,383	2,461,683	Toyota Industries Corp.	42,832	3,705,077
(Cost \$3,573,500)		<b>4,924,896</b>	Toyota Motor Corp.	14,446	1,262,619
<b>Finland 1.4%</b>			(Cost \$20,835,521)		<b>23,291,030</b>
Nokia Oyj* (Cost \$826,724)	215,567	<b>1,154,200</b>	<b>Netherlands 4.9%</b>		
<b>France 9.9%</b>			Koninklijke Ahold Delhaize NV	72,010	2,140,624
BNP Paribas SA	53,810	3,373,382	Koninklijke KPN NV	360,808	1,126,899
Credit Agricole SA	119,692	1,676,700	PostNL NV	72,911	395,269
Danone SA	8,204	577,545	QIAGEN NV*	9,400	454,313
Engie SA	79,374	1,087,436	(Cost \$3,480,761)		<b>4,117,105</b>
Kering SA	334	291,882	<b>Singapore 2.5%</b>		
Television Francaise 1	133,714	1,351,650	Venture Corp., Ltd.	144,983	<b>2,071,186</b>
(Cost \$6,844,262)		<b>8,358,595</b>	(Cost \$1,748,671)		
<b>Germany 7.3%</b>			<b>Spain 2.1%</b>		
Brenntag SE	14,069	1,308,227	Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria SA	77,370	479,624
Deutsche Boerse AG	4,265	744,423	Banco Santander SA	339,249	1,295,091
Deutsche Post AG (Registered)	24,107	1,639,629	(Cost \$1,443,588)		<b>1,774,715</b>
Fresenius SE & Co. KGaA	13,056	681,093	<b>Sweden 2.5%</b>		
HeidelbergCement AG	5,136	440,552	Alfa Laval AB	15,607	551,290
Merck KGaA	7,038	1,349,437	Swedish Match AB	36,910	314,754
(Cost \$4,670,758)		<b>6,163,361</b>	Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson "B"	101,679	1,277,923
<b>Ireland 0.7%</b>			(Cost \$1,505,091)		<b>2,143,967</b>
CRH PLC (Cost \$378,084)	11,547	<b>581,904</b>	<b>Switzerland 4.5%</b>		
<b>Israel 0.4%</b>			Adecco Group AG (Registered)	26,688	1,813,140
Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. ADR* (a) (Cost \$367,101)	34,983	<b>346,332</b>	Holcim Ltd.	33,241	1,993,921
<b>Italy 0.6%</b>			(Cost \$3,460,358)		<b>3,807,061</b>
Snam SpA (Cost \$472,596)	91,199	<b>527,179</b>	<b>United Kingdom 13.8%</b>		
<b>Japan 27.6%</b>			BAE Systems PLC	86,776	626,594
Astellas Pharma, Inc.	52,100	907,219	Barratt Developments PLC	58,350	561,134
Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	8,000	316,990	British American Tobacco PLC	43,714	1,693,148
Dentsu Group, Inc.	12,500	447,252	Bunzl PLC	22,337	738,172
ITOCHU Corp.	20,800	599,127	Ferguson PLC	3,271	454,740
KDDI Corp.	18,500	577,006	Imperial Brands PLC	56,922	1,225,985
			ITV PLC*	217,636	377,976
			Johnson Matthey PLC	9,771	415,354
			Kingfisher PLC	145,915	735,722

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

	Shares	Value (\$)
Persimmon PLC	53,693	2,197,011
Reckitt Benckiser Group PLC	7,414	656,063
Rio Tinto PLC	20,151	1,658,276
Smiths Group PLC	14,029	308,560
(Cost \$9,078,988)		<b>11,648,735</b>

**Total Common Stocks**  
(Cost \$66,638,291) **81,429,075**

### Preferred Stocks 2.7%

#### Germany

Henkel AG & Co. KGaA (Cost \$2,396,807)	21,128	<b>2,230,677</b>
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### Securities Lending Collateral 0.4%

DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (b) (c) (Cost \$354,650)	354,650	<b>354,650</b>
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### Cash Equivalents 0.4%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (b) (Cost \$345,791)	345,791	<b>345,791</b>
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	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
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<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$69,735,539)	100.0	<b>84,360,193</b>
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<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(0.0)	<b>(12,990)</b>
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<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>84,347,203</b>
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A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 0.4%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (b) (c)								
—	354,650 (d)	—	—	—	9,781	—	354,650	354,650
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.4%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (b)								
249,295	3,011,609	2,915,113	—	—	66	—	345,791	345,791
<b>249,295</b>	<b>3,366,259</b>	<b>2,915,113</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>9,847</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>700,441</b>	<b>700,441</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

- 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, 2021 amounted to \$342,540, which is 0.4% of net assets.
- Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2021.

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, 2021 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				
Australia	\$ 7,658,733	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 7,658,733
Belgium	2,860,076	—	—	2,860,076
Denmark	4,924,896	—	—	4,924,896
Finland	1,154,200	—	—	1,154,200
France	8,358,595	—	—	8,358,595
Germany	6,163,361	—	—	6,163,361
Ireland	581,904	—	—	581,904
Israel	346,332	—	—	346,332
Italy	527,179	—	—	527,179
Japan	23,291,030	—	—	23,291,030
Netherlands	4,117,105	—	—	4,117,105
Singapore	2,071,186	—	—	2,071,186
Spain	1,774,715	—	—	1,774,715
Sweden	2,143,967	—	—	2,143,967
Switzerland	3,807,061	—	—	3,807,061
United Kingdom	11,648,735	—	—	11,648,735
Preferred Stocks	2,230,677	—	—	2,230,677
Short-Term Investments (a)	700,441	—	—	700,441
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$84,360,193</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$84,360,193</b>

(a) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$69,035,098) — including \$342,540 of securities loaned	\$ 83,659,752
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$354,650)*	354,650
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$345,791)	345,791
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$5,338)	7,062
Receivable for Fund shares sold	7,550
Dividends receivable	215,651
Interest receivable	1,428
Foreign taxes recoverable	261,469
Other assets	846
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>84,854,199</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	354,650
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	37,866
Accrued management fee	42,408
Accrued Trustees' fees	789
Other accrued expenses and payables	71,283
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>506,996</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 84,347,203</b>

## Net Assets Consist of

Distributable earnings (loss)	(17,406,906)
Paid-in capital	101,754,109
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 84,347,203</b>

## Net Asset Value

### Class A

<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$83,962,119 ÷ 10,892,829 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 7.71</b>
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### Class B

<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$385,084 ÷ 49,795 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 7.73</b>
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\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$156,029)	\$ 1,771,576
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	66
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	9,781
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,781,423</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	268,108
Administration fee	40,010
Services to shareholders	1,918
Distribution service fee (Class B)	466
Custodian fee	7,812
Professional fees	39,489
Reports to shareholders	22,652
Trustees' fees and expenses	2,263
Other	5,503
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>388,221</b>
Expense reductions	(27,467)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>360,754</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>1,420,669</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	3,880,157
Foreign currency	(3,374)
	3,876,783
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	1,822,870
Foreign currency	(21,435)
	1,801,435
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>5,678,218</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ 7,098,887</b>

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



# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 1,420,669	\$ 1,344,811
Net realized gain (loss)	3,876,783	(5,460,872)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	1,801,435	5,820,367
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	7,098,887	1,704,306
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(2,001,186)	(2,471,928)
Class B	(8,123)	(9,620)
Total distributions	(2,009,309)	(2,481,548)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	2,233,529	3,807,686
Reinvestment of distributions	2,001,186	2,471,928
Payments for shares redeemed	(4,368,158)	(7,817,535)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(133,443)	(1,537,921)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	12,346	32,846
Reinvestment of distributions	8,123	9,620
Payments for shares redeemed	(16,800)	(17,279)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	3,669	25,187
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	4,959,804	(2,289,976)
Net assets at beginning of period	79,387,399	81,677,375
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$84,347,203</b>	<b>\$79,387,399</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	10,909,190	11,073,845
Shares sold	293,334	608,760
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	263,661	453,565
Shares redeemed	(573,356)	(1,226,980)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(16,361)	(164,655)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>10,892,829</b>	<b>10,909,190</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	49,324	45,067
Shares sold	1,638	5,148
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	1,066	1,759
Shares redeemed	(2,233)	(2,650)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	471	4,257
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>49,795</b>	<b>49,324</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS CROCI® International VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
		2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$7.24</b>	<b>\$7.35</b>	<b>\$6.22</b>	<b>\$7.34</b>	<b>\$6.47</b>	<b>\$7.15</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.13	.12	.22	.20	.16	.16
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	.53	.00*	1.11	(1.25)	1.21	(.13)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>.66</b>	<b>.12</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>(1.05)</b>	<b>1.37</b>	<b>.03</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.19)	(.23)	(.20)	(.07)	(.50)	(.71)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$7.71</b>	<b>\$7.24</b>	<b>\$7.35</b>	<b>\$6.22</b>	<b>\$7.34</b>	<b>\$6.47</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	9.10**	2.61	21.77	(14.39)	21.96	.74
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	84	79	81	72	92	94
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.94***	.99	1.11	1.13	1.10	1.12
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.87***	.87	.87	.87	.84	.84
Ratio of net investment income (%)	3.45***	1.88	3.22	2.78	2.24	2.46
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	32**	67	101	59	73	67

<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.

\* Amount is less than \$.005.

\*\* Not annualized

\*\*\* Annualized

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

## DWS CROCI® International VIP — Class B

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$7.26</b>	<b>\$7.36</b>	<b>\$6.24</b>	<b>\$7.36</b>	<b>\$6.48</b>	<b>\$7.16</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.12	.10	.20	.18	.13	.14
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	.52	.01	1.11	(1.24)	1.23	(.13)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>.64</b>	<b>.11</b>	<b>1.31</b>	<b>(1.06)</b>	<b>1.36</b>	<b>.01</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.17)	(.21)	(.19)	(.06)	(.48)	(.69)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$7.73</b>	<b>\$7.26</b>	<b>\$7.36</b>	<b>\$6.24</b>	<b>\$7.36</b>	<b>\$6.48</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	8.80*	2.49	21.24	(14.57)	21.76	.48
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	.39	.36	.33	.28	.33	.27
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.22**	1.27	1.39	1.41	1.38	1.40
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.12**	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.09	1.10
Ratio of net investment income (%)	3.20**	1.62	2.96	2.54	1.86	2.18
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	32*	67	101	59	73	67

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* 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 up to 0.25% and of 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, 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, 2020, the Fund had net tax basis capital loss carryforwards of approximately \$36,273,000, including short-term losses (\$11,494,000) and long-term losses (\$24,779,000), which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely.

At June 30, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$70,747,231. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$13,612,962. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$15,783,182 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$2,170,220.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$25,748,722 and \$26,695,750, 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 average daily net assets of the Fund, 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, 2021, 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, 2021 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor had 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.87%
Class B	1.12%

Effective May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.88%
Class B	1.13%

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$ 27,296
Class B	171
	<b>\$ 27,467</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee ("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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$40,010, of which \$6,881 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, 2021, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2021
Class A	\$ 388	\$ 127
Class B	49	15
	<b>\$ 437</b>	<b>\$ 142</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, 2021, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$466, of which \$81 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$693, of which \$274 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, 2021, four participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 27%, 17%, 12% and 12%, 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 87% 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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.



## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,091.00	\$ 1,088.00
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.51	\$ 5.80

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,020.48	\$ 1,019.24
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.36	\$ 5.61

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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® International VIP’s (the “Fund”) investment management agreement (the “Agreement”) with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DIMA”) in September 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, 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 outperformed its benchmark in the one-, three-, and five-year periods ended December 31, 2019.

**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, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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 DIMAs 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 that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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



VS1cint-3 (R-028378-10 8/21)



June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I

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**DWS Bond VIP**



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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 ongoing 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

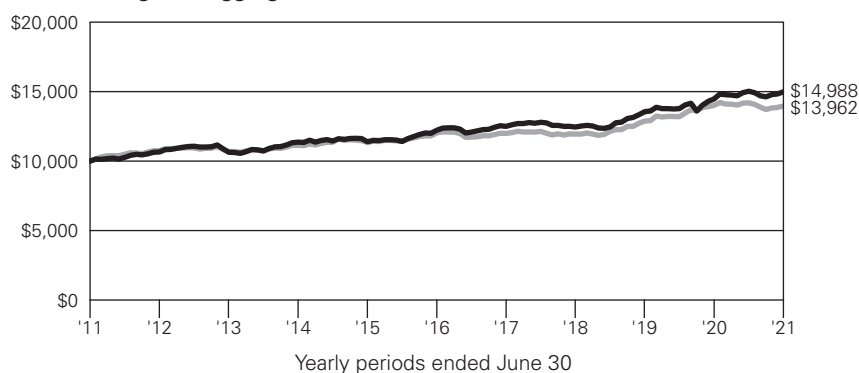
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original 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, 2021 is 0.74% 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 U.S. Aggregate Bond Index



The Bloomberg 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	\$9,976	\$10,354	\$12,037	\$12,267	\$14,988
	Average annual total return	-0.24%	3.54%	6.37%	4.17%	4.13%
Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,840	\$9,967	\$11,691	\$11,608	\$13,962
	Average annual total return	-1.60%	-0.33%	5.34%	3.03%	3.39%

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 Net Assets)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Corporate Bonds	66%	61%
Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	15%	9%
Government & Agency Obligations	12%	6%
Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs	4%	12%
Asset-Backed	4%	6%
Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities	2%	5%
Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations	2%	2%
Cash Equivalents, Securities Lending Collateral and other Assets and Liabilities, net	-5%	-1%
	100%	100%

<b>Quality</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
AAA	18%	21%
AA	7%	9%
A	14%	17%
BBB	41%	37%
BB	18%	14%
B	2%	2%
Not Rated	0%	—
	100%	100%

<b>Interest Rate Sensitivity</b>	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Effective Maturity	8.2 years	8.1 years
Effective Duration	6.2 years	6.2 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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Thomas M. Farina, CFA, Head of Investment Strategy Fixed Income

Gregory M. Staples, CFA, Regional Head of Fixed Income

Kelly L. Beam, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager Fixed Income

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
<b>Corporate Bonds 65.8%</b>		
<b>Communication Services 7.6%</b>		
Amazon.com, Inc.:		
2.5%, 6/3/2050	20,000	18,898
4.25%, 8/22/2057	45,000	57,644
AT&T, Inc.:		
1.65%, 2/1/2028	50,000	49,628
1.7%, 3/25/2026	70,000	70,740
2.25%, 2/1/2032	85,000	83,424
2.75%, 6/1/2031	50,000	51,974
3.65%, 6/1/2051	100,000	103,815
CCO Holdings LLC, 144A, 4.75%, 3/1/2030	100,000	105,750
Charter Communications Operating LLC:		
3.5%, 6/1/2041	100,000	100,677
3.7%, 4/1/2051	140,000	138,469
4.4%, 12/1/2061	100,000	107,449
5.05%, 3/30/2029	60,000	70,871
Cox Communications, Inc., 144A, 2.95%, 10/1/2050	40,000	37,891
CSC Holdings LLC:		
144A, 3.375%, 2/15/2031	200,000	188,982
144A, 4.125%, 12/1/2030	200,000	198,750
144A, 4.5%, 11/15/2031	200,000	201,228
Discovery Communications LLC, 4.0%, 9/15/2055	35,000	37,044
Empresa Nacional de Telecomunicaciones SA, REG S, 4.75%, 8/1/2026	250,000	276,272
Match Group Holdings II LLC, 144A, 4.125%, 8/1/2030	135,000	137,363
Netflix, Inc.:		
144A, 3.625%, 6/15/2025	45,000	48,323
5.875%, 11/15/2028	125,000	153,429
NortonLifeLock, Inc., 3.95%, 6/15/2022	225,000	228,667
Tencent Music Entertainment Group, 2.0%, 9/3/2030	211,000	203,172
T-Mobile U.S.A., Inc.:		
2.05%, 2/15/2028	30,000	30,455
2.25%, 11/15/2031	110,000	108,512
2.625%, 4/15/2026	135,000	138,037
3.3%, 2/15/2051	70,000	69,885
3.375%, 4/15/2029	125,000	128,999
3.6%, 11/15/2060	30,000	30,543
4.375%, 4/15/2040	50,000	58,615
Verizon Communications, Inc.:		
2.1%, 3/22/2028	55,000	56,150
2.55%, 3/21/2031	70,000	71,549
2.65%, 11/20/2040	55,000	52,927
3.0%, 11/20/2060	50,000	46,669
3.7%, 3/22/2061	100,000	107,106

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
ViacomCBS, Inc., 4.2%, 5/19/2032 (b)	50,000	57,706
Vodafone Group PLC:		
4.25%, 9/17/2050	55,000	64,240
5.125%, 6/4/2081	80,000	80,800
Walt Disney Co., 2.65%, 1/13/2031	45,000	47,232
		<b>3,819,885</b>
<b>Consumer Discretionary 6.6%</b>		
1011778 BC Unlimited Liability Co., 144A, 4.375%, 1/15/2028	210,000	212,887
7-Eleven, Inc.:		
144A, 0.95%, 2/10/2026	26,000	25,532
144A, 1.3%, 2/10/2028	34,000	32,843
144A, 1.8%, 2/10/2031	137,000	130,962
Carnival Corp.:		
144A, 5.75%, 3/1/2027	95,000	99,513
144A, 7.625%, 3/1/2026	97,000	105,366
Dollar General Corp., 4.125%, 4/3/2050	20,000	23,429
Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC:		
2.9%, 2/16/2028	204,000	203,033
3.37%, 11/17/2023	350,000	362,839
3.625%, 6/17/2031	260,000	265,039
General Motors Co., 5.4%, 4/1/2048	70,000	89,161
General Motors Financial Co., Inc.:		
2.35%, 1/8/2031	90,000	88,803
2.7%, 6/10/2031	90,000	90,324
3.95%, 4/13/2024	120,000	129,097
4.35%, 4/9/2025	84,000	92,819
Hilton Domestic Operating Co., Inc.:		
144A, 3.625%, 2/15/2032	250,000	246,875
144A, 4.0%, 5/1/2031	125,000	126,109
Hilton Grand Vacations Borrower Escrow LLC, 144A, 4.875%, 7/1/2031	40,000	39,895
Home Depot, Inc., 3.35%, 4/15/2050	50,000	55,277
Lowe's Companies, Inc.:		
3.0%, 10/15/2050	45,000	44,367
4.05%, 5/3/2047	40,000	46,057
McDonald's Corp.:		
2.125%, 3/1/2030	35,000	35,383
4.2%, 4/1/2050	50,000	60,247
QVC, Inc., 4.75%, 2/15/2027	172,000	182,384
Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.:		
144A, 4.25%, 7/1/2026	40,000	39,950
144A, 5.5%, 4/1/2028	60,000	62,838
Sands China Ltd., 4.6%, 8/8/2023	200,000	212,420

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

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
Walmart, Inc., 3.4%, 6/26/2023	175,000	185,395	4.65%, Perpetual (c)	250,000	259,063
		<b>3,288,844</b>	Aircastle Ltd.:		
<b>Consumer Staples 1.3%</b>			4.4%, 9/25/2023	109,000	116,683
Albertsons Companies, Inc.:			144A, 5.25%, Perpetual (c)	130,000	131,300
144A, 3.25%, 3/15/2026	90,000	91,282	Ally Financial, Inc., 4.7%, Perpetual (c)	500,000	517,849
144A, 3.5%, 3/15/2029	50,000	49,437	Avolon Holdings Funding Ltd.:		
Altria Group, Inc.:			144A, 2.75%, 2/21/2028	120,000	118,734
2.45%, 2/4/2032	42,000	40,617	144A, 4.25%, 4/15/2026	40,000	43,347
3.7%, 2/4/2051	50,000	47,432	144A, 5.125%, 10/1/2023	167,000	180,545
3.875%, 9/16/2046	20,000	19,861	Banco del Estado de Chile, 144A, 2.704%, 1/9/2025	200,000	208,002
4.8%, 2/14/2029	5,000	5,797	Bank of America Corp.:		
Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide, Inc.:			1.922%, 10/24/2031	260,000	253,384
4.35%, 6/1/2040	50,000	59,512	2.676%, 6/19/2041	60,000	58,230
4.439%, 10/6/2048	50,000	59,845	4.3%, Perpetual (c)	204,000	210,936
5.55%, 1/23/2049	55,000	75,616	Barclays PLC, 2.852%, 5/7/2026	200,000	211,295
BAT Capital Corp., 2.726%, 3/25/2031	60,000	59,237	BBVA Bancomer SA, 144A, 1.875%, 9/18/2025	201,000	203,281
Keurig Dr Pepper, Inc., 3.8%, 5/1/2050	30,000	33,808	Blackstone Secured Lending Fund, 144A, 3.625%, 1/15/2026	155,000	164,358
PepsiCo, Inc., 3.5%, 3/19/2040	25,000	28,550	BNP Paribas SA, 144A, 4.625%, Perpetual (c)	200,000	208,204
Philip Morris International, Inc., 2.1%, 5/1/2030	60,000	59,704	Capital One Financial Corp., 3.95%, Perpetual (c)	400,000	408,500
Smithfield Foods, Inc., 144A, 3.0%, 10/15/2030	40,000	40,329	Charles Schwab Corp.:		
		<b>671,027</b>	Series H, 4.0%, Perpetual (c)	125,000	127,875
<b>Energy 2.0%</b>			Series I, 4.0%, Perpetual (c)	250,000	260,625
BP Capital Markets America, Inc.:			Citigroup, Inc.:		
2.939%, 6/4/2051	100,000	95,738	2.561%, 5/1/2032	40,000	40,718
3.06%, 6/17/2041	100,000	100,756	3.2%, 10/21/2026	170,000	184,154
Cheniere Energy Partners LP, 4.5%, 10/1/2029	225,000	241,875	4.0%, Perpetual (c)	650,000	671,937
Energy Transfer LP, 5.0%, 5/15/2050	20,000	23,116	Commonwealth Bank of Australia, 144A, 2.688%, 3/11/2031	200,000	199,950
Exxon Mobil Corp.:			Global Payments, Inc.:		
2.44%, 8/16/2029	87,000	91,069	1.2%, 3/1/2026	120,000	118,854
3.482%, 3/19/2030	100,000	112,289	3.2%, 8/15/2029	120,000	128,443
Hess Corp., 5.8%, 4/1/2047	100,000	130,303	HSBC Holdings PLC:		
MPLX LP, 2.65%, 8/15/2030	35,000	35,325	2.804%, 5/24/2032	200,000	205,250
Plains All American Pipeline LP, 3.8%, 9/15/2030	50,000	53,503	4.0%, Perpetual (c)	200,000	203,250
Suncor Energy, Inc., 3.75%, 3/4/2051	60,000	64,903	4.6%, Perpetual (c)	250,000	259,375
TotalEnergies Capital International SA, 3.127%, 5/29/2050	60,000	60,821	Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.:		
		<b>1,009,698</b>	2.1%, 6/15/2030	52,000	51,532
<b>Financials 23.7%</b>			3.0%, 6/15/2050	33,000	32,429
AerCap Ireland Capital DAC:			Intesa Sanpaolo SpA:		
3.15%, 2/15/2024	150,000	157,445	144A, 4.198%, 6/1/2032	350,000	358,666
4.625%, 10/15/2027	150,000	167,990	144A, 4.95%, 6/1/2042	275,000	284,769
Air Lease Corp.:			JPMorgan Chase & Co.:		
3.0%, 2/1/2030	125,000	126,791	1.953%, 2/4/2032	138,000	134,025
			2.522%, 4/22/2031	150,000	154,349
			2.739%, 10/15/2030	100,000	104,661
			2.956%, 5/13/2031	50,000	52,525
			3.65%, Perpetual (c)	200,000	200,280

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	<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>		<b>Principal Amount (\$)(a)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Kookmin Bank, 144A, 1.75%, 5/4/2025	200,000	203,398	2.25%, 5/28/2031	10,000	10,143
LSEGA Financing PLC, 144A, 2.5%, 4/6/2031	200,000	204,940	Bausch Health Companies, Inc., 144A, 4.875%, 6/1/2028	100,000	102,350
Mizuho Financial Group, Inc., 1.234%, 5/22/2027	215,000	211,844	Biogen, Inc., 3.15%, 5/1/2050	50,000	49,105
Morgan Stanley:			Boston Scientific Corp., 4.0%, 3/1/2029	75,000	85,300
1.794%, 2/13/2032	45,000	43,237	Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., 4.25%, 10/26/2049	85,000	107,255
1.928%, 4/28/2032	70,000	68,042	Charles River Laboratories International, Inc., 144A, 3.75%, 3/15/2029	145,000	146,994
2.188%, 4/28/2026	105,000	109,022	Cigna Corp.:		
3.217%, 4/22/2042	30,000	31,801	2.375%, 3/15/2031	50,000	50,701
Natwest Group PLC, 4.6%, Perpetual (c)	240,000	241,128	2.4%, 3/15/2030	30,000	30,605
Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp., Ltd., 144A, 1.832%, 9/10/2030	395,000	394,964	3.2%, 3/15/2040	15,000	15,569
PayPal Holdings, Inc., 2.85%, 10/1/2029	25,000	26,962	3.4%, 3/15/2051	100,000	104,405
REC Ltd., 144A, 4.75%, 5/19/2023	200,000	210,721	CVS Health Corp.:		
Santander Holdings U.S.A., Inc., 3.244%, 10/5/2026	270,000	288,393	1.75%, 8/21/2030	130,000	125,302
Societe Generale SA, 144A, 5.375%, Perpetual (c)	250,000	264,687	2.7%, 8/21/2040	30,000	29,079
Swiss Re Treasury U.S. Corp., 144A, 4.25%, 12/6/2042	70,000	85,746	4.25%, 4/1/2050	20,000	23,707
Synchrony Financial, 4.375%, 3/19/2024	40,000	43,536	5.05%, 3/25/2048	45,000	58,449
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.:			DaVita, Inc., 144A, 4.625%, 6/1/2030	150,000	154,233
1.431%, 3/9/2027	95,000	94,732	DH Europe Finance II Sarl, 0.75%, 9/18/2031	EUR 200,000	237,210
1.992%, 1/27/2032	135,000	131,111	Fresenius Medical Care U.S. Finance III, Inc., 144A, 2.375%, 2/16/2031	150,000	146,342
3.5%, 4/1/2025	31,000	33,632	Gilead Sciences, Inc.:		
3.8%, Perpetual (c)	390,000	396,942	1.65%, 10/1/2030	40,000	38,665
UBS Group AG:			2.8%, 10/1/2050	50,000	48,160
144A, 2.095%, 2/11/2032	200,000	195,926	HCA, Inc., 5.25%, 6/15/2026	130,000	150,483
144A, 4.375%, Perpetual (c)	200,000	204,340	Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc., 2.6%, 10/1/2029	110,000	115,471
Wells Fargo & Co.:			UnitedHealth Group, Inc.:		
2.188%, 4/30/2026	295,000	306,267	2.9%, 5/15/2050	50,000	50,504
2.393%, 6/2/2028	168,000	174,232	3.25%, 5/15/2051	100,000	106,677
2.572%, 2/11/2031	125,000	129,358			<b>2,414,394</b>
3.9%, Perpetual (c)	245,000	253,649	<b>Industrials 5.6%</b>		
		<b>11,868,214</b>	Aadvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.5%, 4/20/2026	125,000	132,344
<b>Health Care 4.8%</b>			Adani Ports & Special Economic Zone Ltd., 144A, 4.2%, 8/4/2027	200,000	208,356
AbbVie, Inc.:			Agilent Technologies, Inc., 2.1%, 6/4/2030	45,000	44,522
3.2%, 11/21/2029	50,000	54,302	Boeing Co.:		
4.25%, 11/21/2049	30,000	35,955	1.95%, 2/1/2024	265,000	271,350
4.75%, 3/15/2045	25,000	31,344	2.196%, 2/4/2026	237,000	239,265
Amgen, Inc.:			2.75%, 2/1/2026	375,000	391,708
3.375%, 2/21/2050	50,000	52,790	4.875%, 5/1/2025	93,000	104,204
4.563%, 6/15/2048	40,000	50,280	5.04%, 5/1/2027	60,000	69,230
Anthem, Inc.:			Delta Air Lines, Inc.:		
2.25%, 5/15/2030	80,000	80,688	4.375%, 4/19/2028	94,000	98,464
2.875%, 9/15/2029	40,000	42,403	144A, 4.5%, 10/20/2025	30,000	32,239
Astrazeneca Finance LLC:					
1.75%, 5/28/2028	80,000	79,923			

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	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
FedEx Corp.:			Square, Inc.:		
2.4%, 5/15/2031	60,000	61,063	144A, 2.75%, 6/1/2026	40,000	40,700
4.05%, 2/15/2048	114,000	130,850	144A, 3.5%, 6/1/2031	70,000	70,613
Gartner, Inc., 144A, 3.75%, 10/1/2030	60,000	61,387	Twilio, Inc., 3.625%, 3/15/2029	170,000	173,400
General Electric Co.:					<b>2,230,782</b>
3.45%, 5/1/2027	50,000	54,963	<b>Materials 2.5%</b>		
3.625%, 5/1/2030	35,000	39,028	AngloGold Ashanti Holdings PLC, 5.125%, 8/1/2022	110,000	114,675
GFL Environmental, Inc.:			Berry Global, Inc., 144A, 1.65%, 1/15/2027	270,000	267,662
144A, 3.75%, 8/1/2025	100,000	102,750	Glencore Funding LLC:		
144A, 4.0%, 8/1/2028	150,000	148,177	144A, 1.625%, 9/1/2025	275,000	278,126
Nielsen Finance LLC, 144A, 4.5%, 7/15/2029	70,000	70,196	144A, 3.875%, 4/27/2051	90,000	94,248
Otis Worldwide Corp., 2.565%, 2/15/2030	60,000	62,139	LYB International Finance III LLC, 3.625%, 4/1/2051	30,000	31,670
Penske Truck Leasing Co. LP, 144A, 1.2%, 11/15/2025	80,000	79,237	MEGlobal Canada ULC, 144A, 5.0%, 5/18/2025	237,000	265,701
Prime Security Services Borrower LLC:			Tronox, Inc., 144A, 4.625%, 3/15/2029	185,000	186,846
144A, 5.25%, 4/15/2024	195,000	208,948			<b>1,238,928</b>
144A, 6.25%, 1/15/2028	70,000	74,463	<b>Real Estate 2.4%</b>		
Salesforce.Com, 2.9%, 7/15/2051 (d)	100,000	100,975	American Tower Corp.:		
		<b>2,785,858</b>	(REIT), 2.1%, 6/15/2030	55,000	54,087
<b>Information Technology 4.5%</b>			(REIT), 2.95%, 1/15/2051	35,000	33,416
Apple, Inc., 2.375%, 2/8/2041	75,000	72,716	Boston Properties LP, (REIT), 2.55%, 4/1/2032	75,000	75,465
Broadcom, Inc.:			Crown Castle International Corp.:		
144A, 2.6%, 2/15/2033	150,000	146,680	(REIT), 2.9%, 4/1/2041	110,000	107,000
4.11%, 9/15/2028	212,000	238,487	(REIT), 3.8%, 2/15/2028	50,000	55,554
5.0%, 4/15/2030	70,000	82,584	Equinix, Inc.:		
Dell International LLC:			(REIT), 2.15%, 7/15/2030	34,000	33,783
4.9%, 10/1/2026	198,000	228,509	(REIT), 3.2%, 11/18/2029	81,000	86,881
8.35%, 7/15/2046	60,000	98,136	MPT Operating Partnership LP, (REIT), 3.5%, 3/15/2031	195,000	196,948
Fidelity National Information Services, Inc., 2.25%, 3/1/2031	125,000	124,776	SBA Communications Corp., 144A, (REIT), 3.125%, 2/1/2029	350,000	337,423
KLA Corp., 3.3%, 3/1/2050	31,000	32,802	Welltower, Inc.:		
Microsoft Corp., 2.921%, 3/17/2052	86,000	91,276	(REIT), 2.75%, 1/15/2031	40,000	41,219
MSCI, Inc., 144A, 3.625%, 9/1/2030	125,000	127,833	(REIT), 2.8%, 6/1/2031	90,000	92,996
NVIDIA Corp.:			(REIT), 3.1%, 1/15/2030	80,000	85,197
3.5%, 4/1/2040	14,000	15,880			<b>1,199,969</b>
3.5%, 4/1/2050	22,000	24,836	<b>Utilities 4.8%</b>		
NXP B.V., 144A, 2.5%, 5/11/2031	100,000	100,989	Abu Dhabi National Energy Co. PJSC, 144A, 4.375%, 4/23/2025	210,000	235,481
Open Text Corp., 144A, 3.875%, 2/15/2028	175,000	177,415	Ameren Corp., 1.75%, 3/15/2028	60,000	59,373
Oracle Corp.:			American Electric Power Co., Inc., 3.2%, 11/13/2027	50,000	53,976
2.875%, 3/25/2031	45,000	46,804	CenterPoint Energy Inc, 2.65%, 6/1/2031	30,000	30,560
3.6%, 4/1/2050	25,000	25,671	Consolidated Edison Co. of New York, 2.4%, 6/15/2031	60,000	61,059
3.65%, 3/25/2041	70,000	74,225			
4.0%, 11/15/2047	35,000	38,180			
SK Hynix, Inc., 144A, 1.5%, 1/19/2026	201,000	198,270			

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	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
Dominion Energy, Inc., 3.375%, 4/1/2030	110,000	119,780
Duke Energy Corp., 4.2%, 6/15/2049	30,000	33,872
Duke Energy Indiana LLC, 2.75%, 4/1/2050	50,000	48,390
EDP Finance BV, 144A, 3.625%, 7/15/2024	200,000	215,013
ENN Energy Holdings, Ltd., 144A, 2.625%, 9/17/2030	200,000	199,522
NextEra Energy Capital Holdings, Inc.:		
3.25%, 4/1/2026	36,000	39,070
3.5%, 4/1/2029	58,000	64,056
NextEra Energy Operating Partners LP:		
144A, 3.875%, 10/15/2026	175,000	184,844
144A, 4.25%, 7/15/2024	250,000	263,750
Pacific Gas and Electric Co.:		
2.5%, 2/1/2031	20,000	18,751
3.3%, 8/1/2040	60,000	54,184
3.5%, 8/1/2050	25,000	22,281
Perusahaan Listrik Negara PT, 144A, 2.875%, 10/25/2025	EUR 222,000	281,334
Sempra Energy, 4.0%, 2/1/2048	55,000	61,693
Southern California Edison Co., 2.95%, 2/1/2051	60,000	54,331
Southern Co, 3.75%, 9/15/2051	125,000	125,800
Southern Power Co., 4.95%, 12/15/2046	87,000	104,448
Vistra Operations Co. LLC, 144A, 4.375%, 5/1/2029	70,000	70,350
		<b>2,401,918</b>
<b>Total Corporate Bonds</b> (Cost \$31,755,600)		<b>32,929,517</b>

### Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs 3.8%

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.:		
4.0%, 8/1/2039	163,191	178,752
5.5%, 10/1/2023	3,483	3,612
Federal National Mortgage Association:		
12-month USD-LIBOR + 1.75%, 2.5% (e), 9/1/2038	24,563	25,239
3.5%, with various maturities from 12/1/2046 until 10/1/2048	499,490	537,012
4.0%, 4/1/2047	1,067,698	1,166,706
<b>Total Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs</b> (Cost \$1,812,279)		<b>1,911,321</b>

### Asset-Backed 4.2%

#### Credit Card Receivables 0.6%

Fair Square Issuance Trust, "A", Series 2020-AA, 144A, 2.9%, 9/20/2024	300,000	<b>303,270</b>
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#### Miscellaneous 3.6%

AMSR Trust:		
"B," Series 2021-SFR2, 144A, 1.777%, 8/17/2026 (d)	693,333	693,264
"C," Series 2021-SFR2, 144A, 1.877%, 8/17/2026 (d)	400,000	399,956
CF Hippolyta LLC, "B1", Series 2020-1, 144A, 2.28%, 7/15/2060	185,573	188,629
MVW Owner Trust, "A", Series 2019-1A, 144A, 2.89%, 11/20/2036	208,988	214,776
Wendy's Funding LLC, "A2II", Series 2021-1A, 144A, 2.775%, 6/15/2051	275,000	277,519
		<b>1,774,144</b>

**Total Asset-Backed** (Cost \$2,062,720)

**2,077,414**

### Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities 2.4%

Citigroup Commercial Mortgage Trust, "D", Series 2019-PRM, 144A, 4.35%, 5/10/2036	600,000	622,401
GS Mortgage Securities Corp. II, "B," Series 2018-GS10, 4.518%, 7/10/2051	500,000	571,105

**Total Commercial Mortgage-Backed  
Securities**  
(Cost \$1,132,998)

**1,193,506**

### Collateralized Mortgage Obligations 14.7%

Arroyo Mortgage Trust, "A1", Series 2021-1R, 144A, 1.175%, 10/25/2048	525,000	525,647
Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust, "A1A," Series 2021-J1, 144A, 2.5%, 4/25/2051	733,752	748,657
Connecticut Avenue Securities Trust, "1M2," Series 2019- R05, 144A, 1-month USD- LIBOR + 2.0%, 2.092% (e), 7/25/2039	106,791	107,220
Fannie Mae Connecticut Avenue Securities, "1M2", Series 2018-C03, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.15%, 2.242% (e), 10/25/2030	363,425	367,858

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

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp., "PS", Series 4922, Interest Only, 6.05% minus 1-month USD-LIBOR, 5.959% (e), 8/25/2049	668,463	116,214
Federal National Mortgage Association, 2.5%, 7/1/2051 (d)	2,400,000	2,481,840
Flagstar Mortgage Trust, "A5", Series 2021-5INV, 144A, 2.5%, 7/25/2051	500,000	510,494
Freddie Mac Structured Agency Credit Risk Debt Notes: "M2", Series 2020-DNA2, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.85%, 1.942% (e), 2/25/2050	600,000	604,884
"M2", Series 2019-DNA4, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.95%, 2.042% (e), 10/25/2049	98,034	98,552
Government National Mortgage Association: "PI", Series 2015-40, Interest Only, 4.0%, 4/20/2044	86,431	5,287
"IN", Series 2009-69, Interest Only, 5.5%, 8/20/2039	30,406	6,763
"IV", Series 2009-69, Interest Only, 5.5%, 8/20/2039	59,209	13,116
"IJ", Series 2009-75, Interest Only, 6.0%, 8/16/2039	22,817	3,304
GS Mortgage-Backed Securities Trust, "A2", Series 2021-GR1, 144A, 2.5%, 11/25/2051	550,000	559,161
JPMorgan Mortgage Trust: "A6", Series 2021-6, 144A, 2.5%, 10/25/2051	775,013	795,871
"A3", Series 2019-INV3, 144A, 3.5%, 5/25/2050	198,906	202,759
"A3", Series 2020-INV1, 144A, 3.5%, 8/25/2050	117,092	119,698
STACR Trust, "M2", Series 2018-DNA3, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.1%, 2.192% (e), 9/25/2048	108,108	109,529
<b>Total Collateralized Mortgage Obligations</b> (Cost \$7,398,810)		<b>7,376,854</b>

## Government & Agency Obligations 11.5%

### Sovereign Bonds 1.3%

Abu Dhabi Government International Bond, 144A, 3.125%, 4/16/2030	200,000	217,326
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	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
Brazilian Government International Bond, 3.875%, 6/12/2030	200,000	201,680
Perusahaan Penerbit SBSN Indonesia III, 144A, 2.8%, 6/23/2030	200,000	204,596
		<b>623,602</b>
<b>U.S. Treasury Obligations 10.2%</b>		
U.S. Treasury Bond, 1.875%, 2/15/2041	400,000	391,563
U.S. Treasury Notes:		
0.25%, 6/15/2024	3,000,000	2,981,719
0.75%, 5/31/2026	1,000,000	994,297
1.875%, 2/15/2051	772,000	736,777
		<b>5,104,356</b>
<b>Total Government &amp; Agency Obligations</b> (Cost \$5,672,012)		<b>5,727,958</b>

## Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations 2.1%

U.S. Treasury Bills:		
0.101% (f), 8/12/2021	200,000	199,987
0.125% (f), 8/12/2021(g)	850,000	849,943
<b>Total Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations</b> (Cost \$1,049,853)		<b>1,049,930</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 0.1%</b>		
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (h) (i) (Cost \$56,760)	56,760	<b>56,760</b>

## Cash Equivalents 2.0%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (h) (Cost \$1,000,854)	1,000,854	<b>1,000,854</b>
	<b>% of Net Assets</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>

<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$51,941,886)	106.6	<b>53,324,114</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(6.6)	<b>(3,315,618)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>50,008,496</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, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/(Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 0.1%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (h) (i)								
64,200	—	7,440 (j)	—	—	572	—	56,760	56,760
<b>Cash Equivalents 2.0%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (h)								
1,591,076	18,020,203	18,610,425	—	—	254	—	1,000,854	1,000,854
<b>1,655,276</b>	<b>18,020,203</b>	<b>18,617,865</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,057,614</b>	<b>1,057,614</b>

- (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, 2021 amounted to \$55,397, which is 0.1% of net assets.
- (c) Perpetual, callable security with no stated maturity date.
- (d) When-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment securities included.
- (e) Variable or floating rate security. These securities are shown at their current rate as of June 30, 2021. 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. Securities with a floor or ceiling feature are disclosed at the inherent rate, where applicable.
- (f) Annualized yield at time of purchase; not a coupon rate.
- (g) At June 30, 2021, 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, 2021.

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

SBSN: Surat Berharga Syariah Negara (Islamic Based Government Securities)

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.

At June 30, 2021, open futures contracts purchased were as follows:

Futures	Currency	Expiration Date	Contracts	Notional Amount (\$)	Notional Value (\$)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation) (\$)
2-Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/30/2021	6	1,324,093	1,321,922	(2,171)
Ultra 10 Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/21/2021	6	869,282	883,219	13,937
Ultra Long U.S. Treasury Bond	USD	9/21/2021	1	184,370	192,688	8,318
<b>Total net unrealized appreciation</b>						<b>20,084</b>

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

At June 30, 2021, open futures contracts sold were as follows:

Futures	Currency	Expiration Date	Contracts	Notional Amount (\$)	Notional Value (\$)	Unrealized Depreciation (\$)
3 Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/30/2021	13	3,006,859	3,007,469	(610)
5 Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/30/2021	14	1,726,880	1,728,016	(1,136)
U.S. Treasury Long Bond	USD	9/21/2021	1	156,357	160,750	(4,393)
<b>Total unrealized depreciation</b>						<b>(6,139)</b>

At June 30, 2021, the Fund had the following open forward foreign currency contracts:

Contracts to Deliver	In Exchange For	Settlement Date	Unrealized Appreciation (\$)	Counterparty
EUR 750,000	USD 905,415	8/5/2021	15,442	Citibank N.A.

Contracts to Deliver	In Exchange For	Settlement Date	Unrealized Depreciation (\$)	Counterparty
USD 364,239	EUR 300,000	8/5/2021	(8,250)	Toronto-Dominion Bank

#### Currency Abbreviation(s)

EUR Euro

USD United States Dollar

For information on the Fund's policy and additional disclosures regarding futures 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, 2021 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
Corporate Bonds (a)	\$ —	\$ 32,929,517	\$ —	\$ 32,929,517
Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs	—	1,911,321	—	1,911,321
Asset-Backed (a)	—	2,077,414	—	2,077,414
Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities	—	1,193,506	—	1,193,506
Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	—	7,376,854	—	7,376,854
Government & Agency Obligations (a)	—	5,727,958	—	5,727,958
Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations	—	1,049,930	—	1,049,930
Short-Term Investments (a)	1,057,614	—	—	1,057,614
Derivatives (b)				
Futures Contracts	22,255	—	—	22,255
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	—	15,442	—	15,442
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,079,869</b>	<b>\$ 52,281,942</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 53,361,811</b>

Liabilities	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Derivatives (b)				
Futures Contracts	\$ (8,310)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (8,310)
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	—	(8,250)	—	(8,250)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (8,310)</b>	<b>\$ (8,250)</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ (16,560)</b>

(a) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

(b) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$50,884,272) — including \$55,397 of securities loaned	\$ 52,266,500
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$56,760)*	56,760
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$1,000,854)	1,000,854
Cash	81,588
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$4,690)	4,536
Receivable for investments sold	102,748
Receivable for Fund shares sold	6,342
Interest receivable	295,252
Receivable for variation margin on futures contracts	2,138
Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	15,442
Other assets	324
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>53,832,484</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	56,760
Payable for investments purchased — when-issued securities	3,674,589
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	16,408
Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	8,250
Accrued management fee	13,046
Accrued Trustees' fees	186
Other accrued expenses and payables	54,749
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,823,988</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 50,008,496</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	2,458,505
Paid-in capital	47,549,991
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 50,008,496</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$50,008,496 ÷ 8,497,574 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 5.89</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Interest	\$ 717,499
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	254
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	572
<b>Total income</b>	<b>718,325</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	96,721
Administration fee	24,056
Services to shareholders	1,047
Custodian fee	3,412
Professional fees	33,454
Reports to shareholders	16,894
Trustees' fees and expenses	1,900
Other	3,069
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>180,553</b>
Expense reductions	(24,353)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>156,200</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>562,125</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	489,514
Futures	104,855
Forward foreign currency contracts	(21,140)
Foreign currency	655
	573,884
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(1,325,101)
Futures	11,281
Forward foreign currency contracts	43,395
Foreign currency	(258)
	(1,270,683)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>(696,799)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ (134,674)</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 562,125	\$ 1,128,931
Net realized gain (loss)	573,884	1,952,533
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(1,270,683)	1,370,187
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(134,674)	4,451,651
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(1,032,516)	(1,393,009)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	2,410,820	9,080,131
Reinvestment of distributions	1,032,516	1,393,009
Payments for shares redeemed	(3,491,353)	(11,255,564)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(48,017)	(782,424)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>(1,215,207)</b>	<b>2,276,218</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	51,223,703	48,947,485
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$50,008,496</b>	<b>\$ 51,223,703</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	8,501,854	8,618,016
Shares sold	408,214	1,564,061
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	178,328	248,752
Shares redeemed	(590,822)	(1,928,975)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(4,280)	(116,162)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>8,497,574</b>	<b>8,501,854</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS Bond VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
		2019	2018	2017	2016	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$6.03</b>	<b>\$5.68</b>	<b>\$5.30</b>	<b>\$5.70</b>	<b>\$5.52</b>	<b>\$5.49</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.07	.13	.16	.17	.17	.15
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(.09)	.38	.39	(.32)	.15	.17
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>(.02)</b>	<b>.51</b>	<b>.55</b>	<b>(.15)</b>	<b>.32</b>	<b>.32</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.12)	(.16)	(.17)	(.25)	(.14)	(.29)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$5.89</b>	<b>\$6.03</b>	<b>\$5.68</b>	<b>\$5.30</b>	<b>\$5.70</b>	<b>\$5.52</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	(.24) <sup>*</sup>	9.07	10.62	(2.65)	5.83	5.93
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	50	51	49	46	51	77
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.73 <sup>**</sup>	.74	.81	.87	.74	.78
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.63 <sup>**</sup>	.65	.66	.69	.65	.64
Ratio of net investment income (%)	2.27 <sup>**</sup>	2.21	2.95	3.19	2.99	2.68
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	81 <sup>*</sup>	160	223	260	205	236

<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>\*</sup> Not annualized

<sup>\*\*</sup> 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, 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, 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, 2020, the Fund had net tax basis capital loss carryforwards of approximately \$75,000 of long-term losses, which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely.

At June 30, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$51,945,327. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$1,378,787. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$1,563,357 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$184,570.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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 premiums and discounts are amortized/accreted 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, 2021, the Fund invested in 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.

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, 2021, is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the investment in futures contracts purchased had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$1,768,000 to \$4,706,000, and the investment in futures contracts sold had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$486,000 to \$4,896,000.

**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, 2021, 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 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, 2021, is included in the table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the investment in forward currency contracts short vs. U.S. dollars had a total contract value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$881,000 to \$905,000, 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 \$364,000.

The following tables summarize the value of the Fund's derivative instruments held as of June 30, 2021 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities, presented by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Assets Derivative</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Interest Rate Contracts (a)	\$ —	\$ 22,255	\$ 22,255
Foreign Exchange Contracts (b)	15,442	—	15,442
	<b>\$ 15,442</b>	<b>\$ 22,255</b>	<b>\$ 37,697</b>

Each of the above derivatives 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) Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts

<b>Liability Derivative</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Interest Rate Contracts (a)	\$ —	\$ (8,310)	\$ (8,310)
Foreign Exchange Contracts (b)	(8,250)	—	(8,250)
	<b>\$ (8,250)</b>	<b>\$ (8,310)</b>	<b>\$ (16,560)</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Assets and Liabilities accounts:

- (a) 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.
- (b) 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, 2021 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>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Interest Rate Contracts (a)	\$ —	\$ 104,855	\$ 104,855
Foreign Exchange Contracts (a)	(21,140)	—	(21,140)
	<b>\$(21,140)</b>	<b>\$ 104,855</b>	<b>\$ 83,715</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Operations accounts:

- (a) Net realized gain (loss) from forward foreign currency contracts and futures, respectively

<b>Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Interest Rate Contracts (a)	\$ —	\$ 11,281	\$ 11,281
Foreign Exchange Contracts (a)	43,395	—	43,395
	<b>\$ 43,395</b>	<b>\$ 11,281</b>	<b>\$ 54,676</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Operations accounts:

- (a) Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on forward foreign currency contracts and futures, respectively

As of June 30, 2021, 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 Amount of Assets Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities</b>	<b>Financial Instruments and Derivatives Available for Offset</b>	<b>Collateral Received</b>	<b>Net Amount of Derivative Assets</b>
Citibank N.A.	\$ 15,442	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 15,442

<b>Counterparty</b>	<b>Gross Amount 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>
Toronto-Dominion Bank	\$ 8,250	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 8,250

## C. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities, excluding short-term investments, were as follows:

	Purchases	Sales
Non-U.S. Treasury Obligations	\$36,090,868	\$38,029,909
U.S. Treasury Obligations	\$ 5,715,596	\$ 2,147,863

## 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.

Under the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the average daily net assets of the Fund, 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, 2021, 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, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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 shares at 0.63%.

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed were \$24,353.

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee (“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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$24,056, of which \$3,974 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, 2021, amount charged to the Fund by DSC aggregated \$351, of which \$110 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$556, of which \$200 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, 2021, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$43.

### **E. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2021, three participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 44%, 27% and 16%, 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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

### **G. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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. Fund Liquidation**

Upon the recommendation of the Advisor, the Fund's Board of Trustees has authorized the Fund's termination and liquidation, effective on or about October 28, 2021 (the "Liquidation Date"). Accordingly, the Fund will involuntarily redeem the shares of any shareholder (i.e., a participating insurance company that offers the Fund) outstanding on the Liquidation Date. Existing participating insurance company investors that currently offer the fund as an investment option may continue to offer it to their contract owners until the Liquidation Date.

# 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 997.60
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.12

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$1,021.67
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.16

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratio</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series I — DWS Bond VIP	.63%

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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, the Fund’s performance (Class A shares) was in the 1st 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 one-, three- and five-year periods December 31, 2019.

**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, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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-028373-10 8/21)

June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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**DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP**



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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 ongoing 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

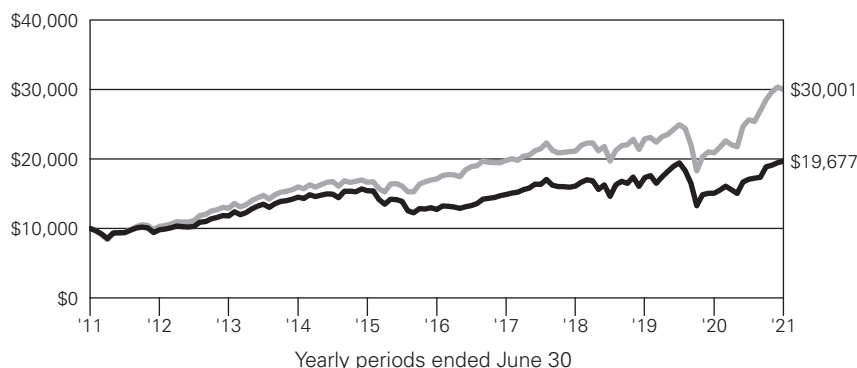
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original 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, 2021 are 0.80% and 1.12% 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® 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.

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	\$11,524	\$13,061	\$12,224	\$15,466	\$19,677
	Average annual total return	15.24%	30.61%	6.92%	9.11%	7.00%
Russell 1000® Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,705	\$14,368	\$14,207	\$17,525	\$30,001
	Average annual total return	17.05%	43.68%	12.42%	11.87%	11.61%
DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,506	\$13,022	\$12,113	\$15,240	\$19,092
	Average annual total return	15.06%	30.22%	6.60%	8.79%	6.68%
Russell 1000® Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,705	\$14,368	\$14,207	\$17,525	\$30,001
	Average annual total return	17.05%	43.68%	12.42%	11.87%	11.61%

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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Common Stocks	100%	100%
Cash Equivalents	0%	0%
	100%	100%

## **Sector Diversification**

(As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Health Care	29%	25%
Consumer Staples	21%	24%
Information Technology	16%	16%
Consumer Discretionary	11%	12%
Financials	8%	5%
Communication Services	7%	11%
Industrials	7%	7%
Materials	1%	—
Energy	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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## **Portfolio Management Team**

Di Kumble, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager Equity

John Moody, Portfolio Manager Equity

Portfolio Managers





	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Laboratory Corp. of America Holdings*	12,547	3,461,090			
McKesson Corp.	1,005	192,196			
Quest Diagnostics, Inc.	23,917	3,156,326			
Tenet Healthcare Corp.*	1,826	122,324			
		<b>9,758,016</b>			
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services 0.7%</b>					
Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc.	2,013	1,015,498			
<b>Pharmaceuticals 9.4%</b>					
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	35,900	2,398,838			
Eli Lilly & Co.	2,049	470,287			
Johnson & Johnson	20,460	3,370,580			
Merck & Co., Inc.	29,161	2,267,851			
Pfizer, Inc.	95,609	3,744,048			
Viatrix, Inc.	120,445	1,721,159			
		<b>13,972,763</b>			
<b>Industrials 6.8%</b>					
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 1.9%</b>					
Lockheed Martin Corp.	6,679	2,527,000			
Northrop Grumman Corp.	770	279,841			
		<b>2,806,841</b>			
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics 4.1%</b>					
C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc.	32,927	3,084,272			
Expeditors International of Washington, Inc.	23,930	3,029,538			
		<b>6,113,810</b>			
<b>Electrical Equipment 0.1%</b>					
Acuity Brands, Inc.	662	123,814			
<b>Industrial Conglomerates 0.3%</b>					
3M Co.	2,206	438,178			
<b>Machinery 0.3%</b>					
Cummins, Inc.	1,296	315,978			
PACCAR, Inc.	1,964	175,287			
		<b>491,265</b>			
<b>Professional Services 0.1%</b>					
ManpowerGroup, Inc.	1,006	119,623			
<b>Information Technology 15.7%</b>					
<b>Communications Equipment 2.6%</b>					
Cisco Systems, Inc.	73,223	3,880,819			
<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components 0.2%</b>					
Flex Ltd.*	19,081	340,977			
<b>IT Services 3.5%</b>					
Amdocs Ltd.	43,327	3,351,777			
Cognizant Technology Solutions Corp. "A"	13,030	902,458			
International Business Machines Corp.	6,451	945,652			
		<b>5,199,887</b>			
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 5.0%</b>					
Applied Materials, Inc.	5,252	747,885			
Broadcom, Inc.	3,020	1,440,057			
Intel Corp.	36,211	2,032,885			
KLA Corp.	1,461	473,671			
Lam Research Corp.	925	601,897			
Qorvo, Inc.*	3,487	682,231			
QUALCOMM, Inc.	4,761	680,490			
Skyworks Solutions, Inc.	3,797	728,075			
		<b>7,387,191</b>			
<b>Software 4.0%</b>					
Oracle Corp.	54,677	4,256,058			
SS&C Technologies Holdings, Inc.	22,072	1,590,508			
		<b>5,846,566</b>			
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals 0.4%</b>					
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.	25,224	367,766			
HP, Inc.	6,683	201,760			
		<b>569,526</b>			
<b>Materials 0.8%</b>					
<b>Chemicals 0.2%</b>					
LyondellBasell Industries NV "A"	2,716	279,395			
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging 0.2%</b>					
Amcor PLC	11,074	126,908			
Westrock Co.	3,156	167,962			
		<b>294,870</b>			
<b>Metals &amp; Mining 0.4%</b>					
Newmont Corp.	7,827	496,075			
Nucor Corp.	1,675	160,683			
		<b>656,758</b>			
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$129,786,795)					<b>147,672,049</b>
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.3%</b>					
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (a) (Cost \$456,408)	456,408	456,408			
			<b>% of</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>	
			<b>Net Assets</b>		
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$130,243,203)			100.0	<b>148,128,457</b>	
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>			0.0	<b>20,736</b>	
<b>Net Assets</b>			100.0	<b>148,149,193</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, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 0.0%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (a) (b)								
4,309,705	—	4,309,705 (c)	—	—	1,113	—	—	—
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.3%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (a)								
621,226	4,684,133	4,848,951	—	—	117	—	456,408	456,408
<b>4,930,931</b>	<b>4,684,133</b>	<b>9,158,656</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,230</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>456,408</b>	<b>456,408</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

- (a) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (b) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (c) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2021.

### 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, 2021 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 (a)	\$ 147,672,049	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 147,672,049
Short-Term Investments	456,408	—	—	456,408
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 148,128,457</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 148,128,457</b>

- (a) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$129,786,795)	\$ 147,672,049
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$456,408)	456,408
Cash	1,937
Receivable for Fund shares sold	238
Dividends receivable	244,954
Interest receivable	4
Other assets	1,437
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>148,377,027</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	93,950
Accrued management fee	69,890
Accrued Trustees' fees	1,407
Other accrued expenses and payables	62,587
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>227,834</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 148,149,193</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	10,673,858
Paid-in capital	137,475,335
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 148,149,193</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$144,508,467 ÷ 9,895,252 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 14.60</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$3,640,726 ÷ 247,986 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 14.68</b>

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends	\$ 1,817,358
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	117
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	1,113
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,818,588</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	424,068
Administration fee	68,558
Services to shareholders	1,713
Record keeping fee (Class B)	1,031
Distribution service fee (Class B)	4,216
Custodian fee	1,569
Professional fees	36,562
Reports to shareholders	14,812
Trustees' fees and expenses	3,259
Other	3,634
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>559,422</b>
Expense reductions	(51,648)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>507,774</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>1,310,814</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from investments	8,172,562
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	10,509,998
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>18,682,560</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$19,993,374</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 1,310,814	\$ 2,848,860
Net realized gain (loss)	8,172,562	(16,282,685)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	10,509,998	(5,587,930)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	19,993,374	(19,021,755)
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(2,764,720)	(9,467,191)
Class B	(57,047)	(221,204)
Total distributions	(2,821,767)	(9,688,395)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,605,447	6,978,119
Reinvestment of distributions	2,764,720	9,467,191
Payments for shares redeemed	(6,184,378)	(11,817,632)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(1,814,211)	4,627,678
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	219,394	784,815
Reinvestment of distributions	57,047	221,204
Payments for shares redeemed	(174,792)	(873,871)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	101,649	132,148
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	15,459,045	(23,950,324)
Net assets at beginning of period	132,690,148	156,640,472
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$148,149,193</b>	<b>\$132,690,148</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	10,025,875	9,489,452
Shares sold	115,532	567,975
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	194,562	895,666
Shares redeemed	(440,717)	(927,218)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(130,623)	536,423
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>9,895,252</b>	<b>10,025,875</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	240,926	226,957
Shares sold	15,303	65,344
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	3,989	20,809
Shares redeemed	(12,232)	(72,184)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	7,060	13,969
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>247,986</b>	<b>240,926</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$12.92</b>	<b>\$16.12</b>	<b>\$13.46</b>	<b>\$16.64</b>	<b>\$13.75</b>	<b>\$15.29</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.13	.28	.31	.29	.24	.23
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.83	(2.47)	3.92	(1.89)	2.88	(.93)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>1.96</b>	<b>(2.19)</b>	<b>4.23</b>	<b>(1.60)</b>	<b>3.12</b>	<b>(.70)</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.28)	(.31)	(.30)	(.41)	(.23)	(.14)
Net realized gains	—	(.70)	(1.27)	(1.17)	—	(.70)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.28)</b>	<b>(1.01)</b>	<b>(1.57)</b>	<b>(1.58)</b>	<b>(.23)</b>	<b>(.84)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$14.60</b>	<b>\$12.92</b>	<b>\$16.12</b>	<b>\$13.46</b>	<b>\$16.64</b>	<b>\$13.75</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	15.24*	(12.16)	32.95	(10.50)	22.88 <sup>c</sup>	(4.39)
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	145	130	153	125	153	227
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	.78**	.84	.84	.84	.82	.81
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	.71**	.69	.70	.72	.72	.74
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.86**	2.28	2.13	1.89	1.59	1.66
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	36*	122	111	100	97	293

<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> 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%.

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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

## DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP — Class B

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$12.97</b>	<b>\$16.17</b>	<b>\$13.50</b>	<b>\$16.67</b>	<b>\$13.78</b>	<b>\$15.31</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.11	.24	.27	.24	.20	.19
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.84	(2.47)	3.92	(1.88)	2.87	(.92)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>1.95</b>	<b>(2.23)</b>	<b>4.19</b>	<b>(1.64)</b>	<b>3.07</b>	<b>(.73)</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.24)	(.27)	(.25)	(.36)	(.18)	(.10)
Net realized gains	—	(.70)	(1.27)	(1.17)	—	(.70)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.24)</b>	<b>(.97)</b>	<b>(1.52)</b>	<b>(1.53)</b>	<b>(.18)</b>	<b>(.80)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$14.68</b>	<b>\$12.97</b>	<b>\$16.17</b>	<b>\$13.50</b>	<b>\$16.67</b>	<b>\$13.78</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	15.06*	(12.41)	32.49	(10.71)	22.45 <sup>c</sup>	(4.62)
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	4	3	4	3	4	4
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	1.10**	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.15	1.13
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	1.02**	1.00	1.02	1.04	1.03	1.05
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.55**	1.96	1.82	1.55	1.31	1.37
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	36*	122	111	100	97	293

<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> 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%.

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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 of 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 efforts 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, the Fund had no securities on loan.

**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, 2020, the Fund had net tax basis capital loss carryforwards of approximately \$16,383,000, including short-term losses (\$7,570,000) and long-term losses (\$8,813,000), which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely.

At June 30, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$130,514,441. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$17,614,016. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$19,278,087 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$1,664,071.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$50,752,791 and \$53,361,587, 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 average daily net assets of the Fund, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$250 million	.600%
Next \$750 million	.575%
Next \$1.5 billion	.550%
Next \$2.5 billion	.525%
Next \$2.5 billion	.500%
Next \$2.5 billion	.475%
Next \$2.5 billion	.450%
Over \$12.5 billion	.425%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2021, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.60% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from January 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor had 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.69%
Class B	1.00%

Effective May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.75%
Class B	1.06%

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$ 50,267
Class B	1,381
	<b>\$ 51,648</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee (“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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$68,558, of which \$11,806 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, 2021, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2021
Class A	\$ 239	\$ 72
Class B	144	45
	<b>\$ 383</b>	<b>\$ 117</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, 2021, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$4,216, of which \$744 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$613, of which \$294 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, 2021, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$84.

#### **D. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2021, two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 59% and 35%, 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 56% 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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.

## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,152.40	\$ 1,150.60
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.79	\$ 5.44

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,021.27	\$ 1,019.74
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.56	\$ 5.11

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS CROCI® U.S. VIP	.71%	1.02%

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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, the Fund’s performance (Class A shares) was in the 1st quartile, 1st 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

outperformed its benchmark in the one- and three-year periods and has underperformed its benchmark in the five-year period ended December 31, 2019.

**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, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. The Board also noted that, effective October 1, 2020, in connection with the 2020 contract renewal process, DIMA agreed to reduce the Fund's contractual management fee at each breakpoint by 0.05%. 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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



VS2CUS-3 (R-028386-10 8/21)

June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series I

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**DWS Global Small Cap VIP**



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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 ongoing 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

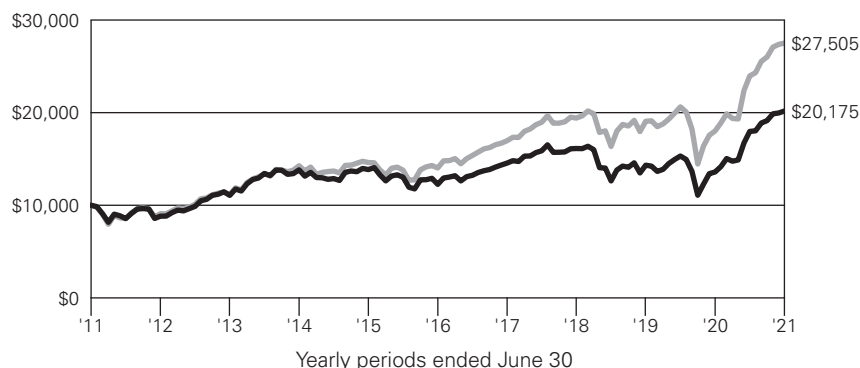
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original 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, 2021, are 1.10% and 1.39% 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
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,224	\$14,841	\$12,509	\$16,460	\$20,175
	Average annual total return	12.24%	48.41%	7.75%	10.48%	7.27%
S&P Developed SmallCap Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,478	\$15,264	\$14,168	\$19,611	\$27,505
	Average annual total return	14.78%	52.64%	12.32%	14.42%	10.65%
DWS Global Small Cap VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,211	\$14,796	\$12,400	\$16,237	\$19,643
	Average annual total return	12.11%	47.96%	7.43%	10.18%	6.98%
S&P Developed SmallCap Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,478	\$15,264	\$14,168	\$19,611	\$27,505
	Average annual total return	14.78%	52.64%	12.32%	14.42%	10.65%

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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Common Stocks	98%	94%
Cash Equivalents	2%	4%
Exchange-Traded Funds	—	2%
	100%	100%

## Sector Diversification

(As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Exchange-Traded Funds, Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)

	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Industrials	19%	21%
Information Technology	16%	19%
Consumer Discretionary	13%	13%
Financials	13%	10%
Health Care	12%	16%
Real Estate	8%	8%
Materials	7%	6%
Communication Services	3%	3%
Consumer Staples	3%	3%
Utilities	3%	0%
Energy	3%	1%
	100%	100%

## Geographical Diversification

(As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)

	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
United States	58%	61%
Japan	7%	10%
United Kingdom	6%	5%
Canada	4%	3%
Sweden	3%	2%
Germany	3%	3%
France	3%	2%
Italy	2%	2%
Korea	2%	1%
Spain	2%	2%
Austria	2%	2%
Ireland	2%	2%
Luxembourg	1%	2%
Other	5%	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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Pankaj Bhatnagar, PhD, Head of Investment Strategy Equity

Peter Barsa, Senior Portfolio Manager Equity

Portfolio Managers



# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 98.2%</b>					
<b>Austria 1.7%</b>					
Wienerberger AG (Cost \$921,227)	36,328	<b>1,399,968</b>	Zenkoku Hosho Co., Ltd. (Cost \$3,715,656)	22,400	962,780
<b>Belgium 0.4%</b>					<b>5,926,847</b>
Euronav NV (Cost \$313,840)	37,166	<b>345,506</b>	<b>Korea 2.0%</b>		
<b>Bermuda 0.9%</b>			Hanmi Semiconductor Co. Ltd.	8,039	241,638
Lazard Ltd. "A" (a) (Cost \$345,986)	16,265	<b>735,991</b>	i-SENS, Inc.	17,591	475,643
<b>Canada 3.9%</b>			Seah Besteel Corp. (Cost \$1,294,248)	33,022	929,536
First Quantum Minerals Ltd.	35,275	813,010			<b>1,646,817</b>
Linamar Corp.	14,424	904,700	<b>Luxembourg 1.3%</b>		
Pan American Silver Corp.	16,342	466,688	B&M European Value Retail SA (Cost \$571,241)	132,015	<b>1,046,757</b>
Quebecor, Inc. "B" (Cost \$2,173,478)	39,795	1,061,328	<b>Netherlands 0.4%</b>		
		<b>3,245,726</b>	Boskalis Westminster (Cost \$325,687)	9,986	<b>320,415</b>
<b>France 2.5%</b>			<b>Norway 0.3%</b>		
Alten SA	3,084	408,837	Fjordkraft Holding ASA 144A (Cost \$371,495)	43,142	<b>256,292</b>
Rubis SCA (b)	7,967	354,163	<b>Portugal 0.3%</b>		
SPIE SA	44,518	1,024,072	REN - Redes Energeticas Nacionais SGPS SA (Cost \$261,325)	92,222	<b>255,884</b>
Television Francaise 1 (Cost \$2,069,493)	29,700	300,223			
		<b>2,087,295</b>	<b>Puerto Rico 0.6%</b>		
<b>Germany 3.0%</b>			Popular, Inc. (Cost \$463,903)	6,166	<b>462,758</b>
Deutz AG*	88,069	712,198	<b>Singapore 0.4%</b>		
PATRIZIA AG	41,336	1,078,312	BW LPG, Ltd. 144A (Cost \$336,865)	54,731	<b>353,425</b>
United Internet AG (Registered) (Cost \$1,143,291)	16,617	679,380			
		<b>2,469,890</b>	<b>Spain 2.0%</b>		
<b>India 0.7%</b>			Fluidra SA	28,658	1,136,672
WNS Holdings Ltd. (ADR)* (b) (Cost \$193,879)	7,251	<b>579,137</b>	Talgo SA 144A* (Cost \$905,242)	88,107	498,336
<b>Ireland 1.5%</b>					<b>1,635,008</b>
Avadel Pharmaceuticals PLC (ADR)* (b)	36,283	244,185	<b>Sweden 3.2%</b>		
Dalata Hotel Group PLC*	129,550	589,109	Dometic Group AB 144A	22,461	382,525
Ryanair Holdings PLC* (Cost \$1,018,531)	21,445	405,837	Fingerprint Cards AB "B"*	52,853	201,701
		<b>1,239,131</b>	MIPS AB	7,101	610,689
<b>Italy 2.2%</b>			Nobina AB 144A	129,243	1,173,413
Buzzi Unicem SpA	42,400	1,124,670	Ratos AB "B" (Cost \$1,693,797)	55,297	335,345
Moncler SpA (Cost \$1,171,603)	10,050	679,972			<b>2,703,673</b>
		<b>1,804,642</b>	<b>Switzerland 1.2%</b>		
<b>Japan 7.1%</b>			Julius Baer Group Ltd.	7,222	471,294
Ai Holdings Corp.	41,617	820,390	Landis & Gyr Group AG (Cost \$1,055,900)	7,698	537,466
Anicom Holdings, Inc.	76,900	615,366			<b>1,008,760</b>
BML, Inc.	15,900	542,428	<b>United Kingdom 5.4%</b>		
Kusuri No Aoki Holdings Co., Ltd.	12,158	886,447	Arrow Global Group PLC*	95,792	404,815
Optex Group Co., Ltd.	17,000	284,009	Clinigen Group PLC	44,130	377,869
Sawai Group Holdings Co. Ltd.	12,600	561,411	Domino's Pizza Group PLC	106,754	573,856
Topcon Corp.	23,400	349,225	Drax Group PLC	108,643	637,513
UT Group Co., Ltd.	31,024	904,791	Electrocomponents PLC	90,511	1,288,348
			Genus PLC	2,882	197,739
			Johnson Service Group PLC*	265,435	644,027

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Micro Focus International PLC	51,527	389,887	Novavax, Inc.* (b)	1,412	299,782
(Cost \$2,938,917)		<b>4,514,054</b>	Option Care Health, Inc.*	29,553	646,324
<b>United States 57.2%</b>			Outset Medical, Inc.* (b)	6,295	314,624
Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.	3,618	421,750	Pacira BioSciences, Inc.*	15,060	913,841
Affiliated Managers Group, Inc.	4,203	648,145	Physicians Realty Trust (REIT)	38,643	713,736
Agilysys, Inc.*	9,370	532,872	QAD, Inc. "A" (b)	8,600	748,372
Alcoa Corp.*	9,747	359,079	QTS Realty Trust, Inc. "A", (REIT)	10,438	806,857
AMC Entertainment Holdings, Inc. "A"* (b)	12,931	732,929	Rush Enterprises, Inc. "A"	31,808	1,375,356
Americold Realty Trust (REIT)	21,223	803,291	SJW Group	9,094	575,650
Amicus Therapeutics, Inc.*	29,421	283,618	South State Corp.	12,286	1,004,503
Anika Therapeutics, Inc.*	7,283	315,281	Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc.	3,735	317,624
Arena Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	8,863	604,457	Synovus Financial Corp.	26,456	1,160,889
AZEK Co., Inc.*	5,092	216,206	Tandem Diabetes Care, Inc.*	3,297	321,128
Builders FirstSource, Inc.* (b)	28,748	1,226,390	Tenneco, Inc. "A"*	28,693	554,349
Casey's General Stores, Inc.	6,443	1,254,065	Thermon Group Holdings, Inc.* (b)	40,418	688,723
Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc.* (b)	46,669	1,006,184	TopBuild Corp.*	6,338	1,253,530
CMC Materials, Inc.	4,593	692,349	Translate Bio, Inc.* (b)	10,019	275,923
Contango Oil & Gas Co.* (b)	177,463	766,640	TriState Capital Holdings, Inc.*	21,539	439,180
Cornerstone OnDemand, Inc.*	11,453	590,746	Varonis Systems, Inc.* (b)	21,580	1,243,440
Dril-Quip, Inc.*	16,812	568,750	Vital Farms, Inc.* (b)	12,874	256,965
Ducommun, Inc.*	26,358	1,438,092	Vroom, Inc.* (b)	8,106	339,317
Eastern Bankshares, Inc.	14,226	292,629	WEX, Inc.*	2,214	429,295
EastGroup Properties, Inc. (REIT)	4,274	702,859	YETI Holdings, Inc.*	16,616	1,525,681
Envestnet, Inc.* (b)	9,595	727,877	Zions Bancorp. NA	12,982	686,229
Essential Properties Realty Trust, Inc. (REIT)	24,757	669,429	(Cost \$27,645,194)		<b>47,595,116</b>
First Financial Bankshares, Inc.	4,076	200,254	<b>Total Common Stocks</b>		<b>81,633,092</b>
Five9, Inc.*	8,715	1,598,244	(Cost \$50,930,798)		
FNB Corp. (b)	30,449	375,436	<b>Securities Lending Collateral 10.7%</b>		
Four Corners Property Trust, Inc. (REIT)	27,967	772,169	DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (c) (d) (Cost \$8,873,880)	8,873,880	<b>8,873,880</b>
Fox Factory Holding Corp.*	10,660	1,659,336	<b>Cash Equivalents 1.8%</b>		
Green Dot Corp. "A"*	6,498	304,431	DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (c) (Cost \$1,530,984)	1,530,984	<b>1,530,984</b>
Heron Therapeutics, Inc.* (b)	22,446	348,362		<b>% of</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Hillenbrand, Inc.	10,258	452,173		<b>Net Assets</b>	
Hudson Pacific Properties, Inc. (REIT)	8,486	236,081	<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b>		
Hyster-Yale Materials Handling, Inc. (b)	5,590	407,958	(Cost \$61,335,662)	110.7	<b>92,037,956</b>
iRhythm Technologies, Inc.*	3,824	253,722	<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(10.7)	<b>(8,902,960)</b>
Jack in the Box, Inc. (b)	6,611	736,730	<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>83,134,996</b>
Jefferies Financial Group, Inc.	35,036	1,198,231			
LivePerson, Inc.*	5,940	375,646			
Lumentum Holdings, Inc.*	8,748	717,598			
Marvell Technology, Inc.	24,136	1,407,851			
Masonite International Corp.*	7,831	875,427			
ModivCare, Inc.* (b)	10,032	1,706,196			
Molina Healthcare, Inc.*	4,393	1,111,693			
Multiplan Corp.* (b)	35,599	338,902			
National Storage Affiliates Trust (REIT)	15,303	773,720			

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, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 10.7%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (c) (d)								
1,184,652	7,689,228 (e)	—	—	—	9,161	—	8,873,880	8,873,880
<b>Cash Equivalents 1.8%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (c)								
3,011,728	6,450,481	7,931,225	—	—	284	—	1,530,984	1,530,984
<b>4,196,380</b>	<b>14,139,709</b>	<b>7,931,225</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>9,445</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>10,404,864</b>	<b>10,404,864</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, 2021 amounted to \$9,188,460, which is 11.1% of net assets.

(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. In addition, the Fund held non-cash U.S. Treasury securities collateral having a value of \$246,412.

(e) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2021.

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

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, 2021 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	\$ 1,399,968	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,399,968
Belgium	345,506	—	—	345,506
Bermuda	735,991	—	—	735,991
Canada	3,245,726	—	—	3,245,726
France	2,087,295	—	—	2,087,295
Germany	2,469,890	—	—	2,469,890
India	579,137	—	—	579,137
Ireland	1,239,131	—	—	1,239,131
Italy	1,804,642	—	—	1,804,642
Japan	5,926,847	—	—	5,926,847
Korea	1,646,817	—	—	1,646,817
Luxembourg	1,046,757	—	—	1,046,757
Netherlands	320,415	—	—	320,415
Norway	256,292	—	—	256,292
Portugal	255,884	—	—	255,884
Puerto Rico	462,758	—	—	462,758
Singapore	353,425	—	—	353,425
Spain	1,635,008	—	—	1,635,008
Sweden	2,703,673	—	—	2,703,673
Switzerland	1,008,760	—	—	1,008,760
United Kingdom	4,514,054	—	—	4,514,054
United States	47,595,116	—	—	47,595,116
Short-Term Investments (a)	10,404,864	—	—	10,404,864
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$92,037,956</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$92,037,956</b>

(a) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$50,930,798) — including \$9,188,460 of securities loaned	\$ 81,633,092
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$8,873,880)*	8,873,880
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$1,530,984)	1,530,984
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$28,130)	27,504
Receivable for Fund shares sold	1,342
Dividends receivable	76,671
Interest receivable	3,785
Foreign taxes recoverable	36,916
Other assets	742
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>92,184,916</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	8,873,880
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	86,086
Accrued management fee	34,843
Accrued Trustees' fees	589
Other accrued expenses and payables	54,522
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>9,049,920</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 83,134,996</b>

<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	35,938,282
Paid-in capital	47,196,714
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 83,134,996</b>

## **Net Asset Value**

<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$80,399,435 ÷ 6,040,984 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 13.31</b>

<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$2,735,561 ÷ 214,398 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 12.76</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned. In addition, the Fund held non-cash collateral having a value of \$246,412.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$65,066)	\$ 670,350
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	284
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	9,161
<b>Total income</b>	<b>679,795</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	323,899
Administration fee	39,273
Services to shareholders	1,807
Record keeping fee (Class B)	377
Distribution service fee (Class B)	3,346
Custodian fee	4,433
Professional fees	35,991
Reports to shareholders	16,170
Trustees' fees and expenses	2,142
Other	7,207
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>434,645</b>
Expense reductions	(101,563)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>333,082</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>346,713</b>

<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	7,105,085
Foreign currency	13,602
	7,118,687
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	1,859,521
Foreign currency	(6,411)
	1,853,110
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>8,971,797</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$9,318,510</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 346,713	\$ 238,619
Net realized gain (loss)	7,118,687	(1,077,595)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	1,853,110	11,994,951
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	9,318,510	11,155,975
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(284,998)	(509,172)
Class B	(1,897)	(12,523)
Total distributions	(286,895)	(521,695)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,997,843	2,748,177
Reinvestment of distributions	284,998	509,172
Payments for shares redeemed	(6,121,302)	(8,776,264)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(3,838,461)	(5,518,915)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	22,884	152,440
Reinvestment of distributions	1,897	12,523
Payments for shares redeemed	(180,143)	(301,149)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	(155,362)	(136,186)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>5,037,792</b>	<b>4,979,179</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	78,097,204	73,118,025
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$83,134,996</b>	<b>\$78,097,204</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	6,344,768	6,910,961
Shares sold	155,837	293,128
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	21,493	66,298
Shares redeemed	(481,114)	(925,619)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(303,784)	(566,193)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>6,040,984</b>	<b>6,344,768</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	227,196	238,523
Shares sold	1,813	18,334
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	149	1,701
Shares redeemed	(14,760)	(31,362)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	(12,798)	(11,327)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>214,398</b>	<b>227,196</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS Global Small Cap VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$11.90</b>	<b>\$10.24</b>	<b>\$8.91</b>	<b>\$12.90</b>	<b>\$11.78</b>	<b>\$13.17</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.06	.04	.05	.02	.00*	.03
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.40	1.70	1.82	(2.32)	2.21	.15
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>1.46</b>	<b>1.74</b>	<b>1.87</b>	<b>(2.30)</b>	<b>2.21</b>	<b>.18</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.05)	(.08)	—	(.04)	—	(.05)
Net realized gains	—	—	(.54)	(1.65)	(1.09)	(1.52)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.05)</b>	<b>(.08)</b>	<b>(.54)</b>	<b>(1.69)</b>	<b>(1.09)</b>	<b>(1.57)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$13.31</b>	<b>\$11.90</b>	<b>\$10.24</b>	<b>\$8.91</b>	<b>\$12.90</b>	<b>\$11.78</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	12.24**	17.36	21.29	(20.51)	20.02	1.57
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	80	76	71	63	85	89
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.06***	1.10	1.11	1.10	1.15	1.17
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.81***	.81	.82	.78	.94	1.02
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.87***	.38	.54	.21	.03	.22
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	18**	9	23	32	42	41

<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.

\* Amount is less than \$.005.

\*\* Not annualized

\*\*\* Annualized

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

## DWS Global Small Cap VIP — Class B

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$11.39</b>	<b>\$9.81</b>	<b>\$8.57</b>	<b>\$12.47</b>	<b>\$11.45</b>	<b>\$12.85</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.04	.01	.03	(.01)	(.03)	(.03)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.34	1.62	1.75	(2.24)	2.14	.17
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>1.38</b>	<b>1.63</b>	<b>1.78</b>	<b>(2.25)</b>	<b>2.11</b>	<b>.14</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.01)	(.05)	—	—	—	(.02)
Net realized gains	—	—	(.54)	(1.65)	(1.09)	(1.52)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.01)</b>	<b>(.05)</b>	<b>(.54)</b>	<b>(1.65)</b>	<b>(1.09)</b>	<b>(1.54)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$12.76</b>	<b>\$11.39</b>	<b>\$9.81</b>	<b>\$8.57</b>	<b>\$12.47</b>	<b>\$11.45</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	12.11*	16.94	21.08	(20.74)	19.60	1.34
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	3	3	2	2	3	3
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.35**	1.39	1.40	1.39	1.44	1.47
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.09**	1.09	1.09	1.06	1.22	1.30
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	.58**	.10	.27	(.08)	(.26)	(.23)
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	18*	9	23	32	42	41

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* 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<sup>®</sup> 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 up to 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 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 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, the Fund had securities on loan. Due to the increased market values of securities on loan on June 30, 2021, the value of the related collateral was less than the value of securities on loan at period end. On the next business day, additional collateral was received, and the value of collateral exceeded the value of the securities on loan.

**Remaining Contractual Maturity of the Agreements** as of June 30, 2021

	Overnight and Continuous	<30 days	Between 30 & 90 days	>90 days	Total
<b>Securities Lending Transactions</b>					
Common Stocks	\$ 8,873,880	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 246,412	\$ 9,120,292
Gross amount of recognized liabilities and non-cash collateral for securities lending transactions:					\$ 9,120,292

**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, 2020, the Fund had net tax basis capital loss carryforwards of approximately \$1,907,000, including short-term losses (\$676,000) and long-term losses (\$1,231,000), which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely.

At June 30, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$61,666,984. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$30,370,972. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$31,983,685 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$1,612,713.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$14,153,419 and \$15,155,057, 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 average daily net assets of the Fund, 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, 2021 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor had 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.81%
Class B	1.09%

Effective May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.82%
Class B	1.10%

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$ 98,146
Class B	3,417
	<b>\$ 101,563</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee (“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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$39,273, of which \$6,686 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, 2021, 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, 2021</b>
Class A	\$ 319	\$ 103
Class B	98	37
	<b>\$ 417</b>	<b>\$ 140</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, 2021, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$3,346, of which \$566 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$663, of which \$274 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, 2021, 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%, 27% 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 76% and 14%, 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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.

## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,122.40	\$ 1,121.10
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.26	\$ 5.73

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,020.78	\$ 1,019.39
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.06	\$ 5.46

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, 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, 2019. 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, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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 DIMAs 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 that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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



VS1glosc-3 (R-028377-10 8/21)

June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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**DWS Global Equity VIP**



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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 ongoing 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

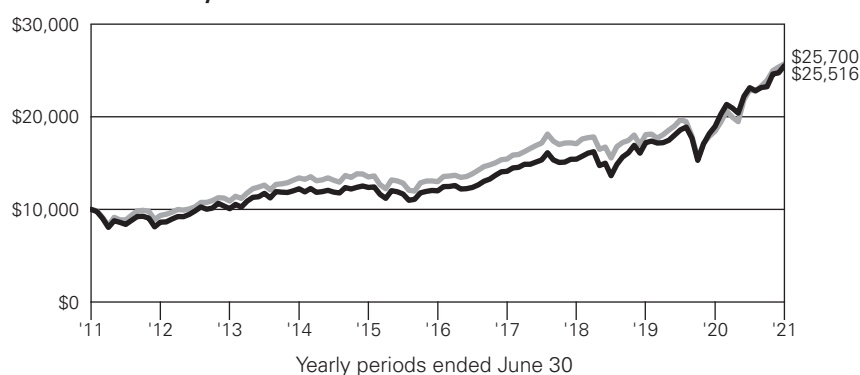
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original 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, 2021 is 1.16% 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 27 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	\$11,027	\$13,455	\$16,545	\$21,255	\$25,516
	Average annual total return	10.27%	34.55%	18.27%	16.28%	9.82%
MSCI All Country World Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,230	\$13,926	\$15,037	\$19,778	\$25,700
	Average annual total return	12.30%	39.26%	14.57%	14.61%	9.90%

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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Common Stocks	99%	99%
Cash Equivalents	1%	1%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Information Technology	28%	27%
Financials	15%	15%
Health Care	14%	17%
Consumer Discretionary	12%	11%
Communication Services	11%	11%
Industrials	10%	8%
Consumer Staples	5%	7%
Materials	4%	3%
Energy	1%	1%
	100%	100%

<b>Geographical Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
United States	57%	57%
China	6%	7%
Germany	5%	6%
Switzerland	5%	5%
Canada	5%	5%
France	5%	3%
Japan	3%	4%
United Kingdom	3%	3%
Ireland	3%	3%
Argentina	3%	2%
Sweden	2%	2%
Other	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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Manager

Sebastian P. Werner, PhD, Head of Investment Strategy Equity



# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 99.0%</b>					
<b>Argentina 2.6%</b>					
Globant SA*	3,170	694,800			
MercadoLibre, Inc.*	125	194,724			
(Cost \$426,871)		<b>889,524</b>			
<b>Brazil 0.9%</b>					
Pagueguero Digital Ltd. "A"*	5,800	<b>324,336</b>			
(Cost \$222,301)					
<b>Canada 5.0%</b>					
Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.	4,650	281,092			
Alimentation Couche-Tard, Inc. "B"	7,100	260,895			
Brookfield Asset Management Reinsurance Partners Ltd. "A"*	157	8,296			
Brookfield Asset Management, Inc. "A"	22,840	1,165,216			
(Cost \$602,581)		<b>1,715,499</b>			
<b>China 5.7%</b>					
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. (ADR)*	2,400	544,272			
New Oriental Education & Technology Group, Inc. (ADR)*	16,600	135,954			
Ping An Insurance (Group) Co. of China Ltd. "H"	41,500	406,485			
Tencent Holdings Ltd.	11,200	842,420			
(Cost \$1,131,500)		<b>1,929,131</b>			
<b>Denmark 0.2%</b>					
Ambu A/S "B" (Cost \$80,154)	2,000	<b>76,891</b>			
<b>France 4.7%</b>					
Arkema SA	2,500	313,631			
Cie de Saint-Gobain	5,400	355,625			
LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE	275	215,638			
Schneider Electric SE	971	152,763			
TotalEnergies SE	4,000	180,969			
VINCI SA	3,450	368,134			
(Cost \$1,294,608)		<b>1,586,760</b>			
<b>Germany 5.4%</b>					
adidas AG	485	180,521			
Allianz SE (Registered)	1,900	473,790			
Deutsche Boerse AG	3,650	637,080			
Evonik Industries AG	9,400	315,210			
Fresenius Medical Care AG & Co. KGaA	2,870	238,353			
(Cost \$1,395,712)		<b>1,844,954</b>			
<b>Ireland 2.7%</b>					
Experian PLC	11,041	425,506			
Kerry Group PLC "A" (a)	3,451	482,040			
Kerry Group PLC "A" (a)	49	6,804			
(Cost \$484,487)		<b>914,350</b>			
<b>Israel 0.7%</b>					
Kornit Digital Ltd.*	1,800	<b>223,794</b>			
(Cost \$162,162)					
<b>Japan 3.0%</b>					
Kao Corp.	2,800	172,267			
Keyence Corp.	1,200	605,644			
SMC Corp.	435	257,057			
(Cost \$691,433)		<b>1,034,968</b>			
<b>Luxembourg 0.8%</b>					
Eurofins Scientific SE*	2,330	<b>266,334</b>			
(Cost \$50,255)					
<b>Singapore 1.0%</b>					
DBS Group Holdings Ltd.	15,200	<b>336,961</b>			
(Cost \$279,300)					
<b>Sweden 1.8%</b>					
Assa Abloy AB "B"	6,700	201,827			
Spotify Technology SA* (b)	1,445	398,228			
(Cost \$343,592)		<b>600,055</b>			
<b>Switzerland 5.1%</b>					
Lonza Group AG (Registered)	1,524	1,080,183			
Nestle SA (Registered)	5,185	645,680			
(Cost \$404,923)		<b>1,725,863</b>			
<b>United Kingdom 2.8%</b>					
Aon PLC "A" (b)	1,500	358,140			
Halma PLC	7,500	279,288			
Spirax-Sarco Engineering PLC	1,750	329,589			
(Cost \$282,015)		<b>967,017</b>			
<b>United States 56.6%</b>					
1stdibs.com, Inc.*	5,000	174,050			
Activision Blizzard, Inc.	3,400	324,496			
Alphabet, Inc. "A"*	450	1,098,805			
Amazon.com, Inc.*	185	636,430			
AMETEK, Inc.	4,195	560,032			
Amphenol Corp. "A"	11,200	766,192			
Apple, Inc.	4,620	632,755			
Applied Materials, Inc.	5,100	726,240			
AZEK Co., Inc.*	5,350	227,161			
Certara, Inc.*	4,400	124,652			
Danaher Corp.	4,980	1,336,433			
DexCom, Inc.*	920	392,840			
Ecolab, Inc.	2,280	469,612			
EPAM Systems, Inc.*	1,350	689,796			
Exact Sciences Corp.*	2,005	249,242			
Fiserv, Inc.*	4,400	470,316			
Generac Holdings, Inc.*	710	294,756			
Hologic, Inc.*	3,500	233,520			
Intuit, Inc.	1,050	514,678			
iRhythm Technologies, Inc.*	810	53,744			
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	4,550	707,707			
MasterCard, Inc. "A"	1,740	635,257			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)
Match Group, Inc.*	2,820	454,725
McDonald's Corp.	1,800	415,782
Microsoft Corp.	4,290	1,162,161
Mondelez International, Inc. "A"	4,270	266,619
NVIDIA Corp.	1,130	904,113
Progressive Corp.	8,611	845,686
Quidel Corp.*	955	122,355
RingCentral, Inc. "A"*	690	200,500
Schlumberger NV	6,700	214,467
ServiceNow, Inc.*	1,375	755,631
Terminix Global Holdings, Inc.*	8,100	386,451
TJX Companies, Inc.	3,631	244,802
T-Mobile U.S., Inc.*	3,500	506,905
Vroom, Inc.*	5,200	217,672
YETI Holdings, Inc.*	6,800	624,376
Zoetis, Inc.	3,260	607,534
(Cost \$7,991,772)		<b>19,248,493</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$15,843,666)		<b>33,684,930</b>

### Cash Equivalents 1.0%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (c) (Cost \$358,046)	358,046	<b>358,046</b>
	<b>% of</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
	<b>Net Assets</b>	
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$16,201,712)	100.0	<b>34,042,976</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(0.0)	<b>(10,934)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>34,032,042</b>

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 0.0%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (c) (d)								
117,216	—	117,216 (e)	—	—	1,390	—	—	—
<b>Cash Equivalents 1.1%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (c)								
302,262	2,886,064	2,830,280	—	—	48	—	358,046	358,046
<b>419,478</b>	<b>2,886,064</b>	<b>2,947,496</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>358,046</b>	<b>358,046</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

(a) Securities with the same description are the same corporate entity but trade on different stock exchanges.

(b) Listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

(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, 2021.

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, 2021 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	\$ 889,524	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 889,524
Brazil	324,336	—	—	324,336
Canada	1,715,499	—	—	1,715,499
China	1,929,131	—	—	1,929,131
Denmark	76,891	—	—	76,891
France	1,586,760	—	—	1,586,760
Germany	1,844,954	—	—	1,844,954
Ireland	914,350	—	—	914,350
Israel	223,794	—	—	223,794
Japan	1,034,968	—	—	1,034,968
Luxembourg	266,334	—	—	266,334
Singapore	336,961	—	—	336,961
Sweden	600,055	—	—	600,055
Switzerland	1,725,863	—	—	1,725,863
United Kingdom	967,017	—	—	967,017
United States	19,248,493	—	—	19,248,493
Short-Term Investments	358,046	—	—	358,046
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$34,042,976</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$34,042,976</b>

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

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$15,843,666)	\$ 33,684,930
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$358,046)	358,046
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$30,058)	28,874
Receivable for Fund shares sold	64
Dividends receivable	22,314
Interest receivable	45
Foreign taxes recoverable	16,650
Other assets	273
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>34,111,196</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable for investments purchased	8,768
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	16,023
Accrued management fee	9,776
Accrued Trustees' fees	156
Other accrued expenses and payables	44,431
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>79,154</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 34,032,042</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	19,100,309
Paid-in capital	14,931,733
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 34,032,042</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$34,032,042 ÷ 2,105,249 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 16.17</b>

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$19,424)	\$ 230,918
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	48
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	1,390
<b>Total income</b>	<b>232,356</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	105,176
Administration fee	15,695
Services to shareholders	88
Custodian fee	3,318
Professional fees	36,109
Reports to shareholders	12,821
Trustees' fees and expenses	1,598
Other	4,850
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>179,655</b>
Expense reductions	(43,181)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>136,474</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>95,882</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	1,240,398
Foreign currency	2,772
	1,243,170
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	1,881,086
Foreign currency	(3,911)
	1,877,175
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>3,120,345</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$3,216,227</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 95,882	\$ 108,295
Net realized gain (loss)	1,243,170	1,394,668
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	1,877,175	4,807,712
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	3,216,227	6,310,675
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(1,500,691)	(1,173,276)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	717,605	850,800
Reinvestment of distributions	1,500,691	1,173,276
Payments for shares redeemed	(1,846,243)	(5,118,359)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	372,053	(3,094,283)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>2,087,589</b>	<b>2,043,116</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	31,944,453	29,901,337
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$34,032,042</b>	<b>\$31,944,453</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	2,081,012	2,310,277
Shares sold	45,918	63,092
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	95,101	107,739
Shares redeemed	(116,782)	(400,096)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	24,237	(229,265)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>2,105,249</b>	<b>2,081,012</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS Global Equity VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$15.35</b>	<b>\$12.94</b>	<b>\$10.32</b>	<b>\$11.70</b>	<b>\$9.48</b>	<b>\$9.00</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.05	.05	.08	.06	.05	.04
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.50	2.90	3.55	(1.35)	2.22	.51
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>1.55</b>	<b>2.95</b>	<b>3.63</b>	<b>(1.29)</b>	<b>2.27</b>	<b>.55</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.05)	(.09)	(.06)	(.09)	(.05)	(.07)
Net realized gains	(.68)	(.45)	(.95)	—	—	—
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.73)</b>	<b>(.54)</b>	<b>(1.01)</b>	<b>(.09)</b>	<b>(.05)</b>	<b>(.07)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$16.17</b>	<b>\$15.35</b>	<b>\$12.94</b>	<b>\$10.32</b>	<b>\$11.70</b>	<b>\$9.48</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	10.27 <sup>*</sup>	24.52	36.26	(11.12)	24.04	6.11 <sup>c</sup>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	34	32	30	25	31	43
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	1.11 <sup>**</sup>	1.16	1.22	1.22	1.06	1.03
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	.84 <sup>**</sup>	.84	.88	.92	.95	.95
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.59 <sup>**</sup>	.38	.69	.51	.49	.49
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	9 <sup>*</sup>	13	12	43	19	46

<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> 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.

<sup>\*</sup> Not annualized

<sup>\*\*</sup> Annualized

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

## 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 Depository 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 efforts 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, the Fund had no securities on loan.

**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, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$16,258,145. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$17,784,831. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$18,224,909 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$440,078.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$2,946,859 and \$3,984,995, 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, 2021, 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, 2021 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor had 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 shares at 0.84%.

Effective May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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 shares at 0.85%.

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed were \$43,181.

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee ("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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$15,695, of which \$2,674 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, 2021, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC aggregated \$52, of which \$15 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$282, of which \$192 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, 2021, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$104.

#### **D. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2021, 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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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. Fund Liquidation**

Upon the recommendation of the Advisor, the Fund's Board of Trustees has authorized the Fund's termination and liquidation, effective on or about October 28, 2021 (the "Liquidation Date"). Accordingly, the Fund will involuntarily redeem the shares of any shareholder (i.e., a participating insurance company that offers the Fund) outstanding on the Liquidation Date. Existing participating insurance company investors that currently offer the fund as an investment option may continue to offer it to their contract owners until the Liquidation Date.

# 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$1,102.70
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.38

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$1,020.63
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.21

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, the Fund’s performance (Class A shares) was in the 1st quartile, 2nd 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 outperformed its benchmark in the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2019.

**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 equal to the median of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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



VS2GE-3 (R-028380-10 8/21)

June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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**DWS Government Money Market VIP**



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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 ongoing 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 A DEPOSIT NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

# Portfolio Summary

(Unaudited)

<b>Asset Allocation</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Government & Agency Obligations	67%	77%
Repurchase Agreements	33%	23%
	100%	100%

<b>Weighted Average Maturity</b>	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II —DWS Government Money Market VIP	27 days	26 days
iMoneyNet Money Fund Average™— Gov't & Agency Retail*	34 days	37 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. The Fund's portfolio holdings are also posted on 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Principal Amount (\$)	Value (\$)
<b>Government &amp; Agency Obligations 67.5%</b>		
<b>U.S. Government Sponsored Agencies 12.1%</b>		
Federal Farm Credit Bank, SOFR + 0.07%, 0.12% (a), 8/11/2022	500,000	500,028
Federal Home Loan Bank: 0.015% (b), 8/19/2021	2,500,000	2,499,949
0.041% (b), 10/20/2021	2,000,000	1,999,753
SOFR + 0.01%, 0.06% (a), 8/1/2022	1,500,000	1,500,000
SOFR + 0.02%, 0.065% (a), 8/27/2021	1,000,000	1,000,000
SOFR + 0.12%, 0.17% (a), 2/28/2022	1,000,000	1,000,000
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.:		
SOFR + 0.07%, 0.12% (a), 2/25/2022	3,000,000	3,000,000
SOFR + 0.10%, 0.145% (a), 8/19/2022	1,500,000	1,500,000
SOFR + 0.15%, 0.2% (a), 3/4/2022	1,750,000	1,748,381
Federal National Mortgage Association:		
SOFR + 0.30%, 0.35% (a), 1/7/2022	1,500,000	1,500,000
SOFR + 0.31%, 0.36% (a), 10/25/2021	1,500,000	1,500,000
		<b>17,748,111</b>
<b>U.S. Treasury Obligations 55.4%</b>		
U.S. Treasury Bills:		
0.005% (b), 7/13/2021	4,500,000	4,499,992
0.007% (b), 8/12/2021	2,400,000	2,399,982
0.008% (b), 7/13/2021	1,500,000	1,499,996
0.011% (b), 8/19/2021	3,500,000	3,499,948
0.015% (b), 8/12/2021	5,000,000	4,999,912
0.015% (b), 8/19/2021	2,500,000	2,499,949
0.015% (b), 8/26/2021	3,000,000	2,999,930
0.02% (b), 7/29/2021	500,000	499,992
0.021% (b), 7/6/2021	20,000,000	19,999,943
0.031% (b), 11/4/2021	7,000,000	6,999,253
0.035% (b), 10/28/2021	3,000,000	2,999,653
0.036% (b), 10/7/2021	450,000	449,957
0.036% (b), 11/4/2021	4,500,000	4,499,449
0.036% (b), 11/4/2021	500,000	499,938
0.042% (b), 10/21/2021	5,000,000	4,999,362
U.S. Treasury Floating Rate Notes:		
3-month U.S. Treasury Bill Money Market Yield + 0.06%, 0.105% (a), 7/31/2022	3,500,000	3,501,404

	Principal Amount (\$)	Value (\$)
3-month U.S. Treasury Bill Money Market Yield + 0.11%, 0.164% (a), 4/30/2022	7,250,000	7,255,044
3-month U.S. Treasury Bill Money Market Yield + 0.15%, 0.204% (a), 1/31/2022	1,250,000	1,251,085
3-month U.S. Treasury Bill Money Market Yield + 0.22%, 0.27% (a), 7/31/2021	3,650,000	3,650,663
3-month U.S. Treasury Bill Money Market Yield + 0.30%, 0.35% (a), 10/31/2021	2,250,000	2,252,257
		<b>81,257,709</b>
<b>Total Government &amp; Agency Obligations</b> (Cost \$99,005,820)		<b>99,005,820</b>

## Repurchase Agreements 33.4%

Citigroup Global Markets, Inc., 0.05%, dated 6/30/2021, to be repurchased at \$21,700,030 on 7/1/2021 (c)	21,700,000	21,700,000
Wells Fargo Bank, 0.06%, dated 6/30/2021, to be repurchased at \$27,400,183 on 7/1/2021 (d)	27,400,000	27,400,000
<b>Total Repurchase Agreements</b> (Cost \$49,100,000)		<b>49,100,000</b>

	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$148,105,820)	100.9	<b>148,105,820</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(0.9)	<b>(1,326,078)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>146,779,742</b>

- (a) Floating rate security. These securities are shown at their current rate as of June 30, 2021.  
(b) Annualized yield at time of purchase; not a coupon rate.

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



- (c) Collateralized by \$22,138,600 U.S. Treasury Bills, Zero Coupon, with various maturity dates from 10/28/2021-11/26/2021 with a value of \$22,134,022.
- (d) Collateralized by \$25,404,340 Federal National Mortgage Association, 3-4.5%, with various maturity dates from 8/1/2048-2/1/2051 with a value of \$27,984,000.

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, 2021 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>
Investments in Securities (a)	\$ —	\$ 99,005,820	\$ —	\$ 99,005,820
Repurchase Agreements	—	49,100,000	—	49,100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$148,105,820</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$148,105,820</b>

- (a) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in securities, valued at amortized cost	\$ 99,005,820
Repurchase agreements, valued at amortized cost	49,100,000
Cash	60,438
Receivable for Fund shares sold	204,789
Interest receivable	8,413
Due from Advisor	9,565
Other assets	1,800
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>148,390,825</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable for investments purchased	1,500,000
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	47,654
Distributions payable	630
Accrued Trustees' fees	972
Other accrued expenses and payables	61,827
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>1,611,083</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$146,779,742</b>

## Net Assets Consist of

Distributable earnings (loss)	14,984
Paid-in capital	146,764,758
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$146,779,742</b>

## Net Asset Value

### Class A

<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$146,779,742 ÷ 146,848,474 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 1.00</b>
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# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Interest	\$ 51,094
Expenses:	
Management fee	177,830
Administration fee	73,402
Services to shareholders	1,311
Custodian fee	2,232
Professional fees	25,159
Reports to shareholders	32,067
Trustees' fees and expenses	5,265
Other	6,018
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>323,284</b>
<b>Expense reductions</b>	<b>(279,767)</b>
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>43,517</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>7,577</b>
<b>Net realized gain (loss) from investments</b>	<b>(29)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ 7,548</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 7,577	\$ 308,578
Net realized gain (loss)	(29)	144
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	7,548	308,722
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(7,577)	(308,575)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	71,854,576	180,940,347
Reinvestment of distributions	7,630	366,986
Payments for shares redeemed	(78,339,649)	(150,319,848)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(6,477,443)	30,987,485
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>(6,477,472)</b>	<b>30,987,632</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	153,257,214	122,269,582
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$146,779,742</b>	<b>\$ 153,257,214</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	153,325,917	122,338,432
Shares sold	71,854,576	180,940,347
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	7,630	366,986
Shares redeemed	(78,339,649)	(150,319,848)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(6,477,443)	30,987,485
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>146,848,474</b>	<b>153,325,917</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS Government Money Market VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
		2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<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 (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income	.000*	.002	.018	.014	.005	.001 <sup>a</sup>
Net realized gain (loss)	(.000)*	.000*	.000*	(.000)*	.000*	.000*
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>.000*</b>	<b>.002</b>	<b>.018</b>	<b>.014</b>	<b>.005</b>	<b>.001</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.000)*	(.002)	(.018)	(.014)	(.005)	(.001)
<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 (%)	.00 <sup>b**</sup>	.24 <sup>b</sup>	1.77 <sup>b</sup>	1.39 <sup>b</sup>	.45	.05 <sup>a,b</sup>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	147	153	122	107	111	122
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.43 <sup>***</sup>	.42	.47	.50	.48	.51
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.06 <sup>***</sup>	.23	.47	.50	.48	.44
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.01 <sup>***</sup>	.20	1.74	1.37	.45	.05 <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</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 \$.0004, 0.04%, and 0.04%, respectively.

<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.

\* Amount is less than \$.0005.

\*\* Not annualized

\*\*\* Annualized

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

## 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 market value is equal to at least the principal amount of the repurchase price plus accrued interest. The custodian bank or another designated sub-custodian bank 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, 2021, the Fund held repurchase agreements with a gross value of \$49,100,000. 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 June 30, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$148,105,820.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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 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.

Under the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the average daily net assets of the Fund, 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, 2021, 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, 2021 through September 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) 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, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed amounted to \$279,767.

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee ("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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$73,402, of which \$12,226 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, 2021, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC aggregated \$1,116, of which \$276 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$369, of which \$210 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, 2021, three participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 58%, 14% and 12%, respectively.

### **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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

### **E. Money Market Fund Investments and Yield**

Rising interest rates could cause the value of the Fund's investments — and therefore its share price as well — to decline. Conversely, any decline in interest rates is likely to cause the Fund's yield to decline, and during periods of unusually low interest rates, the Fund's yield may approach zero. A low interest rate environment may prevent the fund from providing a positive yield or paying fund expenses out of current income and, at times, could impair the fund's ability to maintain a stable \$1.00 share price. Over time, the total return of a money market fund may not keep pace with inflation, which could result in a net loss of purchasing power for long-term investors. Recent and potential future changes in monetary policy made by central banks or governments are likely to affect the level of interest rates. Money market funds try to minimize this risk by purchasing short-term securities.

If there is an insufficient supply of U.S. government securities to meet investor demand, it could result in lower yields on such securities and increase interest rate risk for the fund.

### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.

## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$1,000.05
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ .30

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$1,024.50
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ .30

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratio</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS Government Money Market VIP	.06%

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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, the Fund’s performance (Class A shares) was in the 2nd quartile and 1st quartile, respectively, 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 (1st quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. Based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2019, the Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total operating expenses were higher than the median (3rd 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 from time to time in recent years 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the

“Consent Order”). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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-028387-10 8/21)



June 30, 2021

# **Semiannual Report**

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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**DWS Global Income Builder VIP**



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<b>36</b>	Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

**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 ongoing 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.

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# Performance Summary

June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

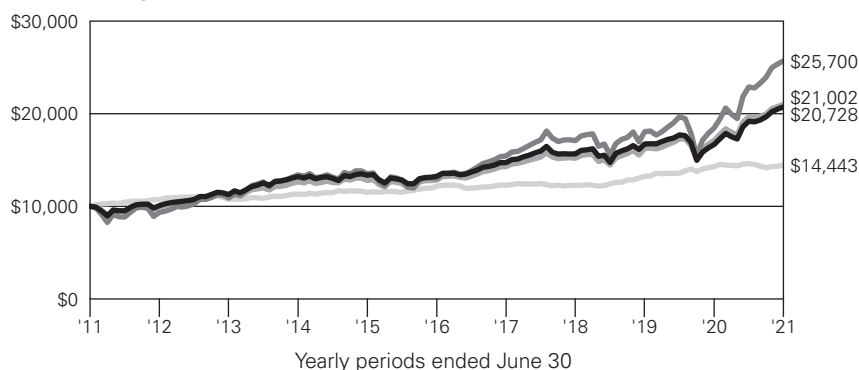
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original 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, 2021 are 0.64% 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 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 27 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 U.S. Universal Index.

Bloomberg 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

DWS Global Income Builder VIP		6-Month*	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,805	\$12,438	\$13,234	\$15,655	\$20,728
	Average annual total return	8.05%	24.38%	9.79%	9.38%	7.56%
MSCI All Country World Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,230	\$13,926	\$15,037	\$19,778	\$25,700
	Average annual total return	12.30%	39.26%	14.57%	14.61%	9.90%
Blended Index 60/40	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,679	\$12,276	\$13,821	\$16,363	\$21,002
	Average annual total return	6.79%	22.76%	11.39%	10.35%	7.70%
Bloomberg U.S. Universal Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,885	\$10,112	\$11,790	\$11,864	\$14,443
	Average annual total return	-1.15%	1.12%	5.64%	3.48%	3.74%

## Comparative Results

<b>DWS Global Income Builder VIP</b>		<b>6-Month<sup>‡</sup></b>	<b>1-Year</b>	<b>3-Year</b>	<b>Life of Class*</b>
<b>Class B</b>	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,791	\$12,397	\$13,141	\$13,141
	Average annual total return	7.91%	23.97%	9.53%	9.01%
MSCI All Country World Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,230	\$13,926	\$15,037	\$14,975
	Average annual total return	12.30%	39.26%	14.57%	13.60%
Blended Index 60/40	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,679	\$12,276	\$13,821	\$13,811
	Average annual total return	6.79%	22.76%	11.39%	12.46%
Bloomberg U.S. Universal Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$9,885	\$10,112	\$11,790	\$11,837
	Average annual total return	-1.15%	1.12%	5.64%	5.47%

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

\* Class B commenced operations on May 1, 2018.

‡ 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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
<b>Equity</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>61%</b>
Common Stocks	58%	57%
Preferred Stocks	4%	4%
Warrants	0%	0%
<b>Fixed Income</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>37%</b>
Corporate Bonds	21%	15%
Exchange-Traded Funds	3%	3%
Asset-Backed	3%	5%
Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	2%	3%
Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities	2%	4%
Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations	2%	2%
Government & Agency Obligations	1%	1%
Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs	0%	4%
<b>Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>2%</b>
Cash Equivalents	4%	2%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Equities, Preferred Securities, Warrants and Corporate Bonds)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Financials	21%	19%
Information Technology	20%	20%
Communication Services	11%	10%
Health Care	9%	9%
Consumer Discretionary	8%	9%
Industrials	7%	7%
Energy	6%	5%
Utilities	5%	6%
Consumer Staples	5%	6%
Materials	4%	5%
Real Estate	4%	4%
	100%	100%

<b>Geographical Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Exchange-Traded Funds, Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
United States	60%	63%
Japan	5%	5%
Canada	4%	3%
United Kingdom	4%	3%
Switzerland	4%	3%
Germany	2%	2%
France	2%	1%
Cayman Islands	2%	1%
Australia	2%	2%
Ireland	1%	2%
Hong Kong	1%	2%
Other	13%	13%
	100%	100%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 7.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## **Portfolio Management Team**

Dokyoung Lee, CFA, Regional Head of Multi Asset & Solutions

Di Kumble, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager Equity

Thomas M. Farina, CFA, Head of Investment Strategy Fixed Income

Scott Agi, CFA, Head of Investment Strategy Fixed Income

Darwei Kung, Head of Investment Strategy Liquid Real Assets

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 58.0%</b>		
<b>Communication Services 6.0%</b>		
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services 2.6%</b>		
AT&T, Inc.	17,174	494,268
BCE, Inc.	7,650	377,254
Deutsche Telekom AG (Registered)	13,284	280,566
Elisa Oyj	2,892	172,557
Koninklijke KPN NV	51,092	159,574
Lumen Technologies, Inc.	11,300	153,567
Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corp.	9,646	251,320
Orange SA	12,842	146,411
Swisscom AG (Registered)	288	164,411
Telenor ASA	12,421	209,321
Telia Co. AB	57,712	256,120
Telstra Corp., Ltd.	68,414	192,915
TELUS Corp.	7,878	176,677
Verizon Communications, Inc.	6,194	347,050
		<b>3,382,011</b>
<b>Entertainment 0.6%</b>		
Activision Blizzard, Inc.	1,136	108,420
Netflix, Inc.*	400	211,284
Nintendo Co., Ltd.	356	207,072
Sea Ltd. (ADR)*	900	247,140
		<b>773,916</b>
<b>Interactive Media &amp; Services 1.8%</b>		
Alphabet, Inc. "A"*	100	244,179
Alphabet, Inc. "C"*	100	250,632
Facebook, Inc. "A"*	1,300	452,023
Match Group, Inc.*	1,500	241,875
Pinterest, Inc. "A"*	2,200	173,690
Snap, Inc. "A"*	3,100	211,234
Tencent Holdings Ltd. (ADR) (a)	3,800	286,140
Twitter, Inc.*	3,700	254,597
Zillow Group, Inc. "A"*	900	110,277
Zillow Group, Inc. "C"*	1,000	122,220
		<b>2,346,867</b>
<b>Media 0.4%</b>		
Comcast Corp. "A"	5,338	304,373
Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.	6,392	207,676
		<b>512,049</b>
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 0.6%</b>		
KDDI Corp.	6,341	197,773
SoftBank Corp.	24,401	319,248
Vodafone Group PLC	189,190	317,554
		<b>834,575</b>

## Consumer Discretionary 4.6%

### Auto Components 0.2%

Denso Corp.	3,652	<b>249,143</b>
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### Automobiles 0.8%

Bayerische Motoren Werke AG	1,742	184,476
Tesla, Inc.*	831	564,831
Toyota Motor Corp.	2,938	256,789
		<b>1,006,096</b>

### Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure 0.7%

Evolution AB 144A	1,476	233,246
McDonald's Corp.	610	140,904
Restaurant Brands International, Inc.	1,712	110,308
Starbucks Corp.	2,289	255,933
Yum! Brands, Inc.	1,051	120,896
		<b>861,287</b>

### Household Durables 0.3%

Garmin Ltd.	1,042	150,715
Persimmon PLC	4,417	180,735
Sekisui House Ltd.	6,426	131,794
		<b>463,244</b>

### Internet & Direct Marketing Retail 1.5%

Amazon.com, Inc.*	528	1,816,404
Delivery Hero SE 144A*	989	130,640
		<b>1,947,044</b>

### Multiline Retail 0.4%

Target Corp.	1,241	299,999
Wesfarmers Ltd.	4,953	219,527
		<b>519,526</b>

### Specialty Retail 0.7%

Best Buy Co., Inc.	1,375	158,097
Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group, Ltd.	109,200	249,502
Home Depot, Inc.	1,112	354,606
Lowe's Companies, Inc.	1,039	201,535
		<b>963,740</b>

### Consumer Staples 3.7%

#### Beverages 0.5%

Coca-Cola Co.	6,482	350,741
PepsiCo, Inc.	2,306	341,680
		<b>692,421</b>

#### Food & Staples Retailing 0.7%

Endeavour Group Ltd.*	5,011	23,638
Koninklijke Ahold Delhaize NV	5,782	171,880
Tesco PLC	53,931	166,327
Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc.	4,120	216,753
Walmart, Inc.	1,543	217,594

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Woolworths Group Ltd.	5,011	143,292	Credit Agricole SA	15,850	222,034
		<b>939,484</b>	DBS Group Holdings Ltd.	12,132	268,949
<b>Food Products 0.9%</b>			Fifth Third Bancorp.	4,000	152,920
General Mills, Inc.	2,662	162,196	Hang Seng Bank Ltd.	10,494	209,629
Kellogg Co.	2,170	139,596	HSBC Holdings PLC	29,323	169,267
Kraft Heinz Co.	5,680	231,630	Huntington Bancshares, Inc.	10,476	149,493
Nestle SA (Registered)	2,656	330,748	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	1,045	162,539
WH Group Ltd. 144A	161,731	145,394	KeyCorp.	10,714	221,244
Wilmar International Ltd.	53,339	178,497	Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc.	48,214	260,437
		<b>1,188,061</b>	Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.	14,235	203,412
<b>Household Products 0.6%</b>			Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp., Ltd.	26,467	235,205
Colgate-Palmolive Co.	1,255	102,095	PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.	899	171,493
Kimberly-Clark Corp.	1,055	141,138	Regions Financial Corp.	11,494	231,949
Procter & Gamble Co.	2,540	342,722	Royal Bank of Canada	3,570	361,694
Reckitt Benckiser Group PLC	1,930	170,785	Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.	6,673	230,052
		<b>756,740</b>	Toronto-Dominion Bank	5,210	365,112
<b>Personal Products 0.2%</b>			Truist Financial Corp.	2,880	159,840
Unilever PLC	5,270	<b>308,439</b>	U.S. Bancorp.	4,120	234,716
<b>Tobacco 0.8%</b>			United Overseas Bank Ltd.	14,182	272,313
Altria Group, Inc.	5,300	252,704			<b>5,749,838</b>
Japan Tobacco, Inc.	15,200	287,117	<b>Capital Markets 1.6%</b>		
Philip Morris International, Inc.	4,502	446,193	3i Group PLC	8,136	132,016
		<b>986,014</b>	Apollo Global Management, Inc.	5,056	314,483
<b>Energy 2.1%</b>			BlackRock, Inc.	237	207,368
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels</b>			Blackstone Group, Inc. "A"	4,633	450,050
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.	6,200	225,073	Franklin Resources, Inc.	5,818	186,118
Chevron Corp.	1,953	204,557	Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd.	2,001	119,272
Enbridge, Inc.	8,200	328,304	Partners Group Holding AG	195	295,371
ENEOS Holdings, Inc.	36,285	151,842	T. Rowe Price Group, Inc.	1,255	248,452
Eni SpA	15,336	186,757	UBS Group AG (Registered)	12,198	186,678
Exxon Mobil Corp.	5,000	315,400			<b>2,139,808</b>
Kinder Morgan, Inc.	15,100	275,273	<b>Diversified Financial Services 0.3%</b>		
ONEOK, Inc.	3,400	189,176	M&G PLC	50,946	161,314
Repsol SA (a)	14,567	182,297	ORIX Corp.	11,239	189,635
TC Energy Corp.	5,595	276,861			<b>350,949</b>
Thungela Resources Ltd.*	345	950	<b>Insurance 2.7%</b>		
TotalEnergies SE	8,451	382,343	Allianz SE (Registered)	1,217	303,475
		<b>2,718,833</b>	Assicurazioni Generali Spa	8,050	161,363
<b>Financials 9.0%</b>			AXA SA	7,591	192,487
<b>Banks 4.4%</b>			Dai-ichi Life Holdings, Inc.	8,200	150,131
Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria SA*	23,677	146,776	Fidelity National Financial, Inc.	2,970	129,076
Bank of Montreal	2,784	285,362	Legal & General Group PLC	60,019	213,871
Bank of Nova Scotia	3,715	241,613	Manulife Financial Corp.	14,107	277,679
BOC Hong Kong Holdings Ltd.	79,663	270,355	MS&AD Insurance Group Holdings, Inc.	3,798	109,672
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	1,720	195,796	Muenchener Rueckversicherungs-Gesellschaft AG (Registered)	496	135,829
Citizens Financial Group, Inc.	3,046	139,720	NN Group NV	3,990	188,205
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	2,509	187,918			

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



	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Poste Italiane SpA 144A	15,326	202,627	Raytheon Technologies Corp.	2,015	171,900
Progressive Corp.	2,600	255,346			<b>551,259</b>
Prudential Financial, Inc.	3,064	313,968	<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics 0.7%</b>		
Sampo Oyj "A"	3,381	155,390	Deutsche Post AG (Registered)	4,510	306,746
Sompo Holdings, Inc.	2,882	106,517	FedEx Corp.	729	217,482
Swiss Re AG	3,903	352,145	United Parcel Service, Inc. "B"	1,702	353,965
Zurich Insurance Group AG	818	328,172			<b>878,193</b>
		<b>3,575,953</b>	<b>Building Products 0.2%</b>		
<b>Health Care 5.8%</b>			Xinyi Glass Holdings Ltd.	50,525	<b>205,958</b>
<b>Biotechnology 1.0%</b>			<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 0.0%</b>		
AbbVie, Inc.	3,960	446,054	Quad Graphics, Inc.*	2	<b>8</b>
Amgen, Inc.	1,292	314,925	<b>Construction &amp; Engineering 0.1%</b>		
Gilead Sciences, Inc.	4,626	318,546	Bouygues SA	3,822	<b>141,351</b>
Seagen, Inc.*	1,700	268,396	<b>Electrical Equipment 0.5%</b>		
		<b>1,347,921</b>	ABB Ltd. (Registered)	6,375	216,278
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 0.5%</b>			Eaton Corp. PLC	1,716	254,277
Abbott Laboratories	2,558	296,549	Emerson Electric Co.	1,726	166,110
Coloplast AS "B"	600	98,449			<b>636,665</b>
Medtronic PLC	2,289	284,134	<b>Industrial Conglomerates 0.8%</b>		
		<b>679,132</b>	3M Co.	1,104	219,287
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 0.6%</b>			CK Hutchison Holdings Ltd.	31,960	249,035
Cardinal Health, Inc.	2,923	166,874	Honeywell International, Inc.	899	197,196
CVS Health Corp.	3,069	256,077	Jardine Matheson Holdings Ltd.	2,426	155,070
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	794	317,950	Siemens AG (Registered)	1,348	213,577
		<b>740,901</b>			<b>1,034,165</b>
<b>Health Care Technology 0.1%</b>			<b>Machinery 0.3%</b>		
M3, Inc.	1,814	<b>132,472</b>	Cummins, Inc.	579	141,166
<b>Pharmaceuticals 3.6%</b>			Kone Oyj "B"	1,250	101,975
Astellas Pharma, Inc.	8,510	148,185	Techtronic Industries Co., Ltd.	11,000	192,110
AstraZeneca PLC	2,318	278,420			<b>435,251</b>
Bayer AG (Registered)	4,345	263,838	<b>Professional Services 0.2%</b>		
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	4,739	316,660	Adecco Group AG (Registered)	2,497	169,642
Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	4,917	194,830	Thomson Reuters Corp.	1,373	136,381
Eli Lilly & Co.	1,679	385,364			<b>306,023</b>
GlaxoSmithKline PLC	13,428	263,653	<b>Road &amp; Rail 0.2%</b>		
Johnson & Johnson	2,456	404,601	Union Pacific Corp.	941	<b>206,954</b>
Merck & Co., Inc.	4,586	356,653	<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors 0.8%</b>		
Novartis AG (Registered)	4,179	380,841	Fastenal Co.	2,018	104,936
Novo Nordisk AS "B"	2,903	243,211	ITOCHU Corp.	6,571	189,272
Organon & Co.*	458	13,859	Marubeni Corp.	17,100	148,704
Pfizer, Inc.	11,067	433,384	Mitsubishi Corp.	9,109	248,274
Roche Holding AG	1,635	630,351	Mitsui & Co., Ltd.	9,405	211,686
Sanofi	2,447	256,379	Sumitomo Corp.	14,738	197,400
Takeda Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	5,273	176,518			<b>1,100,272</b>
		<b>4,746,747</b>	<b>Information Technology 15.2%</b>		
<b>Industrials 4.2%</b>			<b>Communications Equipment 0.4%</b>		
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 0.4%</b>			Cisco Systems, Inc.	7,924	419,972
BAE Systems PLC	31,578	228,019			
Lockheed Martin Corp.	400	151,340			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson "B"	11,725	147,362			
		<b>567,334</b>			
<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components 0.5%</b>					
Azbil Corp.	2,475	102,591			
Corning, Inc.	4,805	196,525			
Murata Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	2,848	217,442			
TE Connectivity Ltd.	1,499	202,680			
		<b>719,238</b>			
<b>IT Services 3.2%</b>					
Accenture PLC "A"	1,110	327,217			
Adyen NV 144A*	63	153,924			
Afterpay Ltd.*	1,980	175,471			
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.	1,141	226,625			
Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.	698	112,748			
Fujitsu Ltd.	1,239	231,975			
Infosys Ltd. (ADR)	11,300	239,447			
International Business Machines Corp.	3,102	454,722			
MasterCard, Inc. "A"	576	210,292			
MongoDB, Inc.*	700	253,064			
Paychex, Inc.	2,595	278,444			
PayPal Holdings, Inc.*	965	281,278			
Shopify, Inc. "A"*	300	438,739			
Square, Inc. "A"*	1,958	477,360			
Twilio, Inc. "A"*	507	199,839			
Western Union Co.	3,964	91,053			
		<b>4,152,198</b>			
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 3.8%</b>					
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*	3,400	319,362			
Analog Devices, Inc.	1,144	196,951			
Applied Materials, Inc.	1,509	214,882			
Broadcom, Inc.	1,149	547,889			
Enphase Energy, Inc.*	1,255	230,456			
Intel Corp.	4,471	251,002			
KLA Corp.	879	284,980			
Lam Research Corp.	456	296,719			
Lasertec Corp.	800	155,470			
Micron Technology, Inc.*	3,200	271,936			
Monolithic Power Systems, Inc.	1,100	410,795			
NVIDIA Corp.	462	369,646			
QUALCOMM, Inc.	2,984	426,503			
Skyworks Solutions, Inc.	712	136,526			
SolarEdge Technologies, Inc.*	526	145,371			
Texas Instruments, Inc.	2,704	519,979			
Tokyo Electron Ltd.	526	227,644			
		<b>5,006,111</b>			
<b>Software 3.8%</b>					
Adobe, Inc.*	600	351,384			
CrowdStrike Holdings, Inc. "A"*	661	166,116			
DocuSign, Inc.*	600	167,742			
Intuit, Inc.	530	259,790			
Microsoft Corp.	8,266	2,239,259			
Oracle Corp.	4,314	335,802			
salesforce.com, Inc.*	1,100	268,697			
SAP SE	1,025	144,438			
ServiceNow, Inc.*	258	141,784			
Trade Desk, Inc. "A"*	3,050	235,948			
Zoom Video Communications, Inc. "A"*	933	361,099			
Zscaler, Inc.*	1,439	310,910			
		<b>4,982,969</b>			
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals 3.5%</b>					
Apple, Inc.	19,309	2,644,561			
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.	11,453	166,985			
HP, Inc.	10,793	325,841			
Logitech International SA (Registered)	2,404	291,260			
NetApp, Inc.	4,351	355,999			
Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. (GDR) (Registered)	133	237,205			
Seagate Technology Holdings PLC	3,512	308,810			
Seiko Epson Corp.	10,701	188,215			
		<b>4,518,876</b>			
<b>Materials 3.0%</b>					
<b>Chemicals 0.7%</b>					
Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.	488	140,388			
BASF SE	2,693	212,158			
Dow, Inc.	2,234	141,367			
Linde PLC	406	117,375			
Nutrien Ltd.	4,770	289,024			
		<b>900,312</b>			
<b>Construction Materials 0.2%</b>					
Holcim Ltd.*	4,879	<b>292,661</b>			
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging 0.3%</b>					
Amcor PLC	14,993	171,820			
International Paper Co.	3,531	216,486			
		<b>388,306</b>			
<b>Metals &amp; Mining 1.7%</b>					
Anglo American PLC	3,457	137,365			
B2Gold Corp.	24,769	103,904			
BHP Group Ltd.	9,282	338,098			
BHP Group PLC	9,669	284,890			
Rio Tinto Ltd.	3,558	337,916			
Rio Tinto PLC	4,773	392,782			
Sibanye Stillwater Ltd. (ADR)	8,000	133,840			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)
Vale SA (ADR)	18,000	410,580
		<b>2,139,375</b>
<b>Paper &amp; Forest Products 0.1%</b>		
UPM-Kymmene Oyj	3,791	<b>143,396</b>
<b>Real Estate 1.9%</b>		
<b>Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) 1.8%</b>		
Ascendas Real Estate Investment Trust	38,565	84,604
CapitaLand Integrated Commercial Trust	102,052	158,614
Crown Castle International Corp.	873	170,322
Iron Mountain, Inc.	5,300	224,296
Link REIT	17,140	166,118
Medical Properties Trust, Inc.	12,392	249,079
Omega Healthcare Investors, Inc.	9,300	337,497
Prologis, Inc.	918	109,729
Public Storage	489	147,038
Realty Income Corp.	1,622	108,252
VEREIT Inc.	3,500	160,755
VICI Properties, Inc. (a)	9,162	284,205
WP Carey, Inc.	1,797	134,092
		<b>2,334,601</b>
<b>Real Estate Management &amp; Development 0.1%</b>		
Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd.	11,190	<b>166,748</b>
<b>Utilities 2.5%</b>		
<b>Electric Utilities 1.8%</b>		
American Electric Power Co., Inc.	1,567	132,552
CLP Holdings Ltd.	10,088	99,785
Duke Energy Corp.	2,082	205,535
EDP - Energias de Portugal SA	35,365	187,445
Enel SpA	27,597	256,288
Fortum Oyj	8,626	237,910
Iberdrola SA	10,567	128,807
NextEra Energy, Inc.	1,958	143,482
Power Assets Holdings Ltd.	27,500	168,769
PPL Corp.	7,235	202,363
Red Electrica Corp. SA (a)	7,536	139,890
Southern Co.	3,469	209,909
SSE PLC	10,427	216,427
		<b>2,329,162</b>
<b>Gas Utilities 0.2%</b>		
Snam SpA	34,289	<b>198,209</b>
<b>Multi-Utilities 0.5%</b>		
Consolidated Edison, Inc.	1,613	115,685
Dominion Energy, Inc.	2,104	154,791
National Grid PLC	13,358	170,147
Public Service Enterprise Group, Inc.	2,369	141,524

	Shares	Value (\$)
Sempra Energy	959	127,048
		<b>709,195</b>
<b>Total Common Stocks (Cost \$55,355,414)</b>		<b>75,958,001</b>

### Preferred Stocks 3.5%

#### Consumer Discretionary 0.2%

Porsche Automobil Holding SE	2,563	<b>274,611</b>
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#### Financials 1.9%

AGNC Investment Corp., Series C, 7.0%	14,427	389,817
Capital One Financial Corp., Series G, 5.2%	10,000	258,200
Fifth Third Bancorp., Series I, 6.625%	10,000	290,900
KeyCorp., Series E, 6.125%	10,000	305,800
Morgan Stanley, Series K, 5.85%	10,000	295,200
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., Series J, 5.5%	17,000	465,800
Wells Fargo & Co., Series Y, 5.625%	15,000	397,200
		<b>2,402,917</b>

#### Real Estate 0.8%

Kimco Realty Corp., Series L, 5.125%	15,000	388,950
Prologis, Inc., Series Q, 8.54%	164	11,693
Simon Property Group, Inc., Series J, 8.375%	8,000	558,600
VEREIT, Inc., Series F, 6.7%	5,203	131,480
		<b>1,090,723</b>

#### Utilities 0.6%

Dominion Energy, Inc., Series A, 5.25%	30,000	<b>766,800</b>
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**Total Preferred Stocks (Cost \$4,360,129) 4,535,051**

### Warrants 0.0%

#### Materials

Hercules Trust II, Expiration Date 3/31/2029* (b) (Cost \$30,283)	170	<b>7,304</b>
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	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
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### Corporate Bonds 20.7%

#### Communication Services 3.2%

Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., 3.4%, 12/6/2027	300,000	327,814
America Movil SAB de CV, 4.375%, 4/22/2049	300,000	367,942
AT&T, Inc.: 1.65%, 2/1/2028	50,000	49,628

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

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
2.25%, 2/1/2032	95,000	93,239	General Motors Co.,		
2.75%, 6/1/2031	60,000	62,369	5.4%, 4/1/2048	60,000	76,424
3.65%, 6/1/2051	100,000	103,815	General Motors Financial		
CCO Holdings LLC, 144A,			Co., Inc.:		
4.75%, 3/1/2030	100,000	105,750	2.35%, 1/8/2031	80,000	78,936
Charter Communications			2.7%, 6/10/2031	90,000	90,324
Operating LLC:			Hilton Domestic Operating		
3.5%, 6/1/2041	105,000	105,711	Co., Inc.:		
3.7%, 4/1/2051	140,000	138,469	144A, 3.625%, 2/15/2032	225,000	222,188
4.4%, 12/1/2061	100,000	107,449	144A, 4.0%, 5/1/2031	125,000	126,109
5.05%, 3/30/2029	100,000	118,119	Hilton Grand Vacations		
CSC Holdings LLC:			Borrower Escrow LLC,		
144A, 3.375%, 2/15/2031	200,000	188,982	144A, 4.875%, 7/1/2031	40,000	39,895
144A, 4.125%, 12/1/2030	200,000	198,750	QVC, Inc., 4.75%, 2/15/2027	185,000	196,168
144A, 4.5%, 11/15/2031	200,000	201,228	Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.:		
Discovery Communications			144A, 4.25%, 7/1/2026	40,000	39,950
LLC, 4.0%, 9/15/2055	40,000	42,336	144A, 5.5%, 4/1/2028	50,000	52,365
Grupo Televisa SAB, 5.25%,					<b>2,169,590</b>
5/24/2049 (a)	300,000	379,358	<b>Consumer Staples 0.4%</b>		
Netflix, Inc.:			Albertsons Companies, Inc.:		
4.375%, 11/15/2026	100,000	113,722	144A, 3.25%, 3/15/2026	100,000	101,425
5.875%, 11/15/2028	140,000	171,840	144A, 3.5%, 3/15/2029	50,000	49,437
Tencent Holdings Ltd., REG			Altria Group, Inc.:		
S, 2.39%, 6/3/2030	300,000	298,883	3.7%, 2/4/2051	50,000	47,432
T-Mobile U.S.A., Inc.:			3.875%, 9/16/2046	20,000	19,861
2.05%, 2/15/2028	30,000	30,455	Anheuser-Busch InBev		
2.25%, 11/15/2031	115,000	113,444	Worldwide, Inc.:		
2.625%, 4/15/2026	90,000	92,025	4.439%, 10/6/2048	50,000	59,844
3.3%, 2/15/2051	125,000	124,794	5.55%, 1/23/2049	121,000	166,356
3.375%, 4/15/2029	115,000	118,679	BAT Capital Corp.,		
3.6%, 11/15/2060	25,000	25,452	2.726%, 3/25/2031	60,000	59,237
4.375%, 4/15/2040	60,000	70,338	Keurig Dr Pepper, Inc.,		
Verizon			3.8%, 5/1/2050	15,000	16,904
Communications, Inc.:			Smithfield Foods, Inc., 144A,		
2.1%, 3/22/2028	55,000	56,150	3.0%, 10/15/2030	40,000	40,329
2.55%, 3/21/2031 (a)	70,000	71,549			<b>560,825</b>
2.65%, 11/20/2040	40,000	38,493	<b>Energy 2.6%</b>		
3.7%, 3/22/2061	100,000	107,106	BP Capital Markets America,		
ViacomCBS, Inc.,			Inc., 3.06%, 6/17/2041	100,000	100,756
4.2%, 5/19/2032	55,000	63,477	Cheniere Corpus Christi		
Vodafone Group PLC,			Holdings LLC,		
5.125%, 6/4/2081	80,000	80,800	5.875%, 3/31/2025	200,000	229,214
		<b>4,168,166</b>	Cheniere Energy Partners LP,		
<b>Consumer Discretionary 1.7%</b>			4.5%, 10/1/2029	175,000	188,125
1011778 BC Unlimited			Ecopetrol SA,		
Liability Co., 144A,			6.875%, 4/29/2030	300,000	362,103
4.375%, 1/15/2028	225,000	228,094	Energy Transfer Operating LP,		
Carnival Corp.:			5.5%, 6/1/2027	100,000	117,279
144A, 5.75%, 3/1/2027	80,000	83,800	Enterprise Products		
144A, 7.625%, 3/1/2026	97,000	105,366	Operating LLC,		
Dollar General Corp.,			4.2%, 1/31/2050	172,000	198,385
4.125%, 4/3/2050	20,000	23,429	Hess Corp., 5.8%, 4/1/2047	70,000	91,212
Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC:			MPLX LP, 2.65%, 8/15/2030	35,000	35,325
2.9%, 2/16/2028	200,000	199,052	Petroleos Mexicanos,		
3.37%, 11/17/2023	350,000	362,839	6.84%, 1/23/2030	625,000	644,063
3.625%, 6/17/2031	240,000	244,651	Plains All American Pipeline		
			LP, 3.8%, 9/15/2030	50,000	53,503

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

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
Saudi Arabian Oil Co.:			JPMorgan Chase & Co.:		
144A, 2.25%, 11/24/2030	625,000	613,356	2.956%, 5/13/2031	55,000	57,778
REG S, 3.5%, 4/16/2029	300,000	324,750	3.65%, Perpetual (d)	320,000	320,448
Sinopec Group Overseas Development Ltd., REG S, 2.7%, 5/13/2030	300,000	309,619	Morgan Stanley, 3.217%, 4/22/2042	30,000	31,801
Suncor Energy, Inc., 3.75%, 3/4/2051	70,000	75,720	Natwest Group PLC, 4.6%, Perpetual (d)	230,000	231,081
		<b>3,343,410</b>	Park Aerospace Holdings Ltd., 144A, 5.25%, 8/15/2022	12,000	12,557
<b>Financials 6.1%</b>			REC Ltd., 144A, 4.75%, 5/19/2023	200,000	210,721
AerCap Ireland Capital DAC:			Societe Generale SA, 144A, 5.375%, Perpetual (d)	250,000	264,688
3.15%, 2/15/2024	150,000	157,445	The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., 3.8%, Perpetual (d)	325,000	330,785
4.625%, 10/15/2027	150,000	167,990	Truist Financial Corp., 4.8%, Perpetual (d)	300,000	315,000
Air Lease Corp.:			UBS Group AG, 144A, 4.375%, Perpetual (d)	200,000	204,340
3.0%, 2/1/2030	125,000	126,791	Wells Fargo & Co., 3.9%, Perpetual (d)	265,000	274,354
4.65%, Perpetual (d)	300,000	310,875	Westpac Banking Corp., 5.0%, Perpetual (d)	200,000	214,567
Aircastle Ltd., 144A, 5.25%, Perpetual (d)	130,000	131,300			<b>7,952,562</b>
Ally Financial, Inc., 4.7%, Perpetual (d)	500,000	517,850	<b>Health Care 1.8%</b>		
Avolon Holdings Funding Ltd.:			AbbVie, Inc., 4.875%, 11/14/2048	75,000	96,607
144A, 2.75%, 2/21/2028	110,000	108,839	Bausch Health Companies, Inc., 144A, 4.875%, 6/1/2028	90,000	92,115
144A, 4.25%, 4/15/2026	40,000	43,347	Biogen, Inc., 3.15%, 5/1/2050	50,000	49,105
Banco Nacional de Panama, 144A, 2.5%, 8/11/2030	200,000	193,706	Charles River Laboratories International, Inc., 144A, 3.75%, 3/15/2029	135,000	136,856
Bank of America Corp.:			Cigna Corp.:		
2.676%, 6/19/2041	60,000	58,230	2.375%, 3/15/2031	50,000	50,701
4.3%, Perpetual (d)	102,000	105,468	3.4%, 3/15/2051	100,000	104,405
BBVA Bancomer SA, 144A, 1.875%, 9/18/2025	300,000	303,405	CVS Health Corp., 5.05%, 3/25/2048	175,000	227,303
Blackstone Secured Lending Fund, 144A, 3.625%, 1/15/2026	155,000	164,358	DaVita, Inc., 144A, 4.625%, 6/1/2030	140,000	143,951
BNP Paribas SA, 144A, 4.625%, Perpetual (d)	200,000	208,204	Fresenius Medical Care U.S. Finance III, Inc., 144A, 2.375%, 2/16/2031	150,000	146,342
BPCE SA, 144A, 4.875%, 4/1/2026	300,000	340,121	HCA, Inc., 5.25%, 6/15/2026	300,000	347,268
Capital One Financial Corp., 3.95%, Perpetual (d)	350,000	357,437	Teva Pharmaceutical Finance Netherlands III BV, 3.15%, 10/1/2026	925,000	879,906
Charles Schwab Corp.:			UnitedHealth Group, Inc., 3.25%, 5/15/2051	100,000	106,677
Series H, 4.0%, Perpetual (d)	125,000	127,875			<b>2,381,236</b>
Series I, 4.0%, Perpetual (d)	265,000	276,262	<b>Industrials 1.4%</b>		
Citigroup, Inc.:			Aadvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.5%, 4/20/2026	105,000	111,169
2.561%, 5/1/2032	40,000	40,718			
2.572%, 6/3/2031	130,000	133,643			
4.0%, Perpetual (d)	300,000	310,125			
HSBC Holdings PLC:					
2.804%, 5/24/2032	200,000	205,250			
4.0%, Perpetual (d)	240,000	243,900			
4.6%, Perpetual (d)	250,000	259,375			
Intesa Sanpaolo SpA:					
144A, 4.198%, 6/1/2032	325,000	333,047			
144A, 4.95%, 6/1/2042	250,000	258,881			

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

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
Adani Ports & Special Economic Zone Ltd., 144A, 4.2%, 8/4/2027	200,000	208,356	Glencore Funding LLC, 144A, 3.875%, 4/27/2051	70,000	73,304
Boeing Co.:			LYB International Finance III LLC, 3.625%, 4/1/2051	30,000	31,670
2.196%, 2/4/2026	237,000	239,265	MEGlobal Canada ULC, 144A, 5.0%, 5/18/2025	256,000	287,002
2.75%, 2/1/2026	145,000	151,461	Tronox, Inc., 144A, 4.625%, 3/15/2029	185,000	186,846
4.875%, 5/1/2025	98,000	109,806			
5.04%, 5/1/2027	60,000	69,230			<b>1,082,380</b>
Delta Air Lines, Inc., 144A, 4.5%, 10/20/2025	30,000	32,239	<b>Real Estate 0.6%</b>		
FedEx Corp., 2.4%, 5/15/2031	60,000	61,063	American Tower Corp., (REIT), 2.95%, 1/15/2051	35,000	33,416
Gartner, Inc., 144A, 3.75%, 10/1/2030	60,000	61,387	Boston Properties LP, (REIT), 2.55%, 4/1/2032	75,000	75,465
General Electric Co., 3.625%, 5/1/2030	40,000	44,603	Crown Castle International Corp., (REIT), 2.9%, 4/1/2041	120,000	116,727
GFL Environmental, Inc.:			Equinix, Inc., (REIT), 2.15%, 7/15/2030	34,000	33,783
144A, 3.75%, 8/1/2025	100,000	102,750	MPT Operating Partnership LP, (REIT), 3.5%, 3/15/2031	195,000	196,948
144A, 4.0%, 8/1/2028	150,000	148,177	SBA Communications Corp., 144A, (REIT), 3.125%, 2/1/2029	300,000	289,220
Nielsen Finance LLC, 144A, 4.5%, 7/15/2029	60,000	60,168	Welltower, Inc., (REIT), 2.75%, 1/15/2031	40,000	41,219
Prime Security Services Borrower LLC:					<b>786,778</b>
144A, 5.25%, 4/15/2024	255,000	273,240			
144A, 6.25%, 1/15/2028	70,000	74,462	<b>Utilities 1.2%</b>		
Salesforce.Com, 2.9%, 7/15/2051 (e)	100,000	100,975	CenterPoint Energy Inc., 2.65%, 6/1/2031	30,000	30,560
		<b>1,848,351</b>	ENN Energy Holdings, Ltd., 144A, 2.625%, 9/17/2030	200,000	199,522
<b>Information Technology 0.9%</b>			Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd., REG S, 6.35%, 8/10/2028	200,000	222,500
Broadcom, Inc.:			NextEra Energy Operating Partners LP:		
144A, 2.6%, 2/15/2033	70,000	68,451	144A, 3.875%, 10/15/2026	190,000	200,687
5.0%, 4/15/2030	70,000	82,584	144A, 4.25%, 7/15/2024	275,000	290,125
Dell International LLC, 8.35%, 7/15/2046	60,000	98,136	Pacific Gas and Electric Co.:		
MSCI, Inc., 144A, 3.625%, 9/1/2030	90,000	92,039	2.5%, 2/1/2031	20,000	18,751
NXP B.V., 144A, 2.5%, 5/11/2031	100,000	100,989	3.3%, 8/1/2040	70,000	63,215
Open Text Corp., 144A, 3.875%, 2/15/2028	175,000	177,415	3.5%, 8/1/2050	25,000	22,281
Oracle Corp.:			Perusahaan Listrik Negara PT, 144A, 2.875%, 10/25/2025	EUR 260,000	329,490
2.875%, 3/25/2031	45,000	46,804	Southern California Edison Co., 2.95%, 2/1/2051	60,000	54,331
3.6%, 4/1/2050	25,000	25,671	Southern Co, 3.75%, 9/15/2051	100,000	100,640
3.65%, 3/25/2041	70,000	74,225	Vistra Operations Co. LLC, 144A, 4.375%, 5/1/2029	65,000	65,325
SK Hynix, Inc., 144A, 1.5%, 1/19/2026	200,000	197,284			<b>1,597,427</b>
Square, Inc.:					
144A, 2.75%, 6/1/2026	30,000	30,525	<b>Total Corporate Bonds</b> (Cost \$26,345,588)		<b>27,118,661</b>
144A, 3.5%, 6/1/2031	70,000	70,613			
Twilio, Inc., 3.625%, 3/15/2029	160,000	163,200			
		<b>1,227,936</b>			
<b>Materials 0.8%</b>					
AngloGold Ashanti Holdings PLC, 3.75%, 10/1/2030 (a)	200,000	206,156			
Berry Global, Inc., 144A, 1.65%, 1/15/2027	300,000	297,402			

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

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
<b>Asset-Backed 2.9%</b>					
<b>Automobile Receivables 0.5%</b>					
Avis Budget Rental Car Funding AESOP LLC, "C", Series 2019-1A, 144A, 4.53%, 3/20/2023	100,000	101,588	Credit Suisse Commercial Mortgage Trust, "B", Series 2020-TMIC, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 5.0%, 5.25% (f), 12/15/2035	700,000	711,398
Chase Auto Credit Linked Notes, "E", Series 2021-1, 144A, 2.365%, 9/25/2028	550,000	550,119	Freddie Mac Multifamily Structured Credit Risk, "M2", Series 2021-MN1, 144A, 30-day average SOFR + 3.75%, 3.768% (f), 1/25/2051	194,000	205,620
		<b>651,707</b>	GMAC Commercial Mortgage Securities, Inc., "G", Series 2004-C1, 144A, 5.455%, 3/10/2038	394,448	241,226
<b>Credit Card Receivables 0.6%</b>			MTRO Commercial Mortgage Trust, "C", Series 2019-TECH, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 1.3%, 1.373% (f), 12/15/2033	250,000	248,542
Fair Square Issuance Trust, "A", Series 2020-AA, 144A, 2.9%, 9/20/2024	800,000	<b>808,721</b>	Multifamily Connecticut Avenue Securities Trust, "M7", Series 2019-01, 144A, 1-month USD- LIBOR + 1.7%, 1.792% (f), 10/15/2049	322,040	321,790
<b>Miscellaneous 1.8%</b>			<b>Total Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities</b> (Cost \$2,377,952) <b>2,247,243</b>		
CF Hippolyta LLC, "B1", Series 2021-1A, 144A, 1.98%, 3/15/2061	552,000	556,686	<b>Collateralized Mortgage Obligations 2.4%</b>		
DB Master Finance LLC, "A2I", Series 2019-1A, 144A, 3.787%, 5/20/2049	216,150	218,954	Connecticut Avenue Securities Trust: "1M2", Series 2019-R03, 144A, 1-month USD- LIBOR + 2.15%, 2.242% (f), 9/25/2031	54,249	54,635
Domino's Pizza Master Issuer LLC, "A23", Series 2017-1A, 144A, 4.118%, 7/25/2047	328,950	354,950	"1M2", Series 2019-R02, 144A, 1-month USD- LIBOR + 2.3%, 2.392% (f), 8/25/2031	80,471	81,026
MVW Owner Trust, "A", Series 2019-1A, 144A, 2.89%, 11/20/2036	246,141	252,959	Fannie Mae Connecticut Avenue Securities: "1M2", Series 2018-C06, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.0%, 2.092% (f), 3/25/2031	104,021	104,818
Taco Bell Funding LLC, "A2I", Series 2018-1A, 144A, 4.318%, 11/25/2048	487,500	488,543	"1M2", Series 2018-C01, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.25%, 2.342% (f), 7/25/2030	123,214	124,921
Wendy's Funding LLC, "A2II", Series 2021-1A, 144A, 2.775%, 6/15/2051	422,000	425,866	"1M2", Series 2018-C05, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.35%, 2.442% (f), 1/25/2031	387,544	392,189
		<b>2,297,958</b>	Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp., "H", Series 2278, 6.5%, 1/15/2031	94	103
<b>Total Asset-Backed</b> (Cost \$3,702,618)		<b>3,758,386</b>			
<b>Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass- Throughs 0.0%</b>					
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp., 6.0%, 3/1/2038	2,035	2,409			
Federal National Mortgage Association: 4.5%, 9/1/2035	3,065	3,426			
6.0%, 1/1/2024	2,875	3,002			
<b>Total Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass- Throughs</b> (Cost \$7,913)		<b>8,837</b>			
<b>Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities 1.7%</b>					
Citigroup Commercial Mortgage Trust, "D", Series 2019-PRM, 144A, 4.35%, 5/10/2036	500,000	518,667			

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

	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
Federal National Mortgage Association: "4", Series 406, Interest Only, 4.0%, 9/25/2040	206,120	26,798
"1", Series 2003-84, Interest Only, 6.0%, 9/25/2033	72,811	14,542
Freddie Mac Structured Agency Credit Risk Debt Notes: "M2", Series 2020-DNA2, 144A, 1-month USD- LIBOR + 1.85%, 1.942% (f), 2/25/2050	1,000,000	1,008,140
"M2", Series 2019-DNA3, 144A, 1-month USD- LIBOR + 2.05%, 2.142% (f), 7/25/2049	260,254	262,541
"M2", Series 2019-DNA2, 144A, 1-month USD- LIBOR + 2.45%, 2.542% (f), 3/25/2049	367,855	373,577
"M2", Series 2019-DNA1, 144A, 1-month USD- LIBOR + 2.65%, 2.742% (f), 1/25/2049	53,201	53,972
Government National Mortgage Association: "PI", Series 2015-40, Interest Only, 4.0%, 4/20/2044	74,084	4,532
"IN", Series 2009-69, Interest Only, 5.5%, 8/20/2039	91,217	20,288
"IV", Series 2009-69, Interest Only, 5.5%, 8/20/2039	88,814	19,674
"IJ", Series 2009-75, Interest Only, 6.0%, 8/16/2039	60,846	8,811
JPMorgan Mortgage Trust, "AM", Series 2016-3, 144A, 3.295% (f), 10/25/2046	259,849	261,950
STACR Trust, "M2", Series 2018-DNA3, 144A, 1-month USD-LIBOR + 2.1%, 2.192% (f), 9/25/2048	324,324	328,588
<b>Total Collateralized Mortgage Obligations</b> (Cost \$3,045,762)	<b>3,141,105</b>	

### Government & Agency Obligations 1.6%

#### Sovereign Bonds

Brazilian Government International Bond, 3.875%, 6/12/2030	200,000	201,680
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	Principal Amount (\$) (c)	Value (\$)
Perusahaan Penerbit SBSN Indonesia III, 144A, 2.8%, 6/23/2030	200,000	204,596
Republic of Indonesia: 2.85%, 2/14/2030	625,000	647,998
3.85%, 10/15/2030 (a)	300,000	333,911
Republic of Philippines, 2.457%, 5/5/2030	625,000	649,382
<b>Total Government &amp; Agency Obligations</b> (Cost \$2,095,615)		<b>2,037,567</b>

### Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations 1.6%

U.S. Treasury Bills: 0.058% (g), 5/19/2022 (h)	1,700,000	1,698,951
0.101% (g), 8/12/2021 (i)	175,000	174,988
0.125% (g), 8/12/2021 (i)	250,000	249,983
<b>Total Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations</b> (Cost \$2,124,145)		<b>2,123,922</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Exchange-Traded Funds 2.9%</b> SPDR Bloomberg Barclays Convertible Securities ETF (a) (Cost \$2,340,555)	43,880	<b>3,805,712</b>

### Securities Lending Collateral 2.8%

DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (j) (k) (Cost \$3,705,356)	3,705,356	<b>3,705,356</b>
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### Cash Equivalents 4.5%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (j) (Cost \$5,899,790)	5,899,790	<b>5,899,790</b>
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	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$111,391,120)	102.6	<b>134,346,935</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(2.6)	<b>(3,374,332)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>130,972,603</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, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 2.8%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (j) (k)								
693,562	3,011,794 (l)	—	—	—	3,695	—	3,705,356	3,705,356
<b>Cash Equivalents 4.5%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (j)								
2,394,743	27,733,850	24,228,803	—	—	451	—	5,899,790	5,899,790
<b>3,088,305</b>	<b>30,745,644</b>	<b>24,228,803</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4,146</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>9,605,146</b>	<b>9,605,146</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, 2021 amounted to \$3,576,436, which is 2.7% of net assets.
- (b) Investment was valued using significant unobservable inputs.
- (c) Principal amount stated in U.S. dollars unless otherwise noted.
- (d) Perpetual, callable security with no stated maturity date.
- (e) When-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment securities included.
- (f) Variable or floating rate security. These securities are shown at their current rate as of June 30, 2021. 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. Securities with a floor or ceiling feature are disclosed at the inherent rate, where applicable.
- (g) Annualized yield at time of purchase; not a coupon rate.
- (h) At June 30, 2021, this security has been pledged, in whole or in part, to cover initial margin requirements for open futures contracts.
- (i) At June 30, 2021, this security has been pledged, in whole or in part, to cover initial margin requirements for open centrally cleared swap contracts.
- (j) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.
- (k) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (l) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2021.

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

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

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

S&P: Standard & Poor's

SBSN: Surat Berharga Syariah Negara (Islamic Based Government Securities)

SOFR: Secured Overnight Financing Rate

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.

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

At June 30, 2021, open futures contracts purchased were as follows:

Futures	Currency	Expiration Date	Contracts	Notional Amount (\$)	Notional Value (\$)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation) (\$)
Euro Stoxx 50 Index	EUR	9/17/2021	11	539,556	528,969	(10,587)
MSCI E-Mini Emerging Market Index	USD	9/17/2021	88	6,030,420	6,005,120	(25,300)
Ultra Long U.S. Treasury Bond	USD	9/21/2021	25	4,660,239	4,817,187	156,948
<b>Total net unrealized appreciation</b>						<b>121,061</b>

At June 30, 2021, open futures contracts sold were as follows:

Futures	Currency	Expiration Date	Contracts	Notional Amount (\$)	Notional Value (\$)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation) (\$)
10 Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/21/2021	15	1,979,040	1,987,500	(8,460)
5 Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/30/2021	60	7,405,633	7,405,781	(148)
S&P 500 E-Mini Index	USD	9/17/2021	3	636,831	643,290	(6,459)
TOPIX Index	JPY	9/9/2021	7	1,234,048	1,224,267	9,781
Ultra 10 Year U.S. Treasury Note	USD	9/21/2021	19	2,755,340	2,796,860	(41,520)
<b>Total net unrealized depreciation</b>						<b>(46,806)</b>

At June 30, 2021, open interest rate swap contracts were as follows:

#### Centrally Cleared Swaps

Cash Flows Paid by the Fund/ Frequency	Cash Flows Received by the Fund/ Frequency	Effective/ Expiration Date	Notional Amount (\$)	Currency	Value (\$)	Upfront Payments Paid/ (Received) (\$)	Unrealized Depreciation (\$)
Fixed — 0.25% Semi-Annually	Floating — 3-Month LIBOR Quarterly β	3/16/2021/ 3/16/2023	3,200,000	USD	(1,434)	260	(1,694)
Fixed — 0.45% Semi-Annually	Floating — 3-Month LIBOR Quarterly β	3/16/2021/ 3/16/2024	2,100,000	USD	(327)	(45)	(282)
Fixed — 1.3% Semi-Annually	Floating — 3-Month LIBOR Quarterly β	3/16/2021/ 3/16/2028	400,000	USD	(5,058)	91	(5,149)
Fixed — 1.63% Semi-Annually	Floating — 3-Month LIBOR Quarterly β	3/16/2021/ 3/16/2031	300,000	USD	(7,804)	347	(8,151)
<b>Total net unrealized depreciation</b>							<b>(15,276)</b>

β 3-month LIBOR rate as of June 30, 2021 is 0.146%.

LIBOR: London Interbank Offered Rate

At June 30, 2021, the Fund had the following open forward foreign currency contracts:

Contracts to Deliver	In Exchange For	Settlement Date	Unrealized Appreciation (\$)	Counterparty
EUR 450,000	USD 543,249	8/5/2021	<b>9,289</b>	Citigroup, Inc.
Contracts to Deliver	In Exchange For	Settlement Date	Unrealized Depreciation (\$)	Counterparty
USD 339,957	EUR 280,000	8/5/2021	<b>(7,715)</b>	Toronto-Dominion Bank

#### Currency Abbreviation(s)

EUR Euro  
JPY Japanese Yen  
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, 2021 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 (a)	\$ 75,958,001	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 75,958,001
Preferred Stocks (a)	4,535,051	—	—	4,535,051
Warrants	—	—	7,304	7,304
Corporate Bonds (a)	—	27,118,661	—	27,118,661
Asset-Backed (a)	—	3,758,386	—	3,758,386
Mortgage-Backed Securities Pass-Throughs	—	8,837	—	8,837
Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities	—	2,247,243	—	2,247,243
Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	—	3,141,105	—	3,141,105
Government & Agency Obligations	—	2,037,567	—	2,037,567
Short-Term U.S. Treasury Obligations	—	2,123,922	—	2,123,922
Exchange-Traded Funds	3,805,712	—	—	3,805,712
Short-Term Investments (a)	9,605,146	—	—	9,605,146
Derivatives (b)				
Futures Contracts	166,729	—	—	166,729
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	—	9,289	—	9,289
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 94,070,639</b>	<b>\$40,445,010</b>	<b>\$7,304</b>	<b>\$134,522,953</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
Derivatives (b)				
Futures Contracts	\$ (92,474)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (92,474)
Interest Rate Swap Contracts	—	(15,276)	—	(15,276)
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	—	(7,715)	—	(7,715)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (92,474)</b>	<b>\$ (22,991)</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ (115,465)</b>

(a) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

(b) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$101,785,974) — including \$3,576,436 of securities loaned	\$ 124,741,789
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$3,705,356)*	3,705,356
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$5,899,790)	5,899,790
Cash	21,234
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$105,598)	105,255
Receivable for investments sold	102,749
Receivable for investments sold — when-issued/delayed delivery securities	5,683,715
Receivable for Fund shares sold	8,092
Dividends receivable	167,116
Interest receivable	264,176
Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	9,289
Foreign taxes recoverable	78,387
Other assets	1,384
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>140,788,332</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	3,705,356
Payable for investments purchased — when-issued/delayed delivery securities	5,786,609
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	137,866
Payable for variation margin on futures contracts	31,382
Payable for variation margin on centrally cleared swaps	2,542
Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	7,715
Accrued management fee	39,765
Accrued Trustees' fees	1,162
Other accrued expenses and payables	103,332
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>9,815,729</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 130,972,603</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	31,067,785
Paid-in capital	99,904,818
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 130,972,603</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$130,959,463 ÷ 5,021,102 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 26.08</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$13,140 ÷ 504 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)**	<b>\$ 26.06</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

\*\* Net asset value and redemption price per share may not recalculate due to rounding of net assets and/or shares outstanding.

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

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$79,863)	\$ 1,307,624
Interest	669,367
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	451
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	3,695
Total income	1,981,137
Expenses:	
Management fee	235,907
Administration fee	61,846
Services to shareholders	461
Distribution service fee (Class B)	16
Custodian fee	13,368
Professional fees	48,599
Reports to shareholders	24,648
Trustees' fees and expenses	2,987
Other	11,966
Total expenses before expense reductions	399,798
Expense reductions	(7)
Total expenses after expense reductions	399,791
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>1,581,346</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	7,002,138
Swap contracts	(141,461)
Futures	92,066
Forward foreign currency contracts	(22,683)
Foreign currency	7,269
	6,937,329
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	1,087,233
Swap contracts	144,848
Futures	156,413
Forward foreign currency contracts	40,211
Foreign currency	42,981
	1,471,686
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>8,409,015</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ 9,990,361</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 1,581,346	\$ 2,995,370
Net realized gain (loss)	6,937,329	1,789,241
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	1,471,686	4,431,654
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	9,990,361	9,216,265
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(4,841,632)	(6,579,884)
Class B	(443)	(575)
Total distributions	(4,842,075)	(6,580,459)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,805,297	2,458,485
Reinvestment of distributions	4,841,632	6,579,884
Payments for shares redeemed	(7,577,519)	(14,768,561)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(930,590)	(5,730,192)
<b>Class B</b>		
Reinvestment of distributions	443	575
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	443	575
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	4,218,139	(3,093,811)
Net assets at beginning of period	126,754,464	129,848,275
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$130,972,603</b>	<b>\$126,754,464</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	5,056,269	5,271,275
Shares sold	70,383	106,312
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	189,422	324,451
Shares redeemed	(294,972)	(645,769)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(35,167)	(215,006)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>5,021,102</b>	<b>5,056,269</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	487	458.6
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	17	28.4
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	17	28.4
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>504</b>	<b>487</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS Global Income Builder VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$25.07</b>	<b>\$24.63</b>	<b>\$21.33</b>	<b>\$26.56</b>	<b>\$23.50</b>	<b>\$22.93</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.32	.57	.69	.80	.71	.61
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.68	1.16	3.54	(2.67)	3.10	.91
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>1.73</b>	<b>4.23</b>	<b>(1.87)</b>	<b>3.81</b>	<b>1.52</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.62)	(.74)	(.90)	(.98)	(.75)	(.95)
Net realized gains	(.37)	(.55)	(.03)	(2.38)	—	—
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.99)</b>	<b>(1.29)</b>	<b>(.93)</b>	<b>(3.36)</b>	<b>(.75)</b>	<b>(.95)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$26.08</b>	<b>\$25.07</b>	<b>\$24.63</b>	<b>\$21.33</b>	<b>\$26.56</b>	<b>\$23.50</b>
Total Return (%)	8.05*	8.28	20.16	(7.66) <sup>b</sup>	16.54	6.81
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	131	127	130	120	147	185
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.63**	.64	.68	.69	.63	.62
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.63**	.64	.68	.68	.63	.62
Ratio of net investment income (%)	2.48**	2.51	2.96	3.34	2.85	2.66
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	68*	137	182	70	122	135

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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

## DWS Global Income Builder VIP — Class B

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	Years Ended December 31, 2020	2019	Period Ended 12/31/18 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>				
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$25.01</b>	<b>\$24.61</b>	<b>\$21.30</b>	<b>\$22.65</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>				
Net investment income <sup>b</sup>	.27	.50	.65	.50
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.69	1.15	3.55	(1.85)
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>1.96</b>	<b>1.65</b>	<b>4.20</b>	<b>(1.35)</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>				
Net investment income	(.54)	(.70)	(.86)	—
Net realized gains	(.37)	(.55)	(.03)	—
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.91)</b>	<b>(1.25)</b>	<b>(.89)</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$26.06</b>	<b>\$25.01</b>	<b>\$24.61</b>	<b>\$21.30</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>c</sup>	7.91*	7.90	20.01	(5.96)*
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>				
Net assets, end of period (\$ thousands)	13	12	11	9
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	1.08**	1.10	1.10	1.15**
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	.96**	.93	.86	.86**
Ratio of net investment income (%)	2.13**	2.20	2.77	3.30**
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	68*	137	182	70 <sup>e</sup>

<sup>a</sup> For the period from May 1, 2018 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2018.

<sup>b</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>c</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<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.

<sup>e</sup> Represents the Fund's portfolio turnover rate for the year ended December 31, 2018.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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 of 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 or 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 Depositary 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, the Fund had securities on loan. 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, 2021

	<b>Overnight and Continuous</b>	<b>&lt;30 days</b>	<b>Between 30 &amp; 90 days</b>	<b>&gt;90 days</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Securities Lending Transactions</b>					
Common Stocks	\$ 933,456	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 933,456
Corporate Bonds	664,700	—	—	—	664,700
Government & Agency Obligations	345,000	—	—	—	345,000
Exchange-Traded Funds	1,762,200	—	—	—	1,762,200
<b>Total Borrowings</b>	<b>\$ 3,705,356</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 3,705,356</b>

Gross amount of recognized liabilities for securities lending transactions: \$ 3,705,356

**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, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$111,946,261. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$22,400,674. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$24,060,829 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$1,660,155.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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 centrally 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 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, 2021, 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, 2021 is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the investment in interest rate swap contracts had a notional amount generally indicative of a range from \$1,800,000 to \$6,000,000.

**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, 2021, 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 recognized in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

A summary of the open futures contracts as of June 30, 2021, is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the investment in futures contracts purchased had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$10,124,000 to \$12,345,000, and the investment in futures contracts sold had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$7,617,000 to \$15,184,000.

**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, 2021 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, 2021, is included in the table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the investment in forward currency contracts short vs. U.S. dollars had a total contract value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$542,000 to \$939,000, 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 \$340,000.

The following tables summarize the value of the Fund's derivative instruments held as of June 30, 2021 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities, presented by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Assets Derivative</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Equity Contracts (a)	\$ —	\$ 9,781	\$ 9,781
Interest Rate Contracts (a)	—	156,948	156,948
Foreign Exchange Contracts (b)	9,289	—	9,289
	<b>\$ 9,289</b>	<b>\$ 166,729</b>	<b>\$ 176,018</b>

Each of the above derivatives 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) Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts

<b>Liability Derivative</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>	<b>Swap Contracts</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>	<b>Total</b>
Equity Contracts (a)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (42,346)	\$ (42,346)
Interest Rate Contracts (a)	—	(15,276)	(50,128)	(65,404)
Foreign Exchange Contracts (b)	(7,715)	—	—	(7,715)
	<b>\$ (7,715)</b>	<b>\$ (15,276)</b>	<b>\$ (92,474)</b>	<b>\$ (115,465)</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Assets and Liabilities accounts:

- (a) 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.
- (b) 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, 2021 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 (a)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 225,124	\$ 225,124
Interest Rate Contracts (a)	—	(141,461)	(133,058)	(274,519)
Foreign Exchange Contracts (a)	(22,683)	—	—	(22,683)
	<b>\$(22,683)</b>	<b>\$(141,461)</b>	<b>\$ 92,066</b>	<b>\$ (72,078)</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Operations accounts:

- (a) Net realized gain (loss) from forward foreign currency contracts, swap and futures contracts, respectively

<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 (a)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 15,508	\$ 15,508
Interest Rate Contracts (a)	—	144,848	140,905	285,753
Foreign Exchange Contracts (a)	40,211	—	—	40,211
	<b>\$ 40,211</b>	<b>\$ 144,848</b>	<b>\$ 156,413</b>	<b>\$ 341,472</b>

Each of the above derivatives is located in the following Statement of Operations accounts:

- (a) Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on forward foreign currency contracts, swap and futures contracts, respectively

As of June 30, 2021, 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 Amount of Assets Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Financial Instruments and Derivatives Available for Offset	Collateral Received	Net Amount of Derivative Assets
Citigroup, Inc.	\$ 9,289	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 9,289

Counterparty	Gross Amount of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Financial Instruments and Derivatives Available for Offset	Collateral Pledged	Net Amount of Derivative Liabilities
Toronto-Dominion Bank	\$ 7,715	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 7,715

### C. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$86,051,546 and \$98,059,517, 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 or delegates such responsibility to the Fund’s subadvisor.

Under the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the average daily net assets of the Fund, 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, 2021, 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, 2021 through September 30, 2021 (through April 30, 2022 for Class B shares), 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.71%
Class B	.96%

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for Class B are \$7.

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee (“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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$61,846, of which \$10,425 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 shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Distribution Service Fee was as follows:

<b>Distribution Fee</b>	<b>Total Aggregated</b>	<b>Unpaid at June 30, 2021</b>
Class B	\$ 16	\$ 3

**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, 2021, 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, 2021</b>
Class A	\$ 267	\$ 83
Class B	13	4
	<b>\$ 280</b>	<b>\$ 87</b>

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$743, of which \$294 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, 2021, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$278.

## **E. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2021, one participating insurance company was owner of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, owning 67%.

## **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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.



## **G. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.

## 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 for Class B; 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,080.50	\$ 1,079.10
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.25	\$ 4.95

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,021.67	\$ 1,020.03
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.16	\$ 4.81

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS Global Income Builder VIP	.63%	.96%

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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, the Fund’s performance (Class A shares) was in the 2nd 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 underperformed its benchmark in the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2019.

**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, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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



VS2GIB-3 (R-028382-10 8/21)



June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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**DWS High Income VIP**



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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 ongoing 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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# Performance Summary

June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

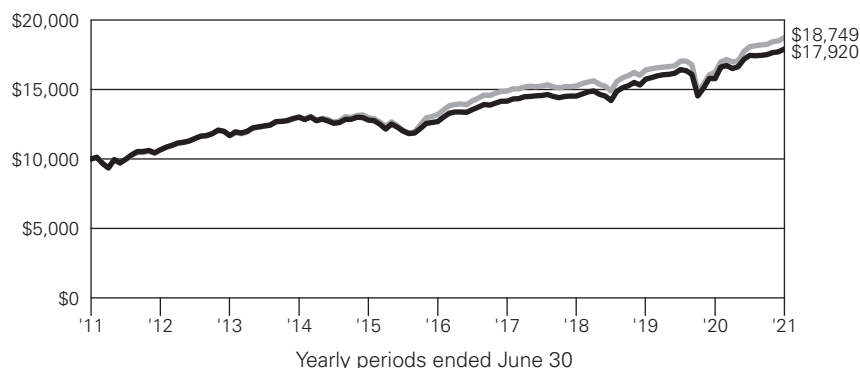
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original 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, 2021 are 0.87% and 1.30% 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 BofA US High Yield Index



ICE BofA 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
<b>Class A</b>	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,266	\$11,360	\$12,337	\$14,123	\$17,920
	Average annual total return	2.66%	13.60%	7.25%	7.15%	6.01%
ICE BofA US High Yield Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,370	\$11,560	\$12,291	\$14,208	\$18,749
	Average annual total return	3.70%	15.60%	7.12%	7.28%	6.49%
DWS High Income VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
<b>Class B</b>	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,262	\$11,314	\$12,220	\$13,935	\$17,382
	Average annual total return	2.62%	13.14%	6.91%	6.86%	5.68%
ICE BofA US High Yield Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,370	\$11,560	\$12,291	\$14,208	\$18,749
	Average annual total return	3.70%	15.60%	7.12%	7.28%	6.49%

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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Corporate Bonds	97%	98%
Cash Equivalents	2%	1%
Loan Participations and Assignments	1%	1%
Warrants	0%	0%
Common Stocks	0%	0%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Consumer Discretionary	23%	22%
Communication Services	16%	19%
Energy	15%	13%
Industrials	13%	10%
Materials	9%	11%
Health Care	8%	8%
Real Estate	5%	5%
Utilities	4%	4%
Financials	3%	2%
Consumer Staples	2%	4%
Information Technology	2%	2%
	100%	100%

<b>Quality</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
BBB	5%	4%
BB	56%	61%
B	32%	30%
CCC	7%	5%
Not Rated	0%	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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Gary Russell, CFA, Head of Investment Strategy Fixed Income

Thomas R. Bouchard, Senior Portfolio Manager & Team Lead Fixed Income

Lonnie Fox, Senior Portfolio Manager & Team Lead Fixed Income

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
<b>Corporate Bonds 96.3%</b>					
<b>Communication Services 15.4%</b>			8.375%, 5/1/2027	75,000	80,344
Altice France Holding SA:			Lamar Media Corp., 4.875%, 1/15/2029	80,000	84,400
144A, 6.0%, 2/15/2028	200,000	199,160	LCPR Senior Secured Financing DAC, 144A, 6.75%, 10/15/2027	210,000	226,317
144A, 10.5%, 5/15/2027	200,000	222,250	Outfront Media Capital LLC:		
Altice France SA:			144A, 4.25%, 1/15/2029	70,000	70,438
144A, 5.5%, 1/15/2028	200,000	207,540	144A, 5.0%, 8/15/2027	140,000	144,955
144A, 7.375%, 5/1/2026	312,000	324,458	QualityTech LP, 144A, 3.875%, 10/1/2028	140,000	149,716
144A, 8.125%, 2/1/2027	200,000	217,900	Radiate Holdco LLC:		
Audacy Capital Corp.:			144A, 4.5%, 9/15/2026	55,000	56,925
144A, 6.5%, 5/1/2027	75,000	78,000	144A, 6.5%, 9/15/2028	210,000	220,636
144A, 6.75%, 3/31/2029	55,000	57,069	Telecom Italia Capital SA, 6.375%, 11/15/2033	155,000	184,837
Avaya, Inc., 144A, 6.125%, 9/15/2028	130,000	139,139	Uber Technologies, Inc.:		
CCO Holdings LLC:			144A, 6.25%, 1/15/2028	25,000	26,905
144A, 4.75%, 3/1/2030	140,000	148,050	144A, 7.5%, 5/15/2025	120,000	129,504
144A, 5.0%, 2/1/2028	150,000	157,313	144A, 7.5%, 9/15/2027	50,000	54,949
144A, 5.125%, 5/1/2027	275,000	288,447	ViaSat, Inc.:		
Clear Channel Outdoor Holdings, Inc., 144A, 7.5%, 6/1/2029	80,000	82,827	144A, 5.625%, 9/15/2025	135,000	137,565
Clear Channel Worldwide Holdings, Inc., 144A, 5.125%, 8/15/2027	320,000	328,070	144A, 5.625%, 4/15/2027	120,000	125,260
Cogent Communications Group, Inc., 144A, 3.5%, 5/1/2026	90,000	92,025	144A, 6.5%, 7/15/2028	105,000	111,978
CommScope Technologies LLC, 144A, 5.0%, 3/15/2027	250,000	255,937	Virgin Media Secured Finance PLC:		
CommScope, Inc.:			144A, 5.5%, 8/15/2026	215,000	221,719
144A, 5.5%, 3/1/2024	130,000	133,738	144A, 5.5%, 5/15/2029	345,000	370,875
144A, 7.125%, 7/1/2028	75,000	81,281	Vodafone Group PLC, 7.0%, 4/4/2029	185,000	224,170
144A, 8.25%, 3/1/2027	130,000	138,944	Ziggo Bond Co. BV, 144A, 3.375%, 2/28/2030	EUR 370,000	432,366
Consolidated			Ziggo BV, 144A, 4.875%, 1/15/2030	290,000	297,250
Communications, Inc., 144A, 6.5%, 10/1/2028	155,000	166,741			<b>8,274,636</b>
CSC Holdings LLC:			<b>Consumer Discretionary 22.1%</b>		
144A, 5.5%, 4/15/2027	345,000	362,267	Affinity Gaming, 144A, 6.875%, 12/15/2027	120,000	127,350
144A, 5.75%, 1/15/2030	200,000	207,750	American Axle & Manufacturing, Inc., 6.875%, 7/1/2028	75,000	81,914
144A, 6.5%, 2/1/2029	200,000	221,520	Beacon Roofing Supply, Inc., 144A, 4.125%, 5/15/2029	30,000	29,923
Diamond Sports Group LLC, 144A, 5.375%, 8/15/2026	45,000	29,138	Beazer Homes U.S.A., Inc., 5.875%, 10/15/2027	35,000	36,577
DISH DBS Corp.:			Boyd Gaming Corp.:		
5.875%, 11/15/2024	96,000	103,080	4.75%, 12/1/2027	130,000	134,550
7.375%, 7/1/2028	50,000	53,807	144A, 4.75%, 6/15/2031	60,000	62,250
7.75%, 7/1/2026	90,000	101,925	144A, 8.625%, 6/1/2025	120,000	132,284
Endure Digital, Inc., 144A, 6.0%, 2/15/2029	145,000	143,550	Caesars Entertainment, Inc.:		
Frontier			144A, 6.25%, 7/1/2025	270,000	286,200
Communications Corp.:			144A, 8.125%, 7/1/2027	410,000	456,002
144A, 5.0%, 5/1/2028	165,000	170,582	Caesars Resort Collection LLC, 144A, 5.75%, 7/1/2025	20,000	21,075
144A, 5.875%, 10/15/2027	75,000	80,344			
iHeartCommunications, Inc.:					
144A, 5.25%, 8/15/2027	125,000	130,675			

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

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
Carnival Corp.:			Marriott Ownership		
144A, 5.75%, 3/1/2027	170,000	178,075	Resorts, Inc.:		
144A, 7.625%, 3/1/2026	98,000	106,453	144A, 4.5%, 6/15/2029	50,000	50,688
144A, 9.875%, 8/1/2027	130,000	151,775	144A, 6.125%, 9/15/2025	150,000	159,517
144A, 10.5%, 2/1/2026	80,000	93,140	Mattel, Inc.:		
144A, 11.5%, 4/1/2023	145,000	163,183	144A, 3.375%, 4/1/2026	75,000	77,813
Clarios Global LP:			144A, 3.75%, 4/1/2029	50,000	52,000
144A, 4.375%, 5/15/2026	EUR 100,000	122,652	Meritage Homes Corp., 144A,		
REG S, 4.375%, 5/15/2026	EUR 200,000	245,303	3.875%, 4/15/2029	105,000	108,675
144A, 6.25%, 5/15/2026	49,000	52,200	Midwest Gaming Borrower		
144A, 6.75%, 5/15/2025	72,000	76,679	LLC, 144A, 4.875%,		
144A, 8.5%, 5/15/2027	55,000	59,961	5/1/2029	100,000	100,125
Dana, Inc.:			NCL Corp. Ltd.:		
5.375%, 11/15/2027	55,000	58,575	144A, 3.625%, 12/15/2024	100,000	96,500
5.625%, 6/15/2028	25,000	27,055	144A, 5.875%, 3/15/2026	250,000	261,875
Empire Communities Corp.,			NCL Finance Ltd., 144A,		
144A, 7.0%, 12/15/2025	80,000	84,000	6.125%, 3/15/2028	60,000	62,877
Everi Holdings, Inc., 144A,			Newell Brands, Inc., 4.7%,		
5.0%, 7/15/2029 (b)	10,000	10,000	4/1/2026	440,000	490,653
Ford Motor Co.:			Peninsula Pacific		
4.346%, 12/8/2026	160,000	171,400	Entertainment LLC, 144A,		
8.5%, 4/21/2023	90,000	100,436	8.5%, 11/15/2027	60,000	64,440
9.0%, 4/22/2025	285,000	351,368	Picasso Finance Sub, Inc.,		
9.625%, 4/22/2030	170,000	243,950	144A, 6.125%, 6/15/2025	97,000	102,553
Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC:			Prestige Brands, Inc., 144A,		
3.375%, 11/13/2025	209,000	216,723	5.125%, 1/15/2028	90,000	94,748
3.625%, 6/17/2031	240,000	244,651	Raptor Acquisition Corp.,		
5.113%, 5/3/2029	200,000	223,896	144A, 4.875%, 11/1/2026	120,000	121,678
5.125%, 6/16/2025	230,000	253,287	Real Hero Merger Sub 2, Inc.,		
Forestar Group, Inc., 144A,			144A, 6.25%, 2/1/2029	80,000	82,976
3.85%, 5/15/2026	90,000	90,815	Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.:		
Foundation Building Materials,			3.7%, 3/15/2028	55,000	52,530
Inc., 144A, 6.0%, 3/1/2029	110,000	108,900	144A, 4.25%, 7/1/2026	10,000	9,988
Hilton Domestic Operating			144A, 5.5%, 4/1/2028	110,000	115,203
Co., Inc.:			144A, 9.125%, 6/15/2023	210,000	230,475
144A, 3.75%, 5/1/2029	240,000	242,400	144A, 10.875%, 6/1/2023	110,000	125,263
4.875%, 1/15/2030	139,000	148,382	144A, 11.5%, 6/1/2025	50,000	57,625
144A, 5.375%, 5/1/2025	30,000	31,575	Scientific Games		
Hilton Grand Vacations			International, Inc.:		
Borrower Escrow LLC:			144A, 7.0%, 5/15/2028	235,000	256,667
144A, 4.875%, 7/1/2031	30,000	29,921	144A, 7.25%, 11/15/2029	125,000	141,000
144A, 5.0%, 6/1/2029	90,000	92,025	SeaWorld Parks &		
Jaguar Land Rover Automotive			Entertainment, Inc., 144A,		
PLC, 144A, 5.875%,			9.5%, 8/1/2025	90,000	96,525
1/15/2028	200,000	210,500	Staples, Inc., 144A, 7.5%,		
L Brands, Inc.:			4/15/2026	210,000	217,504
144A, 6.625%, 10/1/2030	70,000	81,025	Stars Group Holdings BV,		
6.875%, 11/1/2035	200,000	253,250	144A, 7.0%, 7/15/2026	105,000	108,679
144A, 9.375%, 7/1/2025	60,000	77,550	Taylor Morrison		
M/I Homes, Inc., 4.95%,			Communities, Inc.:		
2/1/2028	130,000	135,622	144A, 5.125%, 8/1/2030	75,000	81,291
Macy's Retail Holdings LLC,			144A, 5.75%, 1/15/2028	170,000	191,930
144A, 5.875%, 4/1/2029	145,000	155,937	Tenneco, Inc., 144A, 7.875%,		
MajorDrive Holdings IV LLC,			1/15/2029	13,000	14,682
144A, 6.375%, 6/1/2029	185,000	184,537	TRI Pointe Group, Inc.:		
			5.25%, 6/1/2027	55,000	59,675
			5.7%, 6/15/2028	80,000	88,200

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	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
United Rentals North America, Inc., 5.25%, 1/15/2030	80,000	87,631	Antero Resources Corp.:		
Univar Solutions U.S.A., Inc., 144A, 5.125%, 12/1/2027	160,000	168,200	144A, 5.375%, 3/1/2030	50,000	51,032
Vail Resorts, Inc., 144A, 6.25%, 5/15/2025	100,000	107,038	144A, 7.625%, 2/1/2029	165,000	183,150
Victoria's Secret & Co., 144A, 4.625%, 7/15/2029 (b)	30,000	30,000	144A, 8.375%, 7/15/2026	42,000	47,775
Viking Cruises Ltd.:			Apache Corp.:		
144A, 5.875%, 9/15/2027	105,000	103,761	4.875%, 11/15/2027	55,000	59,564
144A, 7.0%, 2/15/2029	30,000	31,213	5.1%, 9/1/2040	57,000	59,708
Viking Ocean Cruises Ship VII Ltd., 144A, 5.625%, 2/15/2029	15,000	15,150	Archrock Partners LP:		
Williams Scotsman International, Inc., 144A, 4.625%, 8/15/2028	60,000	61,962	144A, 6.25%, 4/1/2028	220,000	229,660
Wolverine World Wide, Inc., 144A, 6.375%, 5/15/2025	150,000	159,580	144A, 6.875%, 4/1/2027	110,000	116,737
Wyndham Destinations, Inc., 144A, 6.625%, 7/31/2026	120,000	135,960	Ascent Resources Utica Holdings LLC:		
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, Inc., 144A, 4.375%, 8/15/2028	50,000	51,911	144A, 5.875%, 6/30/2029	30,000	30,000
Wynn Las Vegas LLC, 144A, 5.5%, 3/1/2025	100,000	107,686	144A, 8.25%, 12/31/2028	65,000	71,500
Wynn Macau Ltd.:			Buckeye Partners LP, 144A, 4.5%, 3/1/2028	80,000	82,025
144A, 5.5%, 1/15/2026	200,000	209,628	Cheniere Energy Partners LP:		
144A, 5.625%, 8/26/2028	200,000	208,500	4.5%, 10/1/2029	272,000	292,400
Wynn Resorts Finance LLC, 144A, 5.125%, 10/1/2029	140,000	147,875	5.625%, 10/1/2026	80,000	83,000
		<b>11,845,776</b>	Cheniere Energy, Inc., 144A, 4.625%, 10/15/2028	25,000	26,375
<b>Consumer Staples 2.6%</b>			Chesapeake Energy Corp., 144A, 5.875%, 2/1/2029	75,000	81,184
Albertsons Companies, Inc.:			CNX Resources Corp.:		
144A, 4.625%, 1/15/2027	200,000	209,190	144A, 6.0%, 1/15/2029	135,000	145,965
144A, 5.875%, 2/15/2028	60,000	64,644	144A, 7.25%, 3/14/2027	100,000	107,156
Chobani LLC, 144A, 4.625%, 11/15/2028	30,000	31,087	Colgate Energy Partners III LLC, 144A, 5.875%, 7/1/2029	60,000	62,250
Edgewell Personal Care Co., 144A, 5.5%, 6/1/2028	70,000	74,200	Comstock Resources, Inc.:		
JBS U.S.A. LUX SA:			144A, 5.875%, 1/15/2030	30,000	30,600
144A, 5.5%, 1/15/2030	60,000	67,103	144A, 6.75%, 3/1/2029	155,000	165,111
144A, 6.5%, 4/15/2029	132,000	148,336	144A, 7.5%, 5/15/2025	18,000	18,675
144A, 6.75%, 2/15/2028	235,000	258,206	Continental Resources, Inc., 144A, 5.75%, 1/15/2031	65,000	77,837
Kraft Heinz Foods Co., 4.25%, 3/1/2031	110,000	124,959	DCP Midstream Operating LP:		
Pilgrim's Pride Corp.:			5.125%, 5/15/2029	80,000	88,400
144A, 4.25%, 4/15/2031	75,000	77,719	5.375%, 7/15/2025	367,000	408,728
144A, 5.875%, 9/30/2027	230,000	244,950	5.625%, 7/15/2027	50,000	56,875
U.S. Foods, Inc., 144A, 4.75%, 2/15/2029	90,000	91,800	DT Midstream, Inc.:		
		<b>1,392,194</b>	144A, 4.125%, 6/15/2029	30,000	30,460
<b>Energy 15.8%</b>			144A, 4.375%, 6/15/2031	30,000	30,654
Antero Midstream Partners LP:			Endeavor Energy Resources LP:		
144A, 5.375%, 6/15/2029	70,000	72,975	144A, 5.5%, 1/30/2026	155,000	161,006
144A, 5.75%, 3/1/2027	130,000	135,200	144A, 5.75%, 1/30/2028	70,000	74,638
144A, 5.75%, 1/15/2028	90,000	94,704	144A, 6.625%, 7/15/2025	35,000	37,450
			EQM Midstream Partners LP:		
			144A, 4.5%, 1/15/2029	50,000	50,869
			144A, 4.75%, 1/15/2031	75,000	77,283
			5.5%, 7/15/2028	55,000	59,432
			144A, 6.0%, 7/1/2025	140,000	152,250
			144A, 6.5%, 7/1/2027	80,000	89,200
			EQT Corp.:		
			144A, 3.625%, 5/15/2031	100,000	104,250
			5.0%, 1/15/2029	85,000	94,772

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	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
7.625%, 2/1/2025	105,000	122,481	Transocean Poseidon Ltd., 144A, 6.875%, 2/1/2027	50,000	50,250
8.5%, 2/1/2030	80,000	104,233	USA Compression Partners LP:		
Genesis Energy LP, 7.75%, 2/1/2028	75,000	77,508	6.875%, 4/1/2026	142,000	148,745
Harvest Midstream I LP, 144A, 7.5%, 9/1/2028	155,000	168,330	6.875%, 9/1/2027	100,000	106,828
Hilcorp Energy I LP:			Western Midstream Operating LP:		
144A, 5.75%, 2/1/2029	155,000	161,587	4.35%, 2/1/2025	80,000	84,527
144A, 6.0%, 2/1/2031	110,000	116,600	5.3%, 3/1/2048	25,000	26,625
144A, 6.25%, 11/1/2028	35,000	37,188			<b>8,438,527</b>
Indigo Natural Resources LLC, 144A, 5.375%, 2/1/2029	120,000	125,400	<b>Financials 1.3%</b>		
Murphy Oil U.S.A., Inc.:			Navient Corp., 6.125%, 3/25/2024	393,000	424,149
4.75%, 9/15/2029	55,000	57,871	OneMain Finance Corp.:		
5.625%, 5/1/2027	65,000	68,575	5.375%, 11/15/2029	80,000	87,019
NuStar Logistics LP:			8.875%, 6/1/2025	50,000	55,435
5.75%, 10/1/2025	80,000	87,000	Quicken Loans LLC, 144A, 3.625%, 3/1/2029	120,000	118,500
6.375%, 10/1/2030	30,000	33,147	Sabre GBLB, Inc., 144A, 7.375%, 9/1/2025	30,000	32,625
Oasis Petroleum, Inc., 144A, 6.375%, 6/1/2026	40,000	41,709			<b>717,728</b>
Occidental Petroleum Corp.:			<b>Health Care 8.6%</b>		
5.5%, 12/1/2025	135,000	149,178	Acadia Healthcare Co., Inc., 144A, 5.0%, 4/15/2029	250,000	260,730
5.55%, 3/15/2026	105,000	116,025	AdaptHealth LLC:		
6.125%, 1/1/2031	255,000	300,015	144A, 4.625%, 8/1/2029	55,000	55,688
6.45%, 9/15/2036	105,000	125,538	144A, 6.125%, 8/1/2028	80,000	85,191
6.625%, 9/1/2030	225,000	270,000	AHP Health Partners, Inc., 144A, 5.75%, 7/15/2029 (b)	105,000	106,444
8.0%, 7/15/2025	175,000	209,562	Bausch Health Americas, Inc.:		
8.5%, 7/15/2027	100,000	125,920	144A, 8.5%, 1/31/2027	195,000	211,945
Parkland Corp., 144A, 5.875%, 7/15/2027	80,000	85,270	144A, 9.25%, 4/1/2026	135,000	146,839
Precision Drilling Corp., 144A, 6.875%, 1/15/2029	30,000	30,900	Bausch Health Companies, Inc.:		
Range Resources Corp.:			144A, 5.25%, 2/15/2031	50,000	46,673
144A, 8.25%, 1/15/2029	280,000	315,700	144A, 6.125%, 4/15/2025	145,000	148,625
9.25%, 2/1/2026	50,000	55,125	Catalent Pharma Solutions, Inc., 144A, 5.0%, 7/15/2027	125,000	130,620
Rattler Midstream LP, 144A, 5.625%, 7/15/2025	75,000	78,844	Centene Corp.:		
Renewable Energy Group, Inc., 144A, 5.875%, 6/1/2028	60,000	62,925	2.45%, 7/15/2028 (b)	40,000	40,540
SM Energy Co., 6.5%, 7/15/2028	80,000	82,200	4.625%, 12/15/2029	275,000	302,437
Southwestern Energy Co.:			Charles River Laboratories International, Inc., 144A, 3.75%, 3/15/2029	65,000	65,894
6.45%, 1/23/2025	140,000	154,980	Community Health Systems, Inc.:		
7.75%, 10/1/2027	100,000	108,499	144A, 4.75%, 2/15/2031	115,000	115,431
8.375%, 9/15/2028	50,000	56,500	144A, 5.625%, 3/15/2027	60,000	64,050
Suburban Propane Partners LP, 144A, 5.0%, 6/1/2031	60,000	61,425	144A, 6.0%, 1/15/2029	65,000	69,550
Sunoco LP:			144A, 6.125%, 4/1/2030	50,000	50,750
144A, 4.5%, 5/15/2029	56,000	56,980	144A, 6.875%, 4/15/2029	90,000	94,182
5.875%, 3/15/2028	35,000	37,188	Encompass Health Corp.:		
6.0%, 4/15/2027	52,000	54,379	4.5%, 2/1/2028	45,000	46,686
Superior Plus LP, 144A, 4.5%, 3/15/2029	30,000	30,901	4.75%, 2/1/2030	137,000	145,562
Targa Resources Partners LP:					
144A, 4.875%, 2/1/2031	30,000	32,475			
5.0%, 1/15/2028	265,000	279,575			
5.5%, 3/1/2030	90,000	98,969			

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	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
Endo Luxembourg Finance Company I S.a r.l., 144A, 6.125%, 4/1/2029	70,000	68,600	CP Atlas Buyer, Inc., 144A, 7.0%, 12/1/2028	28,000	29,015
HCA, Inc., 5.625%, 9/1/2028	300,000	355,500	Delta Air Lines, Inc., 144A, 7.0%, 5/1/2025	120,000	140,039
IQVIA, Inc., 144A, 5.0%, 5/15/2027	220,000	230,450	EnerSys, 144A, 4.375%, 12/15/2027	90,000	93,662
Legacy LifePoint Health LLC, 144A, 4.375%, 2/15/2027	75,000	75,900	GFL Environmental, Inc.: 144A, 3.75%, 8/1/2025	80,000	82,200
LifePoint Health, Inc., 144A, 5.375%, 1/15/2029	225,000	219,375	144A, 4.25%, 6/1/2025	40,000	41,662
Molina Healthcare, Inc.: 144A, 3.875%, 11/15/2030	75,000	78,094	144A, 4.75%, 6/15/2029	30,000	31,149
144A, 4.375%, 6/15/2028	100,000	104,250	144A, 5.125%, 12/15/2026	50,000	52,896
Organon & Co, 144A, 4.125%, 4/30/2028	200,000	203,960	Hawaiian Brand Intellectual Property Ltd., 144A, 5.75%, 1/20/2026	225,000	241,562
Prime Healthcare Services, Inc., 144A, 7.25%, 11/1/2025	70,000	75,781	Howmet Aerospace, Inc., 6.875%, 5/1/2025	140,000	162,957
RegionalCare Hospital Partners Holdings, Inc., 144A, 9.75%, 12/1/2026	60,000	64,575	Imola Merger Corp., 144A, 4.75%, 5/15/2029	365,000	375,494
Select Medical Corp., 144A, 6.25%, 8/15/2026	125,000	133,128	Jaguar Holding Co. II: 144A, 4.625%, 6/15/2025	55,000	57,750
Syneos Health, Inc., 144A, 3.625%, 1/15/2029	100,000	99,000	144A, 5.0%, 6/15/2028	45,000	48,776
Tenet Healthcare Corp.: 144A, 4.25%, 6/1/2029	90,000	91,125	JELD-WEN, Inc., 144A, 4.625%, 12/15/2025	80,000	81,501
4.625%, 7/15/2024	50,000	50,735	Madison IAQ LLC: 144A, 4.125%, 6/30/2028	90,000	90,900
144A, 4.875%, 1/1/2026	190,000	197,068	144A, 5.875%, 6/30/2029	60,000	61,050
144A, 5.125%, 11/1/2027	150,000	157,312	Masonite International Corp., 144A, 5.375%, 2/1/2028	74,000	78,416
144A, 6.125%, 10/1/2028	85,000	90,579	Metis Merger Sub LLC, 144A, 6.5%, 5/15/2029	60,000	59,091
144A, 6.25%, 2/1/2027	75,000	78,281	Mileage Plus Holdings LLC, 144A, 6.5%, 6/20/2027	130,000	143,130
144A, 7.5%, 4/1/2025	50,000	54,007	Moog, Inc., 144A, 4.25%, 12/15/2027	160,000	165,600
		<b>4,615,557</b>	NESCO Holdings II, Inc., 144A, 5.5%, 4/15/2029	95,000	99,156
<b>Industrials 11.5%</b>			Nielsen Finance LLC: 144A, 4.5%, 7/15/2029	30,000	30,084
Aadvantage Loyalty IP Ltd.: 144A, 5.5%, 4/20/2026	140,000	148,225	144A, 5.625%, 10/1/2028	265,000	279,864
144A, 5.75%, 4/20/2029	135,000	145,969	Owens & Minor, Inc., 144A, 4.5%, 3/31/2029	55,000	56,513
Allied Universal Holdco LLC, 144A, 6.0%, 6/1/2029	200,000	202,758	Patrick Industries, Inc., 144A, 4.75%, 5/1/2029	135,000	134,156
American Airlines, Inc., 144A, 11.75%, 7/15/2025	80,000	100,400	Prime Security Services Borrower LLC: 144A, 3.375%, 8/31/2027	70,000	67,900
ATS Automation Tooling Systems, Inc., 144A, 4.125%, 12/15/2028	30,000	30,713	144A, 5.75%, 4/15/2026	135,000	149,130
Bombardier, Inc., 144A, 7.5%, 3/15/2025	95,000	97,693	144A, 6.25%, 1/15/2028	275,000	292,531
Brundage-Bone Concrete Pumping Holdings, Inc., 144A, 6.0%, 2/1/2026	55,000	57,899	Signature Aviation U.S. Holdings, Inc., 144A, 4.0%, 3/1/2028	155,000	156,119
Cargo Aircraft Management, Inc., 144A, 4.75%, 2/1/2028	100,000	101,983	Spirit Loyalty Cayman Ltd., 144A, 8.0%, 9/20/2025	114,000	128,934
Cimpress PLC, 144A, 7.0%, 6/15/2026	150,000	158,125	TransDigm, Inc.: 144A, 4.625%, 1/15/2029	85,000	85,030
Clark Equipment Co., 144A, 5.875%, 6/1/2025	55,000	58,163	5.5%, 11/15/2027	115,000	119,887
Covanta Holding Corp., 5.0%, 9/1/2030	195,000	204,750	144A, 6.25%, 3/15/2026	335,000	353,425

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	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)		Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
United Airlines, Inc., 144A, 4.375%, 4/15/2026	160,000	165,629	Hudbay Minerals, Inc.:		
Vertical U.S. Newco, Inc., 144A, 5.25%, 7/15/2027	200,000	210,750	144A, 4.5%, 4/1/2026	60,000	60,225
Vine Energy Holdings LLC, 144A, 6.75%, 4/15/2029	330,000	347,325	144A, 6.125%, 4/1/2029	100,000	106,500
WESCO Distribution, Inc.:			Kaiser Aluminum Corp.:		
144A, 7.125%, 6/15/2025	40,000	43,228	144A, 4.5%, 6/1/2031	50,000	51,277
144A, 7.25%, 6/15/2028	105,000	116,954	144A, 4.625%, 3/1/2028	70,000	72,319
		<b>6,180,143</b>	Kraton Polymers LLC, 144A, 4.25%, 12/15/2025	125,000	127,500
<b>Information Technology 1.7%</b>			LABL Escrow Issuer LLC, 144A, 6.75%, 7/15/2026	100,000	106,673
Ahead DB Holdings LLC, 144A, 6.625%, 5/1/2028	120,000	124,145	Mauser Packaging Solutions Holding Co., 144A, 7.25%, 4/15/2025	105,000	102,900
Banff Merger Sub, Inc., 144A, 9.75%, 9/1/2026	75,000	78,938	Mercer International, Inc., 144A, 5.125%, 2/1/2029	10,000	10,290
Boxer Parent Co., Inc., 144A, 7.125%, 10/2/2025	60,000	64,200	Methanex Corp.:		
Camelot Finance SA, 144A, 4.5%, 11/1/2026	55,000	57,544	5.125%, 10/15/2027	180,000	194,400
Clarivate Science Holdings Corp.:			5.25%, 12/15/2029	50,000	53,875
144A, 3.875%, 6/30/2028	90,000	90,820	Nouryon Holding BV, 144A, 8.0%, 10/1/2026	150,000	159,000
144A, 4.875%, 6/30/2029	60,000	61,575	Novelis Corp.:		
Microchip Technology, Inc., 4.25%, 9/1/2025	140,000	146,981	144A, 4.75%, 1/30/2030	375,000	393,750
NCR Corp., 144A, 5.125%, 4/15/2029	190,000	195,937	144A, 5.875%, 9/30/2026	230,000	239,259
Presidio Holdings, Inc.:			Resolute Forest Products, Inc., 144A, 4.875%, 3/1/2026	55,000	56,815
144A, 4.875%, 2/1/2027	50,000	51,438	SCIH Salt Holdings, Inc., 144A, 4.875%, 5/1/2028	110,000	109,987
144A, 8.25%, 2/1/2028	30,000	32,625	Taseko Mines Ltd., 144A, 7.0%, 2/15/2026	125,000	130,312
		<b>904,203</b>	Tronox, Inc.:		
<b>Materials 9.0%</b>			144A, 4.625%, 3/15/2029	370,000	373,693
Arconic Corp., 144A, 6.125%, 2/15/2028	185,000	198,453	144A, 6.5%, 5/1/2025	30,000	31,749
Cascades, Inc.:			United States Steel Corp., 6.875%, 3/1/2029	35,000	37,450
144A, 5.125%, 1/15/2026	10,000	10,650			<b>4,823,721</b>
144A, 5.375%, 1/15/2028	90,000	94,613	<b>Real Estate 4.8%</b>		
Chemours Co.:			Cushman & Wakefield U.S. Borrower LLC, 144A, 6.75%, 5/15/2028	120,000	129,415
5.375%, 5/15/2027	95,000	103,034	Iron Mountain, Inc.:		
144A, 5.75%, 11/15/2028	290,000	310,233	144A, (REIT), 4.875%, 9/15/2029	60,000	61,932
Clearwater Paper Corp.:			144A, (REIT), 5.0%, 7/15/2028	75,000	77,846
144A, 4.75%, 8/15/2028	80,000	79,700	144A, (REIT), 5.25%, 7/15/2030	100,000	105,858
144A, 5.375%, 2/1/2025	110,000	117,150	iStar, Inc.:		
Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc.:			(REIT), 4.25%, 8/1/2025	100,000	102,875
144A, 4.625%, 3/1/2029	31,000	32,620	(REIT), 4.75%, 10/1/2024	170,000	178,925
144A, 4.875%, 3/1/2031	141,000	148,050	MGM Growth Properties Operating Partnership LP:		
144A, 6.75%, 3/15/2026	175,000	188,781	144A, (REIT), 3.875%, 2/15/2029	90,000	91,401
First Quantum Minerals Ltd.:			144A, (REIT), 4.625%, 6/15/2025	233,000	248,930
144A, 6.875%, 3/1/2026	200,000	209,222	(REIT), 5.75%, 2/1/2027	310,000	344,912
144A, 6.875%, 10/15/2027	300,000	326,910			
Freeport-McMoRan, Inc.:					
4.125%, 3/1/2028	270,000	281,812			
4.375%, 8/1/2028	90,000	95,063			
4.625%, 8/1/2030	90,000	98,550			
5.0%, 9/1/2027	105,000	110,906			

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

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
MPT Operating Partnership LP: (REIT), 3.5%, 3/15/2031	105,000	106,049
(REIT), 4.625%, 8/1/2029	140,000	149,864
Realogy Group LLC: 144A, 5.75%, 1/15/2029	240,000	250,894
144A, 7.625%, 6/15/2025	185,000	200,670
Service Properties Trust, (REIT), 7.5%, 9/15/2025	160,000	181,152
VICI Properties LP: 144A, (REIT), 3.5%, 2/15/2025	10,000	10,197
144A, (REIT), 3.75%, 2/15/2027	30,000	30,514
144A, (REIT), 4.125%, 8/15/2030	155,000	159,157
144A, (REIT), 4.625%, 12/1/2029	16,000	17,000
WeWork Companies, Inc., 144A, 7.875%, 5/1/2025	80,000	83,600
XHR LP, 144A, (REIT), 4.875%, 6/1/2029	40,000	41,300
		<b>2,572,491</b>
<b>Utilities 3.5%</b>		
AmeriGas Partners LP: 5.5%, 5/20/2025	205,000	224,987
5.75%, 5/20/2027	110,000	122,650
Calpine Corp.: 144A, 4.5%, 2/15/2028	200,000	204,000
144A, 4.625%, 2/1/2029	30,000	29,494
Clearway Energy Operating LLC, 144A, 4.75%, 3/15/2028	115,000	120,606
NextEra Energy Operating Partners LP, 144A, 4.25%, 7/15/2024	210,000	221,550
NRG Energy, Inc.: 144A, 3.625%, 2/15/2031	145,000	142,492
144A, 5.25%, 6/15/2029	157,000	167,009
5.75%, 1/15/2028	200,000	213,000
Pattern Energy Operations LP, 144A, 4.5%, 8/15/2028	90,000	93,168
Talen Energy Supply LLC: 144A, 7.25%, 5/15/2027	225,000	209,938
144A, 7.625%, 6/1/2028	60,000	56,143
Vistra Operations Co. LLC, 144A, 4.375%, 5/1/2029	60,000	60,300
		<b>1,865,337</b>
<b>Total Corporate Bonds</b> (Cost \$49,146,014)		<b>51,630,313</b>

## Loan Participations and Assignments 0.5%

### Senior Loans (c)

	Principal Amount \$(a)	Value (\$)
Brand Energy & Infrastructure Services, Inc., Term Loan, 3-month USD-LIBOR + 4.25%, 5.25%, 6/21/2024	168,683	166,178
Flex Acquisition Co., Inc., Term Loan, 3-month USD-LIBOR + 3.5%, 4.0%, 2/23/2028	80,931	80,679

**Total Loan Participations and Assignments**  
(Cost \$246,796) **246,857**

	Shares	Value (\$)
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### Common Stocks 0.0%

#### Industrials

Quad Graphics, Inc.* (Cost \$0)	287	1,191
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### Warrants 0.1%

#### Materials

Hercules Trust II, Expiration Date 3/31/2029* (d) (Cost \$244,286)	1,100	47,259
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### Cash Equivalents 2.1%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (e) (Cost \$1,116,541)	1,116,541	1,116,541
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	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
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<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$50,753,637)	99.0	53,042,161
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<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	1.0	559,714
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<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	53,601,875
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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, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 0.0%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (e) (f)								
633,205	—	633,205 (g)	—	—	344	—	—	—
<b>Cash Equivalents 2.1%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (e)								
843,071	11,266,380	10,992,910	—	—	172	—	1,116,541	1,116,541
<b>1,476,276</b>	<b>11,266,380</b>	<b>11,626,115</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,116,541</b>	<b>1,116,541</b>

\* Non-income producing security.

(a) Principal amount stated in U.S. dollars unless otherwise noted.

(b) When-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment securities included.

(c) Variable or floating rate security. These securities are shown at their current rate as of June 30, 2021. 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. Securities with a floor or ceiling feature are disclosed at the inherent rate, where applicable.

(d) Investment was valued using significant unobservable inputs.

(e) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.

(f) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.

(g) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2021.

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

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

At June 30, 2021, the Fund had the following open forward foreign currency contracts:

Contracts to Deliver		In Exchange For		Settlement Date	Unrealized Appreciation (\$)	Counterparty
EUR	698,948	USD	834,659	7/30/2021	5,350	State Street Bank and Trust

#### Currency Abbreviation(s)

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.

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, 2021 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>
Corporate Bonds (a)	\$ —	\$ 51,630,313	\$ —	\$ 51,630,313
Loan Participations and Assignments	—	246,857	—	246,857
Common Stocks	1,191	—	—	1,191
Warrants	—	—	47,259	47,259
Short-Term Investments	1,116,541	—	—	1,116,541
Derivatives (b)				
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	—	5,350	—	5,350
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,117,732</b>	<b>\$ 51,882,520</b>	<b>\$47,259</b>	<b>\$ 53,047,511</b>

(a) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

(b) Derivatives include unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on open forward foreign currency contracts.

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

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$49,637,096)	\$ 51,925,620
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$1,116,541)	1,116,541
Cash	10,000
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$17,525)	17,534
Receivable for investments sold	216,832
Receivable for investments sold — when-issued/delayed delivery securities	150,838
Receivable for Fund shares sold	3,185
Interest receivable	814,565
Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	5,350
Other assets	603
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>54,261,068</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable for investments purchased	222,895
Payable for investments purchased — when-issued/delayed delivery securities	336,125
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	14,812
Accrued management fee	16,283
Accrued Trustees' fees	765
Other accrued expenses and payables	68,313
Total liabilities	659,193
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 53,601,875</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	(3,129,169)
Paid-in capital	56,731,044
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 53,601,875</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$53,202,299 ÷ 8,724,735 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 6.10</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$399,576 ÷ 65,216 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 6.13</b>

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Interest	\$ 1,375,308
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	172
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	344
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,375,824</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	132,177
Administration fee	25,642
Services to shareholders	385
Record keeping fee (Class B)	156
Distribution service fee (Class B)	244
Custodian fee	3,562
Professional fees	44,315
Reports to shareholders	16,956
Trustees' fees and expenses	1,901
Other	1,642
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>226,980</b>
Expense reductions	(38,894)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>188,086</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>1,187,738</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	950,092
Forward foreign currency contracts	34,163
Foreign currency	(7,932)
	976,323
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(753,007)
Forward foreign currency contracts	5,127
Foreign currency	(387)
	(748,267)
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>228,056</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ 1,415,794</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 1,187,738	\$ 2,533,908
Net realized gain (loss)	976,323	(892,054)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(748,267)	1,341,265
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	1,415,794	2,983,119
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(2,455,814)	(2,873,076)
Class B	(6,327)	(8,104)
Total distributions	(2,462,141)	(2,881,180)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	2,422,785	6,977,525
Reinvestment of distributions	2,455,814	2,873,076
Payments for shares redeemed	(4,588,649)	(11,869,783)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	289,950	(2,019,182)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	249,108	9,694
Reinvestment of distributions	6,327	8,104
Payments for shares redeemed	(4,128)	(29,136)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	251,307	(11,338)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	(505,090)	(1,928,581)
Net assets at beginning of period	54,106,965	56,035,546
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$53,601,875</b>	<b>\$ 54,106,965</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	8,668,128	8,976,023
Shares sold	390,954	1,182,798
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	408,621	536,022
Shares redeemed	(742,968)	(2,026,715)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	56,607	(307,895)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>8,724,735</b>	<b>8,668,128</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	23,669	25,470
Shares sold	41,170	1,573
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	1,048	1,501
Shares redeemed	(671)	(4,875)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	41,547	(1,801)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>65,216</b>	<b>23,669</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS High Income VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
		2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$6.23</b>	<b>\$6.23</b>	<b>\$5.71</b>	<b>\$6.36</b>	<b>\$6.28</b>	<b>\$5.93</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.14	.29	.31	.33	.31	.32
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	.02	.04	.56	(.48)	.15	.41
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>.16</b>	<b>.33</b>	<b>.87</b>	<b>(.15)</b>	<b>.46</b>	<b>.73</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.29)	(.33)	(.35)	(.50)	(.38)	(.38)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$6.10</b>	<b>\$6.23</b>	<b>\$6.23</b>	<b>\$5.71</b>	<b>\$6.36</b>	<b>\$6.28</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	2.66*	6.24	15.69	(2.52)	7.51	12.87
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	53	54	56	52	61	100
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.86**	.87	.96	.94	.78	.80
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.71**	.70	.68	.69	.72	.72
Ratio of net investment income (%)	4.49**	4.86	5.09	5.41	4.98	5.38
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	39*	94	82	62	71	77

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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



## DWS High Income VIP — Class B

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$6.24</b>	<b>\$6.25</b>	<b>\$5.73</b>	<b>\$6.38</b>	<b>\$6.30</b>	<b>\$5.94</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.12	.27	.29	.31	.31	.31
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	.04	.04	.57	(.48)	.13	.41
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>.16</b>	<b>.31</b>	<b>.86</b>	<b>(.17)</b>	<b>.44</b>	<b>.72</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.27)	(.32)	(.34)	(.48)	(.36)	(.36)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$6.13</b>	<b>\$6.24</b>	<b>\$6.25</b>	<b>\$5.73</b>	<b>\$6.38</b>	<b>\$6.30</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	2.62*	5.77	15.33	(2.76)	7.21	12.67
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	.4	.1	.2	.1	.1	2
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.30**	1.30	1.40	1.34	1.15	1.21
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.11**	1.05	.94	.96	.98	.98
Ratio of net investment income (%)	4.08**	4.52	4.82	5.14	4.88	5.15
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	39*	94	82	62	71	77

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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

## 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 of 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.

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. 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 efforts 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, the Fund had no securities on loan.

**When-Issued/Delayed Delivery Securities.** The Fund may purchase 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 a security, the transaction is recorded and the value of the security 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. No interest accrues to the Fund until payment takes place. 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.

At December 31, 2020, the Fund had net tax basis capital loss carryforwards of approximately \$7,538,000, including short-term losses (\$1,009,000) and long-term losses (\$6,529,000), which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely.

At June 30, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$50,768,624. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$2,273,537. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$2,562,892 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$289,355.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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 foreign denominated investments. 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. 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 premiums and discounts are amortized/accreted 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 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, 2021, 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, 2021, is included in the table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the investment in forward currency contracts short vs. U.S. dollars had a total contract value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$816,000 to \$1,197,000.

The following table summarize the value of the Fund's derivative instruments held as of June 30, 2021 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities, presented by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Assets Derivative</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>
Foreign Exchange Contracts (a)	\$ 5,350

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Assets and Liabilities account:

(a) Unrealized appreciation 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, 2021 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>
Foreign Exchange Contracts (a)	\$ 34,163

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Operations account:

(a) Net realized gain (loss) from forward foreign currency contracts

<b>Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>Forward Contracts</b>
Foreign Exchange Contracts (a)	\$ 5,127

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Operations account:

(a) Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on forward foreign currency contracts

As of June 30, 2021, 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 Amount of Assets Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities</b>	<b>Financial Instruments and Derivatives Available for Offset</b>	<b>Collateral Received</b>	<b>Net Amount of Derivative Assets</b>
State Street Bank and Trust	\$ 5,350	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 5,350

### C. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments and U.S. Treasury securities) aggregated \$20,362,282 and \$21,475,115, 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.

Under the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the average daily net assets of the Fund, 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, 2021, 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, 2021 through April 30, 2022 (through April 30, 2021 for Class B shares), 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.71%
Class B	1.10%

Effective May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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 1.11%.

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$ 38,703
Class B	191
	<b>\$ 38,894</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee (“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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$25,642, of which \$4,258 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, 2021, 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, 2021</b>
Class A	\$ 159	\$ 47
Class B	36	11
	<b>\$ 195</b>	<b>\$ 58</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, 2021, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$244, of which \$82 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$613, of which \$294 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, 2021, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$26.

## **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, 2021, two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 68% and 22%. Two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, each owning 66% and 32% respectively.

## **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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

## **H. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.



## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,026.60	\$ 1,026.20
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.57	\$ 5.58

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,021.27	\$ 1,019.29
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.56	\$ 5.56

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS High Income VIP	.71%	1.11%

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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, the Fund’s performance (Class A shares) was in the 1st quartile, 1st quartile and 3rd 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 one- and three-year periods and has underperformed its benchmark in the five-year period ended December 31, 2019.

**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, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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



VS2HI-3 (R-028385-10 8/21)



June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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**DWS International Growth VIP**



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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 ongoing 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

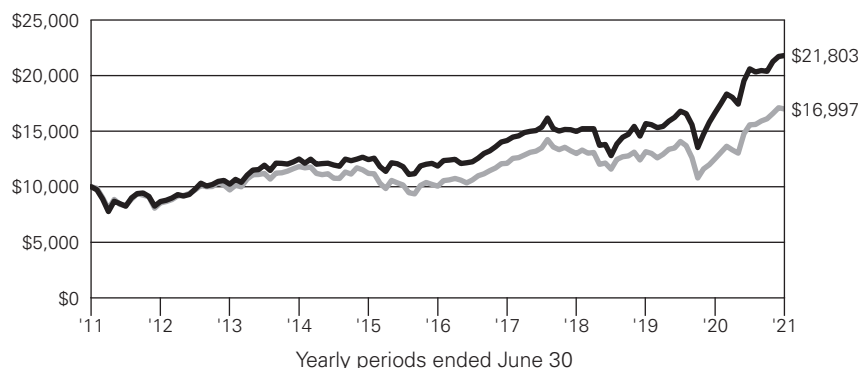
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original 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, 2021 are 1.50% and 1.81% 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 27 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	\$10,581	\$13,087	\$14,560	\$18,385	\$21,803
	Average annual total return	5.81%	30.87%	13.34%	12.95%	8.11%
MSCI All Country World ex-USA Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,916	\$13,572	\$13,087	\$16,910	\$16,997
	Average annual total return	9.16%	35.72%	9.38%	11.08%	5.45%
DWS International Growth VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,570	\$13,043	\$14,426	\$18,155	\$21,159
	Average annual total return	5.70%	30.43%	12.99%	12.67%	7.78%
MSCI All Country World ex-USA Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,916	\$13,572	\$13,087	\$16,910	\$16,997
	Average annual total return	9.16%	35.72%	9.38%	11.08%	5.45%

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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Common Stocks	98%	96%
Preferred Stocks	1%	1%
Cash Equivalents	1%	2%
Exchange-Traded Funds	—	1%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Exchange-Traded Funds, Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Information Technology	25%	24%
Industrials	19%	15%
Financials	14%	13%
Health Care	13%	16%
Consumer Discretionary	11%	13%
Consumer Staples	6%	7%
Materials	5%	5%
Communication Services	5%	6%
Energy	2%	1%
	100%	100%

<b>Geographical Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Germany	15%	15%
France	12%	12%
Japan	10%	10%
Netherlands	9%	6%
United States	8%	8%
Switzerland	8%	9%
Canada	8%	7%
China	7%	8%
Ireland	3%	4%
United Kingdom	3%	4%
Sweden	3%	3%
Argentina	3%	2%
Korea	2%	2%
Taiwan	2%	2%
Singapore	2%	2%
Brazil	2%	2%
Other	3%	4%
	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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Sebastian P. Werner, PhD, Head of Investment Strategy Equity

Julia A. Merz, PhD, Portfolio Manager Equity

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 98.0%</b>					
<b>Argentina 2.6%</b>					
Globant SA* (a)	1,931	423,237			
MercadoLibre, Inc.* (b)	70	109,045			
(Cost \$226,872)		<b>532,282</b>			
<b>Australia 0.2%</b>					
Appen Ltd. (Cost \$76,126)	3,592	<b>36,636</b>			
<b>Brazil 2.0%</b>					
Magazine Luiza SA	33,569	142,745			
Pagseguro Digital Ltd. "A"* (a)	4,547	254,268			
(Cost \$236,171)		<b>397,013</b>			
<b>Canada 7.5%</b>					
Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.	3,635	219,813			
Alimentation Couche-Tard, Inc. "B"	5,727	210,443			
Brookfield Asset Management Reinsurance Partners Ltd. "A"*	99	5,231			
Brookfield Asset Management, Inc. "A"	14,429	736,116			
Canadian National Railway Co.	2,530	266,940			
Nuvei Corp. 144A*	900	73,664			
(Cost \$714,872)		<b>1,512,207</b>			
<b>China 6.8%</b>					
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. (ADR)*	1,758	398,679			
Dada Nexus Ltd. (ADR)*	565	16,391			
Minth Group Ltd.	16,870	80,175			
New Oriental Education & Technology Group, Inc. (ADR)*	12,000	98,280			
Ping An Insurance (Group) Co. of China Ltd. "H"	36,500	357,511			
Tencent Holdings Ltd.	5,600	421,210			
(Cost \$828,980)		<b>1,372,246</b>			
<b>France 12.0%</b>					
Capgemini SE	1,286	247,030			
Cie de Saint-Gobain	3,115	205,143			
LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE	729	571,635			
Orpea SA*	1,111	141,288			
Schneider Electric SE	494	77,719			
SMCP SA 144A*	6,363	46,137			
Teleperformance	998	405,070			
TotalEnergies SE	5,830	263,763			
VINCI SA	2,773	295,895			
Vivendi SA	5,306	178,241			
(Cost \$1,628,351)		<b>2,431,921</b>			
<b>Germany 13.5%</b>					
adidas AG	339	126,178			
Allianz SE (Registered)	1,372	342,126			
Auto1 Group SE 144A*	1,692	74,333			
BASF SE	2,558	201,522			
Brenntag SE	1,615	150,173			
Deutsche Boerse AG	2,313	403,717			
Deutsche Post AG (Registered)	2,400	163,235			
Evonik Industries AG	6,580	220,647			
Evotec SE*	4,050	183,592			
Fresenius Medical Care AG & Co. KGaA	1,840	152,812			
KION Group AG	610	65,011			
MYT Netherlands Parent BV (ADR)* (b)	2,835	86,269			
SAP SE	1,500	211,372			
TeamViewer AG 144A*	7,200	270,806			
Wacker Chemie AG	482	74,328			
(Cost \$2,278,233)		<b>2,726,121</b>			
<b>Hong Kong 1.4%</b>					
Techtronic Industries Co., Ltd. (Cost \$46,071)	16,597	<b>289,859</b>			
<b>Ireland 3.4%</b>					
Experian PLC	10,631	409,705			
Kerry Group PLC "A"	2,052	286,626			
(Cost \$387,655)		<b>696,331</b>			
<b>Israel 0.8%</b>					
Kornit Digital Ltd.* (Cost \$133,860)	1,350	<b>167,846</b>			
<b>Japan 9.4%</b>					
Daikin Industries Ltd.	1,700	316,603			
Fast Retailing Co., Ltd.	300	225,834			
Hoya Corp.	2,600	344,732			
Kao Corp.	1,100	67,676			
Keyence Corp.	800	403,763			
Lasertec Corp.	500	97,169			
MISUMI Group, Inc.	4,011	135,752			
Shimadzu Corp.	4,400	170,107			
Shiseido Co., Ltd.	2,000	147,099			
(Cost \$1,127,809)		<b>1,908,735</b>			
<b>Korea 2.3%</b>					
LG Chem Ltd.	90	67,930			
Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. (Cost \$317,267)	5,632	403,590			
		<b>471,520</b>			
<b>Luxembourg 0.8%</b>					
Eurofins Scientific SE* (Cost \$32,197)	1,480	<b>169,173</b>			
<b>Netherlands 8.9%</b>					
Adyen NV 144A*	87	212,562			
Airbus SE*	1,095	140,798			
ASML Holding NV	533	366,184			
ING Groep NV	16,829	222,299			
Koninklijke DSM NV	1,225	228,630			
Koninklijke Philips NV	5,005	248,010			
NXP Semiconductors NV (a)	1,152	236,989			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)
Prosus NV	1,374	134,362
(Cost \$1,257,166)		<b>1,789,834</b>
<b>Singapore 2.1%</b>		
DBS Group Holdings Ltd. (Cost \$304,520)	19,000	<b>421,202</b>
<b>Sweden 3.4%</b>		
Assa Abloy AB "B"	4,050	122,000
Hexagon AB "B"	7,763	115,020
Nobina AB 144A	21,904	198,869
Spotify Technology SA* (a)	899	247,755
(Cost \$402,610)		<b>683,644</b>
<b>Switzerland 7.5%</b>		
Alcon, Inc.	656	45,929
Lonza Group AG (Registered)	800	567,025
Nestle SA (Registered)	3,604	448,801
Roche Holding AG	790	297,600
Zur Rose Group AG*	420	160,919
(Cost \$675,605)		<b>1,520,274</b>
<b>Taiwan 2.2%</b>		
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (Cost \$137,146)	21,000	<b>448,452</b>
<b>United Kingdom 3.4%</b>		
Clarivate PLC* (a)	7,250	199,593
Farfetch Ltd. "A"* (a)	2,770	139,497
Halma PLC	3,990	148,581
Rentokil Initial PLC	30,200	206,790
(Cost \$520,167)		<b>694,461</b>
<b>United States 7.8%</b>		
Activision Blizzard, Inc.	1,521	145,164
EPAM Systems, Inc.*	880	449,645
Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.	1,741	244,924

	Shares	Value (\$)
MasterCard, Inc. "A"	550	200,799
NVIDIA Corp.	280	224,028
Schlumberger NV	2,671	85,499
Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc.	430	216,922
(Cost \$492,085)		<b>1,566,981</b>

**Total Common Stocks**  
(Cost \$11,823,763) **19,836,738**

### Preferred Stocks 1.0%

Germany	Shares	Value (\$)
Sartorius AG (Cost \$101,309)	390	<b>203,012</b>

### Securities Lending Collateral 1.0%

	Shares	Value (\$)
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (c) (d) (Cost \$199,138)	199,138	<b>199,138</b>

### Cash Equivalents 0.7%

	Shares	Value (\$)
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (c) (Cost \$146,169)	146,169	<b>146,169</b>

	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$12,270,379)	100.7	<b>20,385,057</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(0.7)	<b>(143,890)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>20,241,167</b>

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$)	Purchases	Sales	Net Realized	Net Change in	Income (\$)	Capital Gain	Number	Value (\$)
at	Cost (\$)	Proceeds (\$)	Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)		Distributions (\$)	of Shares at	at
12/31/2020							6/30/2021	6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 1.0%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (c) (d)								
—	199,138 (e)	—	—	—	378	—	199,138	199,138
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.7%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (c)								
458,187	1,893,135	2,205,153	—	—	47	—	146,169	146,169
<b>458,187</b>	<b>2,092,273</b>	<b>2,205,153</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>345,307</b>	<b>345,307</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, 2021 amounted to \$192,692, which is 1.0% of net assets.

(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.

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

(e) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2021.

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

## 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, 2021 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	\$ 532,282	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 532,282
Australia	36,636	—	—	36,636
Brazil	397,013	—	—	397,013
Canada	1,512,207	—	—	1,512,207
China	1,372,246	—	—	1,372,246
France	2,431,921	—	—	2,431,921
Germany	2,726,121	—	—	2,726,121
Hong Kong	289,859	—	—	289,859
Ireland	696,331	—	—	696,331
Israel	167,846	—	—	167,846
Japan	1,908,735	—	—	1,908,735
Korea	471,520	—	—	471,520
Luxembourg	169,173	—	—	169,173
Netherlands	1,789,834	—	—	1,789,834
Singapore	421,202	—	—	421,202
Sweden	683,644	—	—	683,644
Switzerland	1,520,274	—	—	1,520,274
Taiwan	448,452	—	—	448,452
United Kingdom	694,461	—	—	694,461
United States	1,566,981	—	—	1,566,981
Preferred Stocks	203,012	—	—	203,012
Short-Term Investments (a)	345,307	—	—	345,307
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,385,057</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$20,385,057</b>

(a) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$11,925,072) — including \$192,692 of securities loaned	\$ 20,039,750
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$199,138)*	199,138
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$146,169)	146,169
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$86,756)	84,236
Receivable for Fund shares sold	266
Dividends receivable	15,984
Interest receivable	65
Foreign taxes recoverable	23,854
Other assets	194
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>20,509,656</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	199,138
Payable for investments purchased	5,539
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	12,339
Accrued management fee	2,464
Accrued Trustees' fees	347
Other accrued expenses and payables	48,662
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>268,489</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 20,241,167</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	8,503,621
Paid-in capital	11,737,546
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 20,241,167</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$20,061,999 ÷ 1,090,098 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 18.40</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$179,168 ÷ 9,704 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 18.46</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$30,748)	\$ 191,353
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	47
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	378
<b>Total income</b>	<b>191,778</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	60,998
Administration fee	9,543
Services to shareholders	496
Distribution service fee (Class B)	144
Custodian fee	6,036
Professional fees	38,856
Reports to shareholders	12,218
Trustees' fees and expenses	1,237
Other	6,449
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>135,977</b>
Expense reductions	(48,539)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>87,438</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>104,340</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	319,463
Foreign currency	4,892
	324,355
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	718,064
Foreign currency	(5,973)
	712,091
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>1,036,446</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$1,140,786</b>

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



# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 104,340	\$ 68,931
Net realized gain (loss)	324,355	266,287
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	712,091	3,136,891
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	1,140,786	3,472,109
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(300,260)	(248,933)
Class B	(1,284)	(1,082)
Total distributions	(301,544)	(250,015)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	857,188	1,646,537
Reinvestment of distributions	300,260	248,933
Payments for shares redeemed	(1,222,012)	(3,319,251)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(64,564)	(1,423,781)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	68,838	1,708
Reinvestment of distributions	1,284	1,082
Payments for shares redeemed	(2,568)	(73,265)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	67,554	(70,475)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>842,232</b>	<b>1,727,838</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	19,398,935	17,671,097
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$20,241,167</b>	<b>\$19,398,935</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	1,093,246	1,196,084
Shares sold	48,695	111,439
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	16,498	20,388
Shares redeemed	(68,341)	(234,665)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(3,148)	(102,838)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>1,090,098</b>	<b>1,093,246</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	6,025	10,737
Shares sold	3,752	134
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	70	88
Shares redeemed	(143)	(4,934)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	3,679	(4,712)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>9,704</b>	<b>6,025</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS International Growth VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$17.65</b>	<b>\$14.64</b>	<b>\$11.47</b>	<b>\$13.90</b>	<b>\$11.12</b>	<b>\$10.81</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.09	.06	.22	.16	.08	.06
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	.93	3.17	3.32	(2.46)	2.75	.34
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>1.02</b>	<b>3.23</b>	<b>3.54</b>	<b>(2.30)</b>	<b>2.83</b>	<b>.40</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.06)	(.22)	(.17)	(.13)	(.05)	(.09)
Net realized gains	(.21)	—	(.20)	—	—	—
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.27)</b>	<b>(.22)</b>	<b>(.37)</b>	<b>(.13)</b>	<b>(.05)</b>	<b>(.09)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$18.40</b>	<b>\$17.65</b>	<b>\$14.64</b>	<b>\$11.47</b>	<b>\$13.90</b>	<b>\$11.12</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	5.81*	22.69	31.22	(16.69)	25.47	3.72
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	20	19	18	14	19	27
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.38**	1.50	1.64	1.72	1.56	1.66
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.89**	.87	.86	.81	.92	.95
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.06**	.42	1.63	1.21	.61	.51
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	13*	10	16	38	62	70

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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

## DWS International Growth VIP — Class B

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$17.67</b>	<b>\$14.66</b>	<b>\$11.49</b>	<b>\$13.93</b>	<b>\$11.13</b>	<b>\$10.82</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.07	.01	.18	.12	.02	.02
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	.94	3.18	3.33	(2.46)	2.79	.35
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>3.19</b>	<b>3.51</b>	<b>(2.34)</b>	<b>2.81</b>	<b>.37</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.01)	(.18)	(.14)	(.10)	(.01)	(.06)
Net realized gains	(.21)	—	(.20)	—	—	—
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.22)</b>	<b>(.18)</b>	<b>(.34)</b>	<b>(.10)</b>	<b>(.01)</b>	<b>(.06)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$18.46</b>	<b>\$17.67</b>	<b>\$14.66</b>	<b>\$11.49</b>	<b>\$13.93</b>	<b>\$11.13</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	5.70*	22.29	30.84	(16.92)	25.26	3.38
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	.2	.1	.2	.2	.2	.07
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.68**	1.81	1.95	2.07	1.90	1.98
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	1.17**	1.18	1.16	1.06	1.15	1.24
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.76**	.07	1.31	.92	.12	.17
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	13*	10	16	38	62	70

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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

## 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 of 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 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 (“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. 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 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, 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.

**Taxes.** 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 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, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$12,299,501. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$8,085,556. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$8,488,887 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$403,331.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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, 2021, purchases and sales of investment transactions (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$2,575,641 and \$2,466,893, 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 to the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee based on its average daily net assets of the Fund, 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, 2021 through April 30, 2021 (and through April 30, 2022 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	.87%
Class B	1.17%

Effective May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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 shares at 0.92%.

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$ 48,244
Class B	295
	<b>\$ 48,539</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee (“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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$9,543, of which \$1,616 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, 2021, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2021
Class A	\$ 136	\$ 47
Class B	29	15
	<b>\$ 165</b>	<b>\$ 62</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, 2021, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$144, of which \$33 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$511, of which \$294 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, 2021, two participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, owning 82% and 10%, respectively. One participating insurance company was owner of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, owning 92%.

#### 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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.



## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,058.10	\$ 1,057.00
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.54	\$ 5.97

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,020.38	\$ 1,018.99
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.46	\$ 5.86

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS International Growth VIP	.89%	1.17%

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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, the Fund’s performance (Class A shares) was in the 1st quartile, 4th quartile and 3rd 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 one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2019.

**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, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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



VS2IG-3 (R-028383-10 8/21)



June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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**DWS Small Mid Cap Growth VIP**



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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. 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 ongoing 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

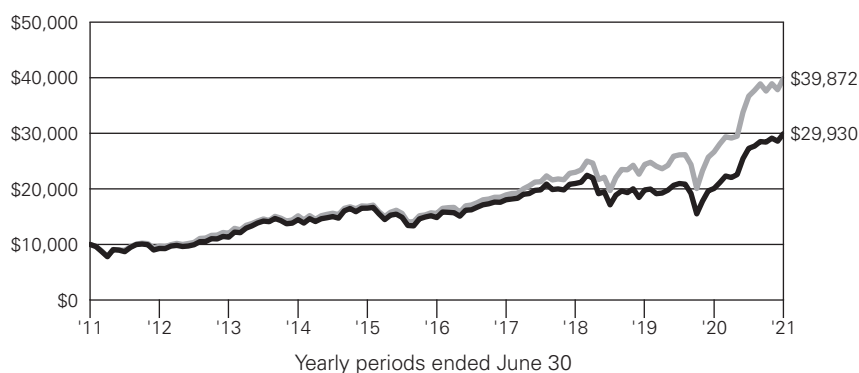
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original 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, 2021 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	\$10,968	\$14,912	\$14,270	\$20,178	\$29,930
	Average annual total return	9.68%	49.12%	12.58%	15.07%	11.59%
Russell 2500 Growth Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$10,867	\$14,963	\$17,344	\$25,597	\$39,871
	Average annual total return	8.67%	49.63%	20.15%	20.68%	14.83%

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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Common Stocks	99%	97%
Cash Equivalents	1%	2%
Exchange-Traded Funds	0%	1%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Exchange-Traded Funds, Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Information Technology	29%	29%
Health Care	27%	29%
Consumer Discretionary	15%	13%
Industrials	14%	14%
Financials	5%	5%
Materials	4%	4%
Real Estate	3%	3%
Consumer Staples	2%	2%
Communication Services	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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Peter Barsa, Senior Portfolio Manager Equity

Michael A. Sesser, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager Equity

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 98.9%</b>			<b>Energy 0.5%</b>		
<b>Communication Services 0.8%</b>			<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels</b>		
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services 0.3%</b>			Contango Oil & Gas Co.*	39,242	169,526
Bandwidth, Inc. "A"*	1,484	<b>204,673</b>	Ovintiv, Inc.	6,811	214,342
<b>Entertainment 0.5%</b>					<b>383,868</b>
Take-Two Interactive Software, Inc.*	2,174	<b>384,842</b>	<b>Financials 4.7%</b>		
<b>Consumer Discretionary 14.4%</b>			<b>Banks 2.4%</b>		
<b>Auto Components 1.2%</b>			Pinnacle Financial Partners, Inc.	5,944	524,795
Gentherm, Inc.*	7,364	523,212	South State Corp.	4,704	384,599
Tenneco, Inc. "A"*	18,953	366,172	SVB Financial Group*	742	412,871
		<b>889,384</b>	Synovus Financial Corp.	11,493	504,313
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 1.5%</b>					<b>1,826,578</b>
Bright Horizons Family Solutions, Inc.*	5,598	823,521	<b>Capital Markets 1.5%</b>		
Terminix Global Holdings, Inc.*	6,718	320,516	Lazard Ltd. "A"	13,717	620,694
		<b>1,144,037</b>	Moelis & Co. "A"	9,136	519,747
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 2.1%</b>					<b>1,140,441</b>
Hilton Grand Vacations, Inc.*	12,491	517,003	<b>Consumer Finance 0.4%</b>		
Jack in the Box, Inc.	7,892	879,484	Green Dot Corp. "A"*	6,162	<b>288,690</b>
Penn National Gaming, Inc.*	2,400	183,576	<b>Insurance 0.4%</b>		
		<b>1,580,063</b>	eHealth, Inc.*	6,102	<b>356,357</b>
<b>Household Durables 3.9%</b>			<b>Health Care 26.9%</b>		
Helen of Troy Ltd.*	2,963	675,920	<b>Biotechnology 10.8%</b>		
iRobot Corp.* (a)	6,273	585,835	Accelaron Pharma, Inc.*	2,755	345,725
LGI Homes, Inc.*	3,489	565,009	Amicus Therapeutics, Inc.*	17,294	166,714
TopBuild Corp.*	5,977	1,182,131	Apellis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	5,451	344,503
		<b>3,008,895</b>	Arena Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	5,976	407,563
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 0.3%</b>			Biohaven Pharmaceutical Holding Co., Ltd.*	7,887	765,670
Just Eat Takeaway.com NV (ADR)*	12,289	<b>224,397</b>	Blueprint Medicines Corp.*	4,684	412,005
<b>Leisure Products 1.9%</b>			Deciphera Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	1,963	71,865
YETI Holdings, Inc.*	16,312	<b>1,497,768</b>	Emergent BioSolutions, Inc.*	8,761	551,855
<b>Specialty Retail 3.5%</b>			Fate Therapeutics, Inc.*	3,846	333,794
Burlington Stores, Inc.*	2,883	928,297	Global Blood Therapeutics, Inc.*	4,524	158,430
Camping World Holdings, Inc. "A" (a)	24,907	1,020,938	Heron Therapeutics, Inc.*	22,719	352,599
Leslie's, Inc.*	2,799	76,945	Insmed, Inc.*	6,610	188,121
The Children's Place, Inc.*	6,488	603,773	Intellia Therapeutics, Inc.*	1,898	307,305
Vroom, Inc.*	999	41,818	Invitae Corp.*	5,038	169,932
		<b>2,671,771</b>	iTeos Therapeutics, Inc.*	5,136	131,738
<b>Consumer Staples 1.9%</b>			Kiniksa Pharmaceuticals Ltd. "A"*	8,769	122,152
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 1.1%</b>			Ligand Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	2,672	350,540
Casey's General Stores, Inc.	4,371	<b>850,772</b>	Mirati Therapeutics, Inc.*	2,178	351,812
<b>Household Products 0.8%</b>			Natera, Inc.*	4,935	560,271
Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc.	6,982	<b>593,749</b>	Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc.*	7,085	689,512
			TG Therapeutics, Inc.*	4,142	160,668
			Translate Bio, Inc.*	9,407	259,069
			Traverse Therapeutics, Inc.*	23,478	342,544
			Turning Point Therapeutics, Inc.*	2,679	209,016

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical, Inc.*	3,057	291,485			
Veracyte, Inc.*	5,225	208,896			
		<b>8,253,784</b>			
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 2.4%</b>					
Axonics, Inc.*	4,613	292,510			
BioLife Solutions, Inc.*	6,109	271,912			
Globus Medical, Inc. "A"*	4,024	311,981			
Haemonetics Corp.*	1,353	90,164			
iRhythm Technologies, Inc.*	2,568	170,387			
Natus Medical, Inc.*	9,520	247,330			
Nevro Corp.*	1,428	236,748			
Outset Medical, Inc.*	736	36,785			
Quidel Corp.*	1,635	209,476			
		<b>1,867,293</b>			
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 9.3%</b>					
AMN Healthcare Services, Inc.*	13,141	1,274,414			
Clover Health Investments Corp.* (a)	15,307	203,889			
HealthEquity, Inc.*	1,929	155,246			
ModivCare, Inc.*	11,053	1,879,784			
Molina Healthcare, Inc.*	4,119	1,042,354			
Option Care Health, Inc.*	27,764	607,199			
RadNet, Inc.*	55,477	1,869,020			
Tivity Health, Inc.*	4,464	117,448			
		<b>7,149,354</b>			
<b>Health Care Technology 0.6%</b>					
Vocera Communications, Inc.*	11,330	451,501			
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services 2.0%</b>					
Avantor, Inc.*	7,242	257,163			
Masimo Corp.*	3,540	858,273			
Tandem Diabetes Care, Inc.*	4,219	410,931			
		<b>1,526,367</b>			
<b>Pharmaceuticals 1.8%</b>					
Aclaris Therapeutics, Inc.*	12,953	227,454			
ANI Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	8,521	298,661			
Avadel Pharmaceuticals PLC (ADR)* (a)	18,916	127,305			
Pacira BioSciences, Inc.*	11,807	716,449			
		<b>1,369,869</b>			
<b>Industrials 14.0%</b>					
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 0.9%</b>					
HEICO Corp.	5,006	697,937			
<b>Building Products 4.1%</b>					
Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.	3,825	445,880			
Allegion PLC	7,499	1,044,611			
AZEK Co., Inc.*	2,261	96,002			
Builders FirstSource, Inc.*	18,923	807,255			
Masonite International Corp.*	6,705	749,552			
		<b>3,143,300</b>			
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 2.2%</b>					
MSA Safety, Inc.	2,627	434,979			
Tetra Tech, Inc.	3,462	422,502			
The Brink's Co.	11,036	848,006			
		<b>1,705,487</b>			
<b>Construction &amp; Engineering 0.7%</b>					
MasTec, Inc.*	4,674	495,911			
<b>Electrical Equipment 1.6%</b>					
Generac Holdings, Inc.*	1,478	613,592			
Plug Power, Inc.*	4,018	137,375			
Thermon Group Holdings, Inc.*	26,199	446,431			
		<b>1,197,398</b>			
<b>Machinery 0.7%</b>					
IDEX Corp.	2,502	550,565			
<b>Professional Services 1.7%</b>					
Kforce, Inc.	20,225	1,272,759			
<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors 2.1%</b>					
H&E Equipment Services, Inc.	16,406	545,828			
Rush Enterprises, Inc. "A"	16,590	717,352			
Titan Machinery, Inc.*	11,743	363,328			
		<b>1,626,508</b>			
<b>Information Technology 28.8%</b>					
<b>Communications Equipment 1.2%</b>					
Calix, Inc.*	8,844	420,090			
Lumentum Holdings, Inc.* (a)	6,080	498,742			
		<b>918,832</b>			
<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components 1.4%</b>					
Cognex Corp.	7,873	661,726			
IPG Photonics Corp.*	1,883	396,880			
		<b>1,058,606</b>			
<b>IT Services 3.1%</b>					
Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.	6,371	1,029,108			
MAXIMUS, Inc.	8,556	752,671			
WEX, Inc.*	2,932	568,515			
		<b>2,350,294</b>			
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 6.7%</b>					
Advanced Energy Industries, Inc.	12,629	1,423,415			
CMC Materials, Inc.	3,131	471,967			
Entegris, Inc.	6,342	779,876			
Monolithic Power Systems, Inc.	2,547	951,177			
Semtech Corp.*	7,632	525,082			
SiTime Corp.*	4,087	517,373			
Ultra Clean Holdings, Inc.*	9,195	493,955			
		<b>5,162,845</b>			
<b>Software 16.4%</b>					
Aspen Technology, Inc.*	9,339	1,284,486			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)
Cornerstone OnDemand, Inc.*	11,656	601,216
DocuSign, Inc.*	1,548	432,774
Investnet, Inc.*	9,852	747,373
Five9, Inc.*	13,670	2,506,941
LivePerson, Inc.*	7,263	459,312
Proofpoint, Inc.*	4,417	767,498
QAD, Inc. "A"	12,528	1,090,187
Rapid7, Inc.*	4,444	420,536
Tyler Technologies, Inc.*	4,558	2,061,902
Varonis Systems, Inc.*	37,511	2,161,384
		<b>12,533,609</b>

#### Materials 4.1%

##### Construction Materials 1.2%

Eagle Materials, Inc.	6,501	<b>923,857</b>
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##### Containers & Packaging 0.7%

Berry Global Group, Inc.*	7,728	<b>504,020</b>
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##### Metals & Mining 2.2%

Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc.* (a)	61,077	1,316,820
First Quantum Minerals Ltd.	17,207	396,583
		<b>1,713,403</b>

#### Real Estate 2.8%

##### Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

Americold Realty Trust	10,299	389,817
EastGroup Properties, Inc.	2,708	445,331
Essential Properties Realty Trust, Inc.	21,678	586,173
Four Corners Property Trust, Inc.	13,954	385,270
QTS Realty Trust, Inc. "A"	4,148	320,640
		<b>2,127,231</b>

**Total Common Stocks** (Cost \$39,362,359) **75,647,015**

#### Exchange-Traded Funds 0.5%

SPDR S&P Biotech ETF (a) (Cost \$247,239)	2,719	<b>368,153</b>
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#### Securities Lending Collateral 5.1%

DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (b) (c) (Cost \$3,931,870)	3,931,870	<b>3,931,870</b>
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#### Cash Equivalents 0.8%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (b) (Cost \$614,193)	614,193	<b>614,193</b>
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	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$44,155,661)	105.3	<b>80,561,231</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(5.3)	<b>(4,064,240)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>76,496,991</b>

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 5.1%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (b) (c)								
5,457,727	—	1,525,857 (d)	—	—	6,025	—	3,931,870	3,931,870
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.8%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (b)								
1,738,142	4,241,822	5,365,771	—	—	175	—	614,193	614,193
<b>7,195,869</b>	<b>4,241,822</b>	<b>6,891,628</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4,546,063</b>	<b>4,546,063</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, 2021 amounted to \$3,880,116, which is 5.1% 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.

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

(d) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2021.

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, 2021 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 (a)	\$ 75,647,015	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 75,647,015
Exchange-Traded Funds	368,153	—	—	368,153
Short-Term Investments (a)	4,546,063	—	—	4,546,063
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 80,561,231</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 80,561,231</b>

(a) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$39,609,598) — including \$3,880,116 of securities loaned	\$ 76,015,168
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$3,931,870)*	3,931,870
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$614,193)	614,193
Cash	12,700
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$167)	177
Receivable for investments sold	154,367
Dividends receivable	29,575
Interest receivable	1,221
Other assets	544
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>80,759,815</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	3,931,870
Payable for investments purchased	201,742
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	50,031
Accrued management fee	33,998
Accrued Trustees' fees	198
Other accrued expenses and payables	44,985
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>4,262,824</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 76,496,991</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	40,330,837
Paid-in capital	36,166,154
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 76,496,991</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$76,496,991 ÷ 4,208,172 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 18.18</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$10)	\$ 107,121
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	175
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	6,025
<b>Total income</b>	<b>113,321</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	205,998
Administration fee	36,331
Services to shareholders	384
Custodian fee	1,176
Professional fees	28,929
Reports to shareholders	16,775
Trustees' fees and expenses	2,441
Other	1,990
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>294,024</b>
<b>Net investment income (loss)</b>	<b>(180,703)</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	4,300,375
Foreign currency	1
	4,300,376
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	2,758,191
Foreign currency	2
	2,758,193
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>7,058,569</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$6,877,866</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ (180,703)	\$ (28,369)
Net realized gain (loss)	4,300,376	3,757,624
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	2,758,193	12,517,964
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	6,877,866	16,247,219
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(3,804,844)	(959,731)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,905,110	3,372,258
Reinvestment of distributions	3,804,844	959,731
Payments for shares redeemed	(5,255,150)	(10,851,170)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	454,804	(6,519,181)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>3,527,826</b>	<b>8,768,307</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	72,969,165	64,200,858
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$76,496,991</b>	<b>\$ 72,969,165</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	4,186,167	4,698,629
Shares sold	102,555	244,143
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	211,028	90,115
Shares redeemed	(291,578)	(846,720)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	22,005	(512,462)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>4,208,172</b>	<b>4,186,167</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS Small Mid Cap Growth VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$17.43</b>	<b>\$13.66</b>	<b>\$12.68</b>	<b>\$21.94</b>	<b>\$18.96</b>	<b>\$20.90</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	(.04)	(.01)	.01	(.01)	(.02)	.02
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.72	4.00	2.73	(1.92)	4.08	1.64
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>1.68</b>	<b>3.99</b>	<b>2.74</b>	<b>(1.93)</b>	<b>4.06</b>	<b>1.66</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.01)	(.01)	—	—	(.02)	—
Net realized gains	(.92)	(.21)	(1.76)	(7.33)	(1.06)	(3.60)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.93)</b>	<b>(.22)</b>	<b>(1.76)</b>	<b>(7.33)</b>	<b>(1.08)</b>	<b>(3.60)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$18.18</b>	<b>\$17.43</b>	<b>\$13.66</b>	<b>\$12.68</b>	<b>\$21.94</b>	<b>\$18.96</b>
Total Return (%)	9.68 <sup>*</sup>	30.18 <sup>b</sup>	22.41 <sup>b</sup>	(13.59) <sup>b</sup>	22.12	9.08
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	76	73	64	64	77	118
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.79 <sup>**</sup>	.82	.82	.81	.75	.75
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.79 <sup>**</sup>	.81	.81	.80	.75	.75
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	(.48) <sup>**</sup>	(.05)	.11	(.06)	(.08)	.11
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	10 <sup>*</sup>	12	10	32	32	28

<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>\*</sup> Not annualized

<sup>\*\*</sup> 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. During the six months ended June 30, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, the Fund had securities on loan. 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, 2021

	Overnight and Continuous	<30 days	Between 30 & 90 days	>90 days	Total
<b>Securities Lending Transactions</b>					
Common Stocks	\$ 3,557,920	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 3,557,920
Exchange-Traded Funds	373,950	—	—	—	373,950
<b>Total Borrowings</b>	<b>\$ 3,931,870</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 3,931,870</b>

Gross amount of recognized liabilities for securities lending transactions: \$ 3,931,870

**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, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$44,358,896. The net unrealized for all investments based on tax cost was \$36,202,335. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$38,609,827 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$2,407,492.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$7,083,271 and \$9,217,132, 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 average daily net assets of the Fund, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$250 million of the Fund's average daily net assets	.550%
Next \$750 million	.525%
Over \$1 billion	.500%

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2021, 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, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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%.

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee ("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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$36,331, of which \$5,996 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, 2021, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC aggregated \$233, of which \$72 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$292, of which \$192 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, 2021, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$454.

#### **D. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2021, one participating insurance company was owner of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, owning 92%.

#### **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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

#### **F. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.

## 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. 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$1,096.78
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.11

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$1,020.88
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 3.96

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratio</b>	<b>Class A</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS Small Mid Cap Growth VIP	.79%

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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, 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, 2019. 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, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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-028388-10 8/21)



June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Variable Series II

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**DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP**



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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. 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 ongoing 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, 2021 (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.

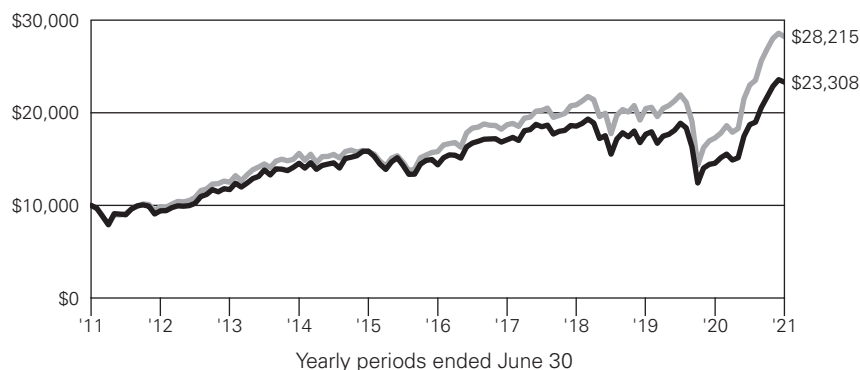
Please keep in mind that high double-digit returns were primarily achieved during favorable market conditions. Investors should not expect that such favorable returns can be consistently achieved. A fund's performance, especially for very short time periods, should not be the sole factor in making your investment decision.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2021 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	\$12,451	\$16,014	\$12,560	\$16,210	\$23,308
	Average annual total return	24.51%	60.14%	7.90%	10.14%	8.83%
Russell 2500 Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$12,268	\$16,323	\$13,528	\$17,851	\$28,215
	Average annual total return	22.68%	63.23%	10.60%	12.29%	10.93%

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	\$12,432	\$15,942	\$12,421	\$15,919	\$22,485
	Average annual total return	24.32%	59.42%	7.50%	9.74%	8.44%
Russell 2500 Value Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$12,268	\$16,323	\$13,528	\$17,851	\$28,215
	Average annual total return	22.68%	63.23%	10.60%	12.29%	10.93%

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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Common Stocks	100%	100%
Cash Equivalents	0%	0%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Investment Portfolio excluding Securities Lending Collateral and Cash Equivalents)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Financials	21%	20%
Industrials	17%	17%
Consumer Discretionary	16%	14%
Real Estate	10%	12%
Information Technology	9%	9%
Health Care	7%	7%
Materials	6%	7%
Energy	4%	4%
Communication Services	4%	3%
Consumer Staples	3%	3%
Utilities	3%	4%
	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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Portfolio Management Team

Pankaj Bhatnagar, PhD, Head of Investment Strategy Equity

Arno V. Puskar, Senior Portfolio Manager Equity

Portfolio Managers

# Investment Portfolio

as of June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 99.8%</b>					
<b>Communication Services 3.6%</b>					
<b>Entertainment 1.4%</b>					
Lions Gate Entertainment Corp. "A"*	51,576	1,067,623	Under Armour, Inc. "A"*	42,542	899,763
Madison Square Garden Sports Corp.*	1,873	323,224			<b>2,410,966</b>
		<b>1,390,847</b>	<b>Consumer Staples 3.4%</b>		
<b>Media 1.8%</b>			<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 0.5%</b>		
Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.	55,820	1,813,592	The Andersons, Inc. (a)	17,817	543,953
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 0.4%</b>			<b>Food Products 1.0%</b>		
Telephone & Data Systems, Inc.	20,448	463,351	Darling Ingredients, Inc.*	10,689	721,508
<b>Consumer Discretionary 15.5%</b>			Hostess Brands, Inc.* (a)	16,742	271,053
<b>Auto Components 0.8%</b>					<b>992,561</b>
Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.*	47,665	817,455	<b>Household Products 1.9%</b>		
<b>Automobiles 0.9%</b>			Central Garden & Pet Co.* (a)	18,906	1,000,694
Winnebago Industries, Inc. (a)	13,988	950,624	Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc.	11,070	941,393
<b>Distributors 0.4%</b>					<b>1,942,087</b>
Core-Mark Holding Co., Inc.	7,852	353,419	<b>Energy 4.3%</b>		
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 4.0%</b>			<b>Energy Equipment &amp; Services 0.3%</b>		
Aramark (a)	21,267	792,196	NexTier Oilfield Solutions, Inc.*	63,879	304,064
Boyd Gaming Corp.*	10,785	663,170	<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 4.0%</b>		
Choice Hotels International, Inc.	2,519	299,408	Bonanza Creek Energy, Inc. (a)	9,463	445,423
International Game Technology PLC* (a)	51,377	1,230,993	Devon Energy Corp.	39,008	1,138,644
Red Rock Resorts, Inc. "A"* (a)	26,065	1,107,762	Renewable Energy Group, Inc.*	5,134	320,054
		<b>4,093,529</b>	Targa Resources Corp.	47,649	2,117,998
<b>Household Durables 2.1%</b>					<b>4,022,119</b>
Beazer Homes U.S.A., Inc.*	25,280	487,651	<b>Financials 20.5%</b>		
PulteGroup, Inc.	29,316	1,599,774	<b>Banks 9.1%</b>		
		<b>2,087,425</b>	BankUnited, Inc.	40,858	1,744,228
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 2.4%</b>			Commerce Bancshares, Inc. (a)	3,269	243,737
Overstock.com, Inc.*	14,352	1,323,255	ConnectOne Bancorp., Inc. (a)	10,991	287,634
Qurate Retail, Inc. "A"	86,535	1,132,743	Eagle Bancorp., Inc. (a)	28,325	1,588,466
		<b>2,455,998</b>	Flushing Financial Corp.	13,671	292,970
<b>Leisure Products 2.0%</b>			Hancock Whitney Corp.	27,179	1,207,835
Brunswick Corp. (a)	16,400	1,633,768	Hilltop Holdings, Inc. (a)	25,980	945,672
Nautilus, Inc.* (a)	21,448	361,399	Primis Financial Corp.	24,377	371,993
		<b>1,995,167</b>	Simmons First National Corp. "A"	30,801	903,701
<b>Specialty Retail 0.5%</b>			UMB Financial Corp. (a)	14,325	1,333,084
American Eagle Outfitters, Inc.	13,712	514,611	Valley National Bancorp. (a)	21,242	285,280
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 2.4%</b>					<b>9,204,600</b>
Columbia Sportswear Co.	15,364	1,511,203	<b>Capital Markets 1.3%</b>		
			Donnelley Financial Solutions, Inc.*	41,779	1,378,707
			<b>Consumer Finance 1.3%</b>		
			Credit Acceptance Corp.* (a)	1,922	872,799

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Navient Corp.	24,276	469,255	Virgin Galactic Holdings Inc.* (a)	24,377	1,121,342
		<b>1,342,054</b>			<b>1,850,106</b>
<b>Diversified Financial Services 1.0%</b>			<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics 1.5%</b>		
Voya Financial, Inc.	15,943	<b>980,495</b>	Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings, Inc.* (a)	10,970	747,167
<b>Insurance 5.3%</b>			XPO Logistics, Inc.*	5,557	777,369
AMERISAFE, Inc.	7,481	446,541			<b>1,524,536</b>
Assurant, Inc.	10,659	1,664,723	<b>Airlines 0.3%</b>		
Athene Holding Ltd. "A"*	4,932	332,910	Mesa Air Group, Inc.* (a)	28,416	<b>265,121</b>
Brown & Brown, Inc.	39,183	2,082,184	<b>Building Products 0.6%</b>		
Everest Re Group Ltd.	3,325	837,933	Resideo Technologies, Inc.*	13,394	401,820
		<b>5,364,291</b>	Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.	2,358	260,418
<b>Mortgage Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) 1.6%</b>					<b>662,238</b>
Blackstone Mortgage Trust, Inc. "A" (a)	8,235	262,614	<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 0.7%</b>		
Ellington Financial, Inc.	38,422	735,781	IAA, Inc.* (a)	8,930	487,042
PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust (a)	17,700	372,762	Interface, Inc.	18,505	283,127
Redwood Trust, Inc.	25,934	313,024			<b>770,169</b>
		<b>1,684,181</b>	<b>Construction &amp; Engineering 1.7%</b>		
<b>Thrifts &amp; Mortgage Finance 0.9%</b>			Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.	13,194	<b>1,760,344</b>
Walker & Dunlop, Inc.	8,497	<b>886,917</b>	<b>Electrical Equipment 1.9%</b>		
<b>Health Care 7.0%</b>			EnerSys	19,537	<b>1,909,351</b>
<b>Biotechnology 2.5%</b>			<b>Industrial Conglomerates 1.8%</b>		
Agios Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	7,196	396,571	Carlisle Companies, Inc.	9,414	<b>1,801,651</b>
Bluebird Bio, Inc.* (a)	10,949	350,149	<b>IT Services 0.6%</b>		
Myriad Genetics, Inc.*	28,279	864,772	Leidos Holdings, Inc. (a)	5,964	<b>602,960</b>
Novavax, Inc.* (a)	2,525	536,083	<b>Machinery 3.8%</b>		
Sage Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	6,809	386,819	Hillenbrand, Inc.	39,891	1,758,395
		<b>2,534,394</b>	Pentair PLC (a)	6,838	461,497
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 1.2%</b>			The Manitowoc Co., Inc.* (a)	65,696	1,609,552
ICU Medical, Inc.*	1,523	313,434			<b>3,829,444</b>
Invacare Corp.* (a)	69,559	561,341	<b>Road &amp; Rail 0.5%</b>		
Pulmonx Corp.* (a)	7,136	314,840	Knight-Swift Transportation Holdings, Inc. (a)	10,968	<b>498,605</b>
		<b>1,189,615</b>	<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors 1.7%</b>		
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 0.7%</b>			MRC Global, Inc.* (a)	68,155	640,657
Molina Healthcare, Inc.*	2,825	<b>714,895</b>	NOW, Inc.* (a)	110,764	1,051,150
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services 2.0%</b>					<b>1,691,807</b>
Bruker Corp. (a)	7,998	607,688	<b>Information Technology 8.9%</b>		
PerkinElmer, Inc.	6,317	975,408	<b>Communications Equipment 1.6%</b>		
Syneos Health, Inc.*	5,342	478,056	Ciena Corp.*	8,005	455,405
		<b>2,061,152</b>	CommScope Holding Co., Inc.*	55,124	1,174,692
<b>Pharmaceuticals 0.6%</b>					<b>1,630,097</b>
Endo International PLC* (a)	54,626	255,649	<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components 2.8%</b>		
Reata Pharmaceuticals, Inc. "A"* (a)	2,709	383,405	Arlo Technologies, Inc.* (a)	103,100	697,987
		<b>639,054</b>	Avnet, Inc.	23,851	955,948
<b>Industrials 16.9%</b>			Insight Enterprises, Inc.*	6,858	685,869
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 1.8%</b>					
Teledyne Technologies, Inc.*	1,740	728,764			

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

	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
SYNNEX Corp.	3,858	469,750
		<b>2,809,554</b>
<b>IT Services 1.5%</b>		
Alliance Data Systems Corp. (a)	8,972	934,793
Concentrix Corp.*	3,463	556,850
		<b>1,491,643</b>
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 1.0%</b>		
Cirrus Logic, Inc.*	12,060	<b>1,026,547</b>
<b>Software 2.0%</b>		
Cloudera, Inc.*	29,467	467,347
Cognyte Software Ltd.* (a)	24,927	610,711
Verint Systems, Inc.* (a)	20,784	936,735
		<b>2,014,793</b>
<b>Materials 6.5%</b>		
<b>Chemicals 2.8%</b>		
Albemarle Corp.	1,936	326,139
Avient Corp. (a)	10,984	539,973
H.B. Fuller Co.	6,231	396,354
Kraton Corp.* (a)	40,580	1,310,328
The Mosaic Co.	9,410	300,273
		<b>2,873,067</b>
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging 0.5%</b>		
Graphic Packaging Holding Co.	24,711	<b>448,257</b>
<b>Metals &amp; Mining 3.2%</b>		
Coeur Mining, Inc.* (a)	131,253	1,165,527
Steel Dynamics, Inc.	34,505	2,056,498
		<b>3,222,025</b>
<b>Real Estate 10.0%</b>		
<b>Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)</b>		
Agree Realty Corp.	10,124	713,641
Duke Realty Corp.	16,173	765,792
Gaming and Leisure Properties, Inc. (a)	32,357	1,499,100
Highwoods Properties, Inc.	27,352	1,235,490
Iron Mountain, Inc.	8,087	342,242

	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Lexington Realty Trust (a)	108,419	1,295,607
NexPoint Residential Trust, Inc. (a)	10,378	570,582
Safehold, Inc. (a)	3,722	292,177
SITE Centers Corp. (a)	38,885	585,608
STAG Industrial, Inc.	52,878	1,979,223
Urban Edge Properties (a)	47,255	902,570
		<b>10,182,032</b>
<b>Utilities 3.2%</b>		
<b>Electric Utilities 2.3%</b>		
IDACORP, Inc. (a)	11,735	1,144,162
PG&E Corp.*	32,971	335,315
Pinnacle West Capital Corp.	10,509	861,423
		<b>2,340,900</b>
<b>Gas Utilities 0.9%</b>		
UGI Corp.	20,166	933,888
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$71,622,125)		<b>101,271,258</b>
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 17.4%</b>		
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (b) (c) (Cost \$17,646,074)	17,646,074	<b>17,646,074</b>
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.4%</b>		
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (b) (Cost \$378,728)	378,728	<b>378,728</b>
	<b>% of Net Assets</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$89,646,927)	117.6	<b>119,296,060</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(17.6)	<b>(17,816,487)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>101,479,573</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, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 17.4%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (b) (c)								
2,438,401	15,207,673 (d)	—	—	—	5,780	—	17,646,074	17,646,074
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.4%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (b)								
259,282	8,149,465	8,030,019	—	—	156	—	378,728	378,728
<b>2,697,683</b>	<b>23,357,138</b>	<b>8,030,019</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5,936</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>18,024,802</b>	<b>18,024,802</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, 2021 amounted to \$16,780,678, which is 16.5% 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, 2021.

## 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, 2021 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 (a)	\$ 101,271,258	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 101,271,258
Short-Term Investments (a)	18,024,802	—	—	18,024,802
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 119,296,060</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 119,296,060</b>

- (a) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$71,622,125) — including \$16,780,678 of securities loaned	\$ 101,271,258
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$17,646,074)*	17,646,074
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$378,728)	378,728
Cash	12,462
Receivable for Fund shares sold	2,835
Dividends receivable	85,865
Interest receivable	3,141
Other assets	868
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>119,401,231</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	17,646,074
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	161,872
Accrued management fee	54,930
Accrued Trustees' fees	709
Other accrued expenses and payables	58,073
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>17,921,658</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 101,479,573</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	26,289,907
Paid-in capital	75,189,666
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 101,479,573</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$81,147,883 ÷ 5,498,056 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 14.76</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$20,331,690 ÷ 1,375,979 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 14.78</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends	\$ 372,775
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	156
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	5,780
<b>Total income</b>	<b>378,711</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	311,467
Administration fee	46,480
Services to shareholders	1,245
Record keeping fee (Class B)	11,428
Distribution service fee (Class B)	23,851
Custodian fee	1,206
Professional fees	25,823
Reports to shareholders	17,468
Trustees' fees and expenses	2,293
Other	2,264
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>443,525</b>
Expense reductions	(11,854)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>431,671</b>
<b>Net investment income (loss)</b>	<b>(52,960)</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	5,464,794
Payments by affiliates (see Note F)	8,938
	5,473,732
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	14,997,872
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>20,471,604</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$20,418,644</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ (52,960)	\$ 1,151,659
Net realized gain (loss)	5,473,732	(8,657,454)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	14,997,872	5,071,194
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	20,418,644	(2,434,601)
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(986,559)	(6,015,690)
Class B	(171,519)	(1,399,898)
Total distributions	(1,158,078)	(7,415,588)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	7,037,358	5,262,531
Reinvestment of distributions	986,559	6,015,690
Payments for shares redeemed	(12,533,527)	(11,188,291)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	(4,509,610)	89,930
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	1,375,255	3,507,387
Reinvestment of distributions	171,519	1,399,898
Payments for shares redeemed	(2,097,073)	(3,035,924)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	(550,299)	1,871,361
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	14,200,657	(7,888,898)
Net assets at beginning of period	87,278,916	95,167,814
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$101,479,573</b>	<b>\$ 87,278,916</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	5,853,631	5,666,170
Shares sold	504,831	527,815
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	67,758	725,656
Shares redeemed	(928,164)	(1,066,010)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	(355,575)	187,461
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>5,498,056</b>	<b>5,853,631</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	1,418,467	1,216,620
Shares sold	96,770	321,995
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	11,756	168,662
Shares redeemed	(151,014)	(288,810)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	(42,488)	201,847
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>1,375,979</b>	<b>1,418,467</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$12.00</b>	<b>\$13.83</b>	<b>\$12.21</b>	<b>\$17.88</b>	<b>\$16.65</b>	<b>\$15.97</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	(.00)*	.16	.18	.10	.17	.15
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	2.94	(.90)	2.53 <sup>b</sup>	(2.47)	1.55	2.34
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>2.94</b>	<b>(.74)</b>	<b>2.71</b>	<b>(2.37)</b>	<b>1.72</b>	<b>2.49</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.18)	(.16)	(.10)	(.24)	(.12)	(.10)
Net realized gains	—	(.93)	(.99)	(3.06)	(.37)	(1.71)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.18)</b>	<b>(1.09)</b>	<b>(1.09)</b>	<b>(3.30)</b>	<b>(.49)</b>	<b>(1.81)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$14.76</b>	<b>\$12.00</b>	<b>\$13.83</b>	<b>\$12.21</b>	<b>\$17.88</b>	<b>\$16.65</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>c</sup>	24.51**	(1.80)	22.76 <sup>b</sup>	(16.01)	10.52	16.89
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	81	70	78	70	96	153
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	.85***	.88	.88	.87	.83	.83
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	.83***	.82	.83	.81	.83	.82
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	(.04)***	1.57	1.35	.65	.98	.99
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	18**	43	55	64	35	53

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</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.

<sup>c</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<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.

\* Amount is less than \$.005.

\*\* Not annualized

\*\*\* Annualized

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

## DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP — Class B

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			2016
			2019	2018	2017	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$11.99</b>	<b>\$13.82</b>	<b>\$12.20</b>	<b>\$17.86</b>	<b>\$16.63</b>	<b>\$15.95</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	(.03)	.13	.13	.05	.11	.09
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	2.94	(.90)	2.53 <sup>b</sup>	(2.48)	1.55	2.34
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>2.91</b>	<b>(.77)</b>	<b>2.66</b>	<b>(2.43)</b>	<b>1.66</b>	<b>2.43</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.12)	(.13)	(.05)	(.17)	(.06)	(.04)
Net realized gains	—	(.93)	(.99)	(3.06)	(.37)	(1.71)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(.12)</b>	<b>(1.06)</b>	<b>(1.04)</b>	<b>(3.23)</b>	<b>(.43)</b>	<b>(1.75)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$14.78</b>	<b>\$11.99</b>	<b>\$13.82</b>	<b>\$12.20</b>	<b>\$17.86</b>	<b>\$16.63</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>c</sup>	24.32*	(2.18)	22.32 <sup>b</sup>	(16.32)	10.13	16.47
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	20	17	17	15	19	15
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	1.22**	1.25	1.25	1.24	1.19	1.19
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>d</sup>	1.20**	1.19	1.19	1.16	1.19	1.18
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	(.40)**	1.21	.99	.30	.65	.57
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	18*	43	55	64	35	53

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>b</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.

<sup>c</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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

## 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 of 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.** 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, 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.

**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, 2020, the Fund had net tax basis capital loss carryforwards of approximately \$8,694,000, including short-term losses (\$2,621,000) and long-term losses (\$6,073,000), which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely.

At June 30, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$89,963,847. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$29,332,213. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$30,495,288 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$1,163,075.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term instruments) aggregated \$17,332,095 and \$23,146,738, 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, 2021, 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, 2021 through April 30, 2021, the Advisor had 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.82%
Class B	1.19%

Effective May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.84%
Class B	1.21%

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class were as follows:

Class A	\$ 9,333
Class B	2,521
	<b>\$ 11,854</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee ("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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$46,480, of which \$8,236 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, 2021, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2021
Class A	\$ 416	\$ 127
Class B	316	102
	<b>\$ 732</b>	<b>\$ 229</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, 2021, the Distribution Service Fee aggregated \$23,851, of which \$4,194 is unpaid.

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$513, of which \$294 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, 2021, 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 28%, 18%, 17% and 12%, 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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

#### **F. Payments by Affiliates**

During the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Advisor agreed to reimburse the Fund \$8,938 for commission costs incurred in connection with purchases and sales of portfolio assets. The amount reimbursed was less than 0.01% of the Fund's average net assets, thus having no impact on the Fund's total return.

#### **G. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.

## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,245.10	\$ 1,243.20
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.62	\$ 6.67

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,020.68	\$ 1,018.84
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 4.16	\$ 6.01

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Deutsche DWS Variable Series II — DWS Small Mid Cap Value VIP	.83%	1.20%

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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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 also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, 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, 2019. 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 (2nd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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



VS2SMCV-3 (R-028381-10 8/21)



June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Investments VIT Funds

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**DWS Equity 500 Index VIP**



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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 ongoing 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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# Performance Summary

June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

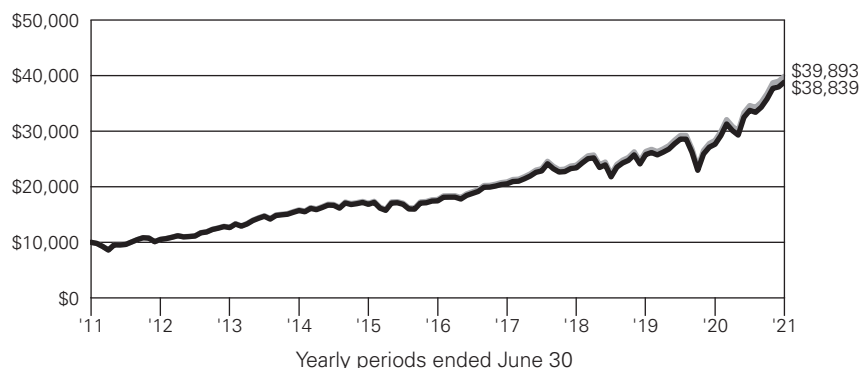
Fund performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when redeemed, shares may be worth more or less than their original 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, 2021 are 0.33%, 0.71% and 0.72% 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	\$11,510	\$14,047	\$16,594	\$22,243	\$38,839
	Average annual total return	15.10%	40.47%	18.39%	17.34%	14.53%
S&P 500 Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,525	\$14,079	\$16,713	\$22,536	\$39,893
	Average annual total return	15.25%	40.79%	18.67%	17.65%	14.84%
DWS Equity 500 Index VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,491	\$13,992	\$16,402	\$21,855	\$37,688
	Average annual total return	14.91%	39.92%	17.93%	16.93%	14.19%
S&P 500 Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,525	\$14,079	\$16,713	\$22,536	\$39,893
	Average annual total return	15.25%	40.79%	18.67%	17.65%	14.84%
DWS Equity 500 Index VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B2	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,488	\$13,992	\$16,396	\$21,807	\$37,382
	Average annual total return	14.88%	39.92%	17.92%	16.87%	14.09%
S&P 500 Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,525	\$14,079	\$16,713	\$22,536	\$39,893
	Average annual total return	15.25%	40.79%	18.67%	17.65%	14.84%

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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Common Stocks	99%	99%
Cash Equivalents	1%	1%
Government & Agency Obligations	0%	0%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Common Stocks)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Information Technology	27%	28%
Health Care	13%	13%
Consumer Discretionary	12%	13%
Financials	11%	10%
Communication Services	11%	11%
Industrials	9%	8%
Consumer Staples	6%	7%
Energy	3%	2%
Materials	3%	3%
Real Estate	3%	2%
Utilities	2%	3%
	100%	100%

## Ten Largest Equity Holdings at June 30, 2021 (28.3% of Net Assets)

<b>1 Apple, Inc.</b> Designs, manufactures and markets personal computers and related computing and mobile-communication devices	<b>5.8%</b>
<b>2 Microsoft Corp.</b> Develops, manufactures, licenses, sells and supports software products	<b>5.6%</b>
<b>3 Amazon.com, Inc.</b> Online retailer offering a wide range of products	<b>4.0%</b>
<b>4 Alphabet, Inc.</b> Holding company with subsidiaries that provide Web-based search, maps, hardware products and various software applications	<b>3.9%</b>
<b>5 Facebook, Inc.</b> Operator of social networking Web site	<b>2.3%</b>
<b>6 Berkshire Hathaway, Inc.</b> Holding company of insurance business and a variety of other businesses	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>7 Tesla, Inc.</b> Designs, manufactures and sells high-performance electric vehicles and electric vehicle powertrain components	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>8 NVIDIA Corp.</b> Designs, develops and markets three dimensional (3D) graphic processors	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>9 JPMorgan Chase &amp; Co.</b> Provider of global financial services	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>10 Johnson &amp; Johnson</b> Provider of health care products	<b>1.2%</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 posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com), and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on [dws.com](http://dws.com) from time to time. Please see 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 99.0%</b>		
<b>Communication Services 11.0%</b>		
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services 1.2%</b>		
AT&T, Inc.	144,504	4,158,825
Lumen Technologies, Inc.	20,393	277,141
Verizon Communications, Inc.	83,621	4,685,285
		<b>9,121,251</b>
<b>Entertainment 1.9%</b>		
Activision Blizzard, Inc.	15,777	1,505,757
Electronic Arts, Inc.	5,821	837,234
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc.*	2,954	258,741
Netflix, Inc.*	8,955	4,730,121
Take-Two Interactive Software, Inc.*	2,311	409,093
Walt Disney Co.*	36,701	6,450,935
		<b>14,191,881</b>
<b>Interactive Media &amp; Services 6.4%</b>		
Alphabet, Inc. "A"*	6,078	14,841,200
Alphabet, Inc. "C"*	5,751	14,413,846
Facebook, Inc. "A"*	48,413	16,833,684
Twitter, Inc.*	16,099	1,107,772
		<b>47,196,502</b>
<b>Media 1.3%</b>		
Charter Communications, Inc. "A"*	2,778	2,004,188
Comcast Corp. "A"	92,543	5,276,802
Discovery, Inc. "A" (a)	3,535	108,454
Discovery, Inc. "C"*	5,921	171,591
DISH Network Corp. "A"*	5,011	209,460
Fox Corp. "A"	6,671	247,694
Fox Corp. "B"	3,176	111,795
Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.	7,965	258,783
News Corp. "A"	7,863	202,629
News Corp. "B"	2,595	63,188
Omnicom Group, Inc.	4,301	344,037
ViacomCBS, Inc. "B"	12,229	552,751
		<b>9,551,372</b>
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 0.2%</b>		
T-Mobile U.S., Inc.*	11,820	1,711,890
<b>Consumer Discretionary 12.2%</b>		
<b>Auto Components 0.2%</b>		
Aptiv PLC*	5,493	864,214
BorgWarner, Inc.	4,811	233,526
		<b>1,097,740</b>
<b>Automobiles 1.8%</b>		
Ford Motor Co.*	79,506	1,181,459
General Motors Co.*	25,752	1,523,746

	Shares	Value (\$)
Tesla, Inc.*	15,569	10,582,249
		<b>13,287,454</b>
<b>Distributors 0.2%</b>		
Genuine Parts Co.	2,949	372,960
LKQ Corp.*	5,548	273,073
Pool Corp.	806	369,680
		<b>1,015,713</b>
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 1.7%</b>		
Caesars Entertainment, Inc.*	4,273	443,324
Carnival Corp.*	15,954	420,547
Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc.*	565	875,942
Darden Restaurants, Inc.	2,681	391,399
Domino's Pizza, Inc.	782	364,795
Hilton Worldwide Holdings, Inc.*	5,678	684,880
Las Vegas Sands Corp.*	6,651	350,441
Marriott International, Inc. "A"*	5,369	732,976
McDonald's Corp.	15,092	3,486,101
MGM Resorts International	8,341	355,744
Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Ltd.* (a)	7,394	217,458
Penn National Gaming, Inc.*	3,077	235,360
Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.*	4,394	374,720
Starbucks Corp.	23,761	2,656,717
Wynn Resorts Ltd.*	2,070	253,161
Yum! Brands, Inc.	5,989	688,915
		<b>12,532,480</b>
<b>Household Durables 0.4%</b>		
D.R. Horton, Inc.	6,621	598,340
Garmin Ltd.	3,060	442,598
Leggett & Platt, Inc.	2,560	132,634
Lennar Corp. "A"	5,601	556,459
Mohawk Industries, Inc.*	1,211	232,742
Newell Brands, Inc.	7,831	215,117
NVR, Inc.*	69	343,158
PulteGroup, Inc.	5,298	289,112
Whirlpool Corp.	1,244	271,217
		<b>3,081,377</b>
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 4.5%</b>		
Amazon.com, Inc.*	8,661	29,795,226
Booking Holdings, Inc.*	828	1,811,738
eBay, Inc.	13,135	922,208
Etsy, Inc.*	2,595	534,155
Expedia Group, Inc.*	2,845	465,755
		<b>33,529,082</b>
<b>Leisure Products 0.0%</b>		
Hasbro, Inc.	2,636	249,155
<b>Multiline Retail 0.5%</b>		
Dollar General Corp.	4,768	1,031,748
Dollar Tree, Inc.*	4,685	466,157

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Target Corp.	9,990	2,414,983	Kraft Heinz Co.	13,169	537,032
		<b>3,912,888</b>	Lamb Weston Holdings, Inc.	2,909	234,640
<b>Specialty Retail 2.2%</b>			McCormick & Co., Inc.	5,106	450,962
Advance Auto Parts, Inc.	1,334	273,657	Mondelez International, Inc. "A"	28,334	1,769,175
AutoZone, Inc.*	435	649,116	The Hershey Co.	2,978	518,708
Best Buy Co., Inc.	4,499	517,295	Tyson Foods, Inc. "A"	6,051	446,322
CarMax, Inc.*	3,336	430,844			<b>6,810,021</b>
Home Depot, Inc.	21,484	6,851,033	<b>Household Products 1.3%</b>		
L Brands, Inc.	4,670	336,520	Church & Dwight Co., Inc.	4,907	418,175
Lowe's Companies, Inc.	14,275	2,768,922	Clorox Co.	2,518	453,014
O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.*	1,417	802,319	Colgate-Palmolive Co.	17,081	1,389,539
Ross Stores, Inc.	7,239	897,636	Kimberly-Clark Corp.	6,845	915,724
The Gap, Inc.	4,339	146,007	Procter & Gamble Co.	49,454	6,672,828
TJX Companies, Inc.	24,429	1,647,003			<b>9,849,280</b>
Tractor Supply Co.	2,347	436,683	<b>Personal Products 0.2%</b>		
Ulta Beauty, Inc.*	1,101	380,693	Estee Lauder Companies, Inc. "A"	4,679	1,488,296
		<b>16,137,728</b>	<b>Tobacco 0.7%</b>		
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 0.7%</b>			Altria Group, Inc.	37,389	1,782,707
Hanesbrands, Inc.	7,020	131,063	Philip Morris International, Inc.	31,470	3,118,992
NIKE, Inc. "B"	25,797	3,985,378			<b>4,901,699</b>
PVH Corp.*	1,413	152,025	<b>Energy 2.8%</b>		
Ralph Lauren Corp.	946	111,448	<b>Energy Equipment &amp; Services 0.2%</b>		
Tapestry, Inc.*	5,543	241,010	Baker Hughes Co.	14,766	337,698
Under Armour, Inc. "A"* (a)	3,505	74,131	Halliburton Co.	17,768	410,796
Under Armour, Inc. "C"*	3,745	69,545	NOV, Inc.*	7,594	116,340
VF Corp.	6,554	537,690	Schlumberger NV	28,442	910,429
		<b>5,302,290</b>			<b>1,775,263</b>
<b>Consumer Staples 5.8%</b>			<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 2.6%</b>		
<b>Beverages 1.4%</b>			APA Corp.	7,448	161,100
Brown-Forman Corp. "B"	3,771	282,599	Cabot Oil & Gas Corp.	7,814	136,432
Coca-Cola Co.	78,396	4,242,007	Chevron Corp.	39,004	4,085,279
Constellation Brands, Inc. "A"	3,445	805,751	ConocoPhillips	27,374	1,667,077
Molson Coors Beverage Co. "B"*	3,730	200,264	Devon Energy Corp.	12,088	352,849
Monster Beverage Corp.*	7,516	686,587	Diamondback Energy, Inc.	3,667	344,295
PepsiCo, Inc.	27,902	4,134,239	EOG Resources, Inc.	11,857	989,348
		<b>10,351,447</b>	Exxon Mobil Corp.	85,553	5,396,683
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 1.3%</b>			Hess Corp.	5,498	480,085
Costco Wholesale Corp.	8,928	3,532,542	Kinder Morgan, Inc.	39,265	715,801
Kroger Co.	15,192	582,005	Marathon Oil Corp.	16,147	219,922
Sysco Corp.	10,296	800,514	Marathon Petroleum Corp.	12,874	777,847
Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc.	14,619	769,106	Occidental Petroleum Corp.	16,773	524,492
Walmart, Inc.	27,750	3,913,305	ONEOK, Inc.	8,947	497,811
		<b>9,597,472</b>	Phillips 66	8,832	757,962
<b>Food Products 0.9%</b>			Pioneer Natural Resources Co.	4,705	764,657
Archer-Daniels-Midland Co.	11,370	689,022	Valero Energy Corp.	8,293	647,517
Campbell Soup Co.	3,994	182,087	Williams Companies, Inc.	24,680	655,254
Conagra Brands, Inc.	9,686	352,377			<b>19,174,411</b>
General Mills, Inc.	12,280	748,220			
Hormel Foods Corp.	5,599	267,352			
J M Smucker Co.	2,225	288,293			
Kellogg Co.	5,065	325,831			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Financials 11.2%</b>			<b>Diversified Financial Services 1.4%</b>		
<b>Banks 4.3%</b>			<b>Insurance 1.8%</b>		
Bank of America Corp.	152,521	6,288,441	Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. "B"*	38,300	<b>10,644,337</b>
Citigroup, Inc.	41,809	2,957,987	Aflac, Inc.	12,697	681,321
Citizens Financial Group, Inc.	8,525	391,042	Allstate Corp.	6,035	787,205
Comerica, Inc.	2,739	195,400	American International Group, Inc.	17,274	822,242
Fifth Third Bancorp.	14,246	544,625	Aon PLC "A"	4,578	1,093,043
First Republic Bank	3,564	667,074	Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.	4,190	586,935
Huntington Bancshares, Inc.	29,572	421,992	Assurant, Inc.	1,214	189,603
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	61,218	9,521,848	Chubb Ltd.	9,068	1,441,268
KeyCorp.	19,493	402,530	Cincinnati Financial Corp.	2,999	349,743
M&T Bank Corp.	2,564	372,575	Everest Re Group Ltd.	804	202,616
People's United Financial, Inc.	8,345	143,033	Globe Life, Inc.	1,931	183,928
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.	8,592	1,639,010	Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.	7,271	450,584
Regions Financial Corp.	19,192	387,295	Lincoln National Corp.	3,676	231,000
SVB Financial Group*	1,104	614,299	Loews Corp.	4,583	250,461
Truist Financial Corp.	27,220	1,510,710	Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.	10,321	1,451,958
U.S. Bancorp.	27,455	1,564,111	MetLife, Inc.	15,007	898,169
Wells Fargo & Co.	83,576	3,785,157	Principal Financial Group, Inc.	5,164	326,313
Zions Bancorp. NA	3,213	169,839	Progressive Corp.	11,817	1,160,548
		<b>31,576,968</b>	Prudential Financial, Inc.	7,898	809,308
<b>Capital Markets 3.0%</b>			Travelers Companies, Inc.	5,068	758,730
Ameriprise Financial, Inc.	2,358	586,859	Unum Group	4,267	121,183
Bank of New York Mellon Corp.	16,352	837,713	W.R. Berkley Corp.	2,760	205,427
BlackRock, Inc.	2,864	2,505,914	Willis Towers Watson PLC	2,599	597,822
Cboe Global Markets, Inc.	2,150	255,957			<b>13,599,407</b>
Charles Schwab Corp.	30,359	2,210,439	<b>Health Care 12.9%</b>		
CME Group, Inc.	7,252	1,542,355	<b>Biotechnology 1.8%</b>		
Franklin Resources., Inc.	5,380	172,106	AbbVie, Inc.	35,686	4,019,671
Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	11,424	1,356,029	Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	4,453	818,061
Invesco Ltd.	7,807	208,681	Amgen, Inc.	11,620	2,832,375
MarketAxess Holdings, Inc.	761	352,792	Biogen, Inc.*	3,042	1,053,353
Moody's Corp.	3,243	1,175,166	Gilead Sciences, Inc.	25,362	1,746,427
Morgan Stanley	30,062	2,756,385	Incyte Corp.*	3,843	323,312
MSCI, Inc.	1,663	886,512	Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	2,117	1,182,429
Nasdaq, Inc.	2,301	404,516	Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	5,234	1,055,331
Northern Trust Corp.	4,228	488,841			<b>13,030,959</b>
Raymond James Financial, Inc.	2,505	325,399	<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 3.6%</b>		
S&P Global, Inc.	4,869	1,998,481	Abbott Laboratories	35,921	4,164,322
State Street Corp.	7,034	578,758	ABIOMED, Inc.*	902	281,523
T. Rowe Price Group, Inc.	4,575	905,713	Align Technology, Inc.*	1,452	887,172
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.	6,875	2,609,269	Baxter International, Inc.	10,107	813,613
		<b>22,157,885</b>	Becton, Dickinson & Co.	5,903	1,435,551
<b>Consumer Finance 0.7%</b>			Boston Scientific Corp.*	28,690	1,226,784
American Express Co.	13,138	2,170,792	Danaher Corp.	12,810	3,437,692
Capital One Financial Corp.	9,116	1,410,154	DENTSPLY SIRONA, Inc.	4,353	275,371
Discover Financial Services	6,157	728,312	DexCom, Inc.*	1,966	839,482
Synchrony Financial	10,908	529,256	Edwards Lifesciences Corp.*	12,530	1,297,732
		<b>4,838,514</b>	Hologic, Inc.*	5,224	348,545

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.*	1,735	1,095,739	Pfizer, Inc.	113,252	4,434,948
Intuitive Surgical, Inc.*	2,398	2,205,297	Viatis, Inc.	24,193	345,718
Medtronic PLC	27,159	3,371,247	Zoetis, Inc.	9,582	1,785,702
ResMed, Inc.	2,969	731,918			<b>26,666,146</b>
STERIS PLC	2,005	413,631			
Stryker Corp.	6,608	1,716,296			
Teleflex, Inc.	933	374,870			
The Cooper Companies, Inc.	1,010	400,233			
West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc.	1,502	539,368			
Zimmer Biomet Holdings, Inc.	4,243	682,359			
		<b>26,538,745</b>			
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 2.6%</b>			<b>Industrials 8.5%</b>		
AmerisourceBergen Corp.	2,949	337,631	<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 1.6%</b>		
Anthem, Inc.	4,953	1,891,055	Boeing Co.*	11,101	2,659,356
Cardinal Health, Inc.	5,954	339,914	General Dynamics Corp.	4,613	868,443
Centene Corp.*	11,723	854,958	Howmet Aerospace, Inc.*	8,027	276,691
Cigna Corp.	6,939	1,645,029	Huntington Ingalls Industries, Inc.	782	164,806
CVS Health Corp.	26,641	2,222,925	L3Harris Technologies, Inc.	4,129	892,483
DaVita, Inc.*	1,409	169,686	Lockheed Martin Corp.	4,945	1,870,941
HCA Healthcare, Inc.	5,298	1,095,309	Northrop Grumman Corp.	3,023	1,098,649
Henry Schein, Inc.*	2,895	214,780	Raytheon Technologies Corp.	30,563	2,607,330
Humana, Inc.	2,591	1,147,087	Teledyne Technologies, Inc.*	950	397,888
Laboratory Corp. of America Holdings*	1,961	540,942	Textron, Inc.	4,630	318,405
McKesson Corp.	3,215	614,837	TransDigm Group, Inc.*	1,113	720,434
Quest Diagnostics, Inc.	2,635	347,741			<b>11,875,426</b>
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	19,080	7,640,395			
Universal Health Services, Inc. "B"	1,605	235,020			
		<b>19,297,309</b>			
<b>Health Care Technology 0.1%</b>			<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics 0.7%</b>		
Cerner Corp.	6,066	<b>474,119</b>	C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc.	2,698	252,722
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services 1.2%</b>			Expeditors International of Washington, Inc.	3,400	430,440
Agilent Technologies, Inc.	6,119	904,449	FedEx Corp.	4,934	1,471,960
Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc. "A"*	433	278,978	United Parcel Service, Inc. "B"	14,618	3,040,105
Charles River Laboratories International, Inc.*	1,009	373,249			<b>5,195,227</b>
Illumina, Inc.*	2,949	1,395,496			
IQVIA Holdings, Inc.*	3,868	937,294			
Mettler-Toledo International, Inc.*	473	655,266			
PerkinElmer, Inc.	2,242	346,187			
Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc.	7,937	4,003,978			
Waters Corp.*	1,240	428,557			
		<b>9,323,454</b>			
<b>Pharmaceuticals 3.6%</b>			<b>Airlines 0.3%</b>		
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	45,103	3,013,782	Alaska Air Group, Inc.*	2,403	144,925
Catalent, Inc.*	3,425	370,311	American Airlines Group, Inc.* (a)	13,161	279,145
Eli Lilly & Co.	16,081	3,690,911	Delta Air Lines, Inc.*	12,927	559,222
Johnson & Johnson	53,231	8,769,275	Southwest Airlines Co.*	12,016	637,929
Merck & Co., Inc.	51,149	3,977,858	United Airlines Holdings, Inc.*	6,662	348,356
Organon & Co.*	4,972	150,453			<b>1,969,577</b>
Perrigo Co. PLC	2,774	127,188			
			<b>Building Products 0.5%</b>		
			A.O. Smith Corp.	2,784	200,615
			Allegion PLC	1,811	252,272
			Carrier Global Corp.	16,576	805,594
			Fortune Brands Home & Security, Inc.	2,767	275,621
			Johnson Controls International PLC	14,450	991,704
			Masco Corp.	5,143	302,974
			Trane Technologies PLC	4,796	883,135
					<b>3,711,915</b>
			<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 0.4%</b>		
			Cintas Corp.	1,773	677,286
			Copart, Inc.*	4,263	561,991
			Republic Services, Inc.	4,308	473,923
			Rollins, Inc.	4,543	155,371
			Waste Management, Inc.	7,817	1,095,240
					<b>2,963,811</b>

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



	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Construction &amp; Engineering 0.1%</b>			Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc.	1,920	487,296
Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.	2,664	355,431	Union Pacific Corp.	13,431	2,953,880
Quanta Services, Inc.	2,792	252,871			<b>7,044,756</b>
		<b>608,302</b>	<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors 0.2%</b>		
<b>Electrical Equipment 0.6%</b>			Fastenal Co.	11,580	602,160
AMETEK, Inc.	4,635	618,773	United Rentals, Inc.*	1,464	467,031
Eaton Corp. PLC	8,029	1,189,737	W.W. Grainger, Inc.	877	384,126
Emerson Electric Co.	12,147	1,169,027			<b>1,453,317</b>
Generac Holdings, Inc.*	1,261	523,504	<b>Information Technology 27.1%</b>		
Rockwell Automation, Inc.	2,342	669,859	<b>Communications Equipment 0.8%</b>		
		<b>4,170,900</b>	Arista Networks, Inc.*	1,107	401,077
<b>Industrial Conglomerates 1.2%</b>			Cisco Systems, Inc.	85,188	4,514,964
3M Co.	11,714	2,326,752	F5 Networks, Inc.*	1,202	224,365
General Electric Co.	177,262	2,385,947	Juniper Networks, Inc.	6,794	185,816
Honeywell International, Inc.	14,029	3,077,261	Motorola Solutions, Inc.	3,423	742,278
Roper Technologies, Inc.	2,122	997,764			<b>6,068,500</b>
		<b>8,787,724</b>	<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components 0.6%</b>		
<b>IT Services 0.0%</b>			Amphenol Corp. "A"	12,036	823,383
Leidos Holdings, Inc.	2,712	274,183	CDW Corp.	2,847	497,229
<b>Machinery 1.7%</b>			Corning, Inc.	15,639	639,635
Caterpillar, Inc.	11,055	2,405,900	IPG Photonics Corp.*	752	158,499
Cummins, Inc.	2,953	719,971	Keysight Technologies, Inc.*	3,695	570,545
Deere & Co.	6,299	2,221,720	TE Connectivity Ltd.	6,718	908,341
Dover Corp.	2,938	442,463	Trimble, Inc.*	5,011	410,050
Fortive Corp.	6,909	481,834	Zebra Technologies Corp. "A"*	1,074	568,672
IDEX Corp.	1,554	341,958			<b>4,576,354</b>
Illinois Tool Works, Inc.	5,805	1,297,766	<b>IT Services 5.1%</b>		
Ingersoll Rand, Inc.*	7,671	374,421	Accenture PLC "A"	12,856	3,789,820
Otis Worldwide Corp.	8,119	663,890	Akamai Technologies, Inc.*	3,283	382,798
PACCAR, Inc.	6,991	623,947	Automatic Data Processing, Inc.	8,589	1,705,947
Parker-Hannifin Corp.	2,601	798,793	Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.	2,376	383,795
Pentair PLC	3,302	222,852	Cognizant Technology Solutions Corp. "A"	10,612	734,987
Snap-on, Inc.	1,091	243,762	DXC Technology Co.*	5,114	199,139
Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.	3,279	672,162	Fidelity National Information Services, Inc.	12,514	1,772,858
Westinghouse Air Brake Technologies Corp.	3,621	298,008	Fiserv, Inc.*	12,018	1,284,604
Xylem, Inc.	3,605	432,456	FleetCor Technologies, Inc.*	1,686	431,717
		<b>12,241,903</b>	Gartner, Inc.*	1,732	419,491
<b>Professional Services 0.3%</b>			Global Payments, Inc.	5,954	1,116,613
Equifax, Inc.	2,474	592,548	International Business Machines Corp.	18,052	2,646,243
IHS Markit Ltd.	7,530	848,330	Jack Henry & Associates, Inc.	1,494	244,284
Nielsen Holdings PLC	7,398	182,509	MasterCard, Inc. "A"	17,672	6,451,871
Robert Half International, Inc.	2,266	201,606	Paychex, Inc.	6,445	691,549
Verisk Analytics, Inc.	3,302	576,925	PayPal Holdings, Inc.*	23,751	6,922,942
		<b>2,401,918</b>	VeriSign, Inc.*	1,993	453,786
<b>Road &amp; Rail 0.9%</b>			Visa, Inc. "A" (a)	34,176	7,991,032
CSX Corp.	45,933	1,473,531	Western Union Co.	8,062	185,184
J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc.	1,663	270,986			<b>37,808,660</b>
Kansas City Southern	1,825	517,150			
Norfolk Southern Corp.	5,056	1,341,913			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 5.7%</b>		
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*	24,538	2,304,854
Analog Devices, Inc.	7,424	1,278,116
Applied Materials, Inc.	18,527	2,638,245
Broadcom, Inc.	8,243	3,930,592
Enphase Energy, Inc.*	2,735	502,228
Intel Corp.	81,596	4,580,799
KLA Corp.	3,089	1,001,485
Lam Research Corp.	2,878	1,872,714
Maxim Integrated Products, Inc.*	5,477	577,057
Microchip Technology, Inc.	5,497	823,121
Micron Technology, Inc.*	22,715	1,930,321
Monolithic Power Systems, Inc.	862	321,914
NVIDIA Corp.	12,586	10,070,058
NXP Semiconductors NV	5,600	1,152,032
Qorvo, Inc.*	2,295	449,017
QUALCOMM, Inc.	22,787	3,256,946
Skyworks Solutions, Inc.	3,329	638,336
Teradyne, Inc.	3,378	452,517
Texas Instruments, Inc.	18,690	3,594,087
Xilinx, Inc.*	4,987	721,319
		<b>42,095,758</b>
<b>Software 8.8%</b>		
Adobe, Inc.*	9,648	5,650,255
ANSYS, Inc.*	1,760	610,826
Autodesk, Inc.*	4,438	1,295,452
Cadence Design Systems, Inc.*	5,672	776,043
Citrix Systems, Inc.	2,546	298,569
Fortinet, Inc.*	2,761	657,643
Intuit, Inc.	5,514	2,702,797
Microsoft Corp.	152,185	41,226,917
NortonLifeLock, Inc.	11,679	317,902
Oracle Corp.	36,697	2,856,494
Paycom Software, Inc.*	1,011	367,468
PTC, Inc.*	2,169	306,393
salesforce.com, Inc.*	18,706	4,569,315
ServiceNow, Inc.*	3,981	2,187,759
Synopsys, Inc.*	3,102	855,501
Tyler Technologies, Inc.*	831	375,919
		<b>65,055,253</b>
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals 6.1%</b>		
Apple, Inc.	316,959	43,410,704
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.	26,429	385,335
HP, Inc.	24,249	732,077
NetApp, Inc.	4,460	364,917
Seagate Technology Holdings PLC	4,005	352,160

	Shares	Value (\$)
Western Digital Corp.*	6,252	444,955
		<b>45,690,148</b>
<b>Materials 2.6%</b>		
<b>Chemicals 1.8%</b>		
Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.	4,473	1,286,793
Albemarle Corp.	2,377	400,429
Celanese Corp.	2,252	341,403
CF Industries Holdings, Inc.	4,247	218,508
Corteva, Inc.	14,856	658,864
Dow, Inc.	15,153	958,882
DuPont de Nemours, Inc.	10,756	832,622
Eastman Chemical Co.	2,785	325,149
Ecolab, Inc.	5,054	1,040,972
FMC Corp.	2,634	284,999
International Flavors & Fragrances, Inc.	5,025	750,735
Linde PLC	10,509	3,038,152
LyondellBasell Industries NV "A"	5,177	532,557
PPG Industries, Inc.	4,806	815,915
Sherwin-Williams Co.	4,836	1,317,568
The Mosaic Co.	6,962	222,157
		<b>13,025,705</b>
<b>Construction Materials 0.1%</b>		
Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	1,277	449,261
Vulcan Materials Co.	2,679	466,334
		<b>915,595</b>
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging 0.3%</b>		
Arcor PLC	31,520	361,219
Avery Dennison Corp.	1,653	347,527
Ball Corp.	6,694	542,348
International Paper Co.	7,871	482,571
Packaging Corp. of America	1,882	254,861
Sealed Air Corp.	3,029	179,468
Westrock Co.	5,361	285,312
		<b>2,453,306</b>
<b>Metals &amp; Mining 0.4%</b>		
Freeport-McMoRan, Inc.	29,688	1,101,722
Newmont Corp.	16,194	1,026,376
Nucor Corp.	6,107	585,844
		<b>2,713,942</b>
<b>Real Estate 2.5%</b>		
<b>Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) 2.4%</b>		
Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc.	2,757	501,609
American Tower Corp.	9,204	2,486,369
AvalonBay Communities, Inc.	2,795	583,289
Boston Properties, Inc.	2,905	332,884
Crown Castle International Corp.	8,720	1,701,272
Digital Realty Trust, Inc.	5,669	852,958

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

	Shares	Value (\$)
Duke Realty Corp.	7,634	361,470
Equinix, Inc.	1,807	1,450,298
Equity Residential	6,864	528,528
Essex Property Trust, Inc.	1,304	391,213
Extra Space Storage, Inc.	2,729	447,065
Federal Realty Investment Trust	1,455	170,482
Healthpeak Properties, Inc.	10,946	364,392
Host Hotels & Resorts, Inc. *	14,645	250,283
Iron Mountain, Inc. (a)	5,940	251,381
Kimco Realty Corp.	8,970	187,025
Mid-America Apartment Communities, Inc.	2,326	391,745
Prologis, Inc.	14,925	1,783,985
Public Storage	3,090	929,132
Realty Income Corp.	7,503	500,750
Regency Centers Corp.	3,163	202,653
SBA Communications Corp.	2,192	698,590
Simon Property Group, Inc.	6,628	864,822
UDR, Inc.	5,915	289,717
Ventas, Inc.	7,513	428,992
Vornado Realty Trust	3,281	153,124
Welltower, Inc.	8,404	698,372
Weyerhaeuser Co.	15,019	516,954
		<b>18,319,354</b>
<b>Real Estate Management &amp; Development 0.1%</b>		
CBRE Group, Inc. "A"*	6,813	<b>584,078</b>
<b>Utilities 2.4%</b>		
<b>Electric Utilities 1.5%</b>		
Alliant Energy Corp.	5,122	285,603
American Electric Power Co., Inc.	10,156	859,096
Duke Energy Corp.	15,586	1,538,650
Edison International	7,602	439,548
Entergy Corp.	4,011	399,897
Evergy, Inc.	4,597	277,797
Eversource Energy	6,915	554,860
Exelon Corp.	19,726	874,059
FirstEnergy Corp.	10,977	408,454
NextEra Energy, Inc.	39,595	2,901,521
NRG Energy, Inc.	4,826	194,488
Pinnacle West Capital Corp.	2,254	184,760
PPL Corp.	15,777	441,283
Southern Co.	21,387	1,294,127
Xcel Energy, Inc.	10,930	720,068
		<b>11,374,211</b>
<b>Gas Utilities 0.0%</b>		
Atmos Energy Corp.	2,617	<b>251,520</b>
<b>Independent Power &amp; Renewable Electricity Producers 0.1%</b>		
AES Corp.	13,710	<b>357,420</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Multi-Utilities 0.7%</b>		
Ameren Corp.	5,201	416,288
CenterPoint Energy, Inc.	11,667	286,075
CMS Energy Corp.	5,802	342,782
Consolidated Edison, Inc.	6,888	494,007
Dominion Energy, Inc.	16,250	1,195,512
DTE Energy Co.	3,962	513,475
NiSource, Inc.	8,023	196,564
Public Service Enterprise Group, Inc.	10,278	614,008
Sempra Energy	6,352	841,513
WEC Energy Group, Inc.	6,363	565,989
		<b>5,466,213</b>
<b>Water Utilities 0.1%</b>		
American Water Works Co., Inc.	3,649	562,420
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$259,827,563)		<b>734,031,931</b>

	Principal Amount (\$)	Value (\$)
<b>Government &amp; Agency Obligations 0.1%</b>		
<b>U.S. Treasury Obligations</b>		
U.S. Treasury Bills, 0.098% (b), 7/15/2021 (c) (Cost \$924,978)	925,000	<b>924,984</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 0.4%</b>		
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (d) (e) (Cost \$3,114,343)	3,114,343	<b>3,114,343</b>

<b>Cash Equivalents 0.9%</b>		
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (d) (Cost \$6,316,333)	6,316,333	<b>6,316,333</b>

	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$270,183,217)	100.4	<b>744,387,591</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net</b>	(0.4)	<b>(3,003,287)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>741,384,304</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, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/(Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 0.4%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (d) (e)								
19,765,158	—	16,650,815 (f)	—	—	3,001	—	3,114,343	3,114,343
<b>Cash Equivalents 0.9%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (d)								
6,798,528	31,563,910	32,046,105	—	—	943	—	6,316,333	6,316,333
<b>26,563,686</b>	<b>31,563,910</b>	<b>48,696,920</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,944</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>9,430,676</b>	<b>9,430,676</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, 2021 amounted to \$3,031,312, which is 0.4% of net assets.
- (b) Annualized yield at time of purchase; not a coupon rate.
- (c) At June 30, 2021, this security has been pledged, in whole or in part, to cover initial margin requirements for open futures contracts.
- (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, 2021.

S&P: Standard & Poor's

At June 30, 2021, 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	9/17/2021	34	7,138,822	7,290,620	151,798

#### Currency Abbreviation(s)

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, 2021 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 (a)	\$ 734,031,931	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 734,031,931
Government & Agency Obligations	—	924,984	—	924,984
Short-Term Investments (a)	9,430,676	—	—	9,430,676
Derivatives (b)				
Futures Contracts	151,798	—	—	151,798
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 743,614,405</b>	<b>\$ 924,984</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 744,539,389</b>

- (a) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.
- (b) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$260,752,541) — including \$3,031,312 of securities loaned	\$ 734,956,915
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$3,114,343)*	3,114,343
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$6,316,333)	6,316,333
Cash	10,670
Receivable for Fund shares sold	90,642
Dividends receivable	426,820
Interest receivable	445
Receivable for variation margin on futures contracts	11,256
Other assets	6,500
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>744,933,924</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Payable upon return of securities loaned	3,114,343
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	204,588
Accrued management fee	78,824
Accrued Trustees' fees	3,514
Other accrued expenses and payables	148,351
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,549,620</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 741,384,304</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	485,814,195
Paid-in capital	255,570,109
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 741,384,304</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$673,257,196 ÷ 24,852,265 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.001 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 27.09</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$48,766,912 ÷ 1,797,453 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.001 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 27.13</b>
<b>Class B2</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$19,360,196 ÷ 712,884 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.001 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 27.16</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$473)	\$ 4,350,443
Interest	314
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	943
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	3,001
<b>Total income</b>	<b>4,354,701</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	695,038
Administration fee	337,093
Services to shareholders	802
Record keeping fee (Class B and Class B-2)	42,582
Distribution service fees (Class B and Class B-2)	78,156
Custodian fee	5,951
Professional fees	35,705
Reports to shareholders	26,038
Trustees' fees and expenses	15,521
Other	16,908
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>1,253,794</b>
Expense reductions	(229,014)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>1,024,780</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>3,329,921</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	16,196,840
Futures	1,153,837
	17,350,677
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	77,992,631
Futures	(34,594)
	77,958,037
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>95,308,714</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$98,638,635</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)</b>	<b>Year Ended December 31, 2020</b>
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 3,329,921	\$ 8,923,631
Net realized gain (loss)	17,350,677	31,108,402
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	77,958,037	61,784,594
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	98,638,635	101,816,627
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(37,893,566)	(40,621,912)
Class B	(2,473,191)	(2,466,115)
Class B2	(1,024,797)	(1,183,053)
Total distributions	(41,391,554)	(44,271,080)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	11,369,480	19,014,191
Reinvestment of distributions	37,893,566	40,621,912
Payments for shares redeemed	(34,686,808)	(66,299,729)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	14,576,238	(6,663,626)
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	5,598,788	8,754,512
Reinvestment of distributions	2,473,191	2,466,115
Payments for shares redeemed	(4,783,733)	(6,399,660)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	3,288,246	4,820,967
<b>Class B2</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	5,448	198,779
Reinvestment of distributions	1,024,797	1,183,053
Payments for shares redeemed	(1,519,323)	(1,848,331)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B2 share transactions	(489,078)	(466,499)
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>74,622,487</b>	<b>55,236,389</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	666,761,817	611,525,428
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$741,384,304</b>	<b>\$666,761,817</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

<b>Other Information</b>	<b>Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)</b>	<b>Year Ended December 31, 2020</b>
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	24,298,803	24,258,385
Shares sold	437,492	919,928
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	1,439,178	2,207,713
Shares redeemed	(1,323,208)	(3,087,223)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	553,462	40,418
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>24,852,265</b>	<b>24,298,803</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	1,675,259	1,426,637
Shares sold	213,350	403,823
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	93,717	133,737
Shares redeemed	(184,873)	(288,938)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	122,194	248,622
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>1,797,453</b>	<b>1,675,259</b>
<b>Class B2</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	730,615	742,685
Shares sold	208	9,662
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	38,789	64,087
Shares redeemed	(56,728)	(85,819)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B2 shares	(17,731)	(12,070)
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>712,884</b>	<b>730,615</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS Equity 500 Index VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$24.97</b>	<b>\$23.14</b>	<b>\$18.90</b>	<b>\$22.19</b>	<b>\$19.58</b>	<b>\$19.40</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.13	.34	.35	.37	.34	.35
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	3.60	3.23	5.37	(1.31)	3.69	1.74
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>3.73</b>	<b>3.57</b>	<b>5.72</b>	<b>(.94)</b>	<b>4.03</b>	<b>2.09</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.41)	(.39)	(.43)	(.38)	(.37)	(.40)
Net realized gains	(1.20)	(1.35)	(1.05)	(1.97)	(1.05)	(1.51)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(1.61)</b>	<b>(1.74)</b>	<b>(1.48)</b>	<b>(2.35)</b>	<b>(1.42)</b>	<b>(1.91)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$27.09</b>	<b>\$24.97</b>	<b>\$23.14</b>	<b>\$18.90</b>	<b>\$22.19</b>	<b>\$19.58</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	15.10*	18.10	31.19	(4.65)	21.53	11.61
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	673	607	561	472	541	519
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.33**	.33	.35	.34	.34	.34
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.26**	.26	.27	.30	.33	.33
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.99**	1.56	1.68	1.73	1.67	1.88
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	1*	4	3	3	3	4

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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



## DWS Equity 500 Index VIP — Class B

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$24.95</b>	<b>\$23.12</b>	<b>\$18.89</b>	<b>\$22.17</b>	<b>\$19.58</b>	<b>\$19.40</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.08	.26	.28	.29	.28	.30
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	3.60	3.23	5.35	(1.29)	3.67	1.74
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>3.68</b>	<b>3.49</b>	<b>5.63</b>	<b>(1.00)</b>	<b>3.95</b>	<b>2.04</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.30)	(.31)	(.35)	(.31)	(.31)	(.35)
Net realized gains	(1.20)	(1.35)	(1.05)	(1.97)	(1.05)	(1.51)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(1.50)</b>	<b>(1.66)</b>	<b>(1.40)</b>	<b>(2.28)</b>	<b>(1.36)</b>	<b>(1.86)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$27.13</b>	<b>\$24.95</b>	<b>\$23.12</b>	<b>\$18.89</b>	<b>\$22.17</b>	<b>\$19.58</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	14.91*	17.63	30.66	(4.94)	21.07	11.32
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	49	42	33	21	25	18
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.71**	.71	.72	.71	.71	.69
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.64**	.64	.65	.65	.65	.61
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.61**	1.17	1.31	1.38	1.35	1.61
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	1*	4	3	3	3	4

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* Annualized

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

## DWS Equity 500 Index VIP — Class B2

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$24.98</b>	<b>\$23.14</b>	<b>\$18.90</b>	<b>\$22.18</b>	<b>\$19.57</b>	<b>\$19.39</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.08	.25	.27	.28	.26	.28
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	3.60	3.24	5.36	(1.30)	3.69	1.74
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>3.68</b>	<b>3.49</b>	<b>5.63</b>	<b>(1.02)</b>	<b>3.95</b>	<b>2.02</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.30)	(.30)	(.34)	(.29)	(.29)	(.33)
Net realized gains	(1.20)	(1.35)	(1.05)	(1.97)	(1.05)	(1.51)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(1.50)</b>	<b>(1.65)</b>	<b>(1.39)</b>	<b>(2.26)</b>	<b>(1.34)</b>	<b>(1.84)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$27.16</b>	<b>\$24.98</b>	<b>\$23.14</b>	<b>\$18.90</b>	<b>\$22.18</b>	<b>\$19.57</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	14.88*	17.64	30.64	(5.00)	21.06	11.20
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	19	18	17	15	17	17
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.72**	.72	.74	.73	.74	.74
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.65**	.65	.67	.70	.72	.71
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.60**	1.17	1.28	1.32	1.27	1.50
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	1*	4	3	3	3	4

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* 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 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 up to 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 of 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 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 efforts 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, 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, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$279,012,282. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$465,375,309. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$483,396,604 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$18,021,295.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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, 2021, 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 recognized in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

A summary of the open futures contracts as of June 30, 2021, is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the investment in futures contracts purchased had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$7,291,000 to \$10,910,000.

The following tables summarize the value of the Fund's derivative instruments held as of June 30, 2021 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities, presented by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Assets Derivative</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>
Equity Contracts (a)	\$ 151,798

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, 2021 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 (a)	\$ 1,153,837

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Operations account:

(a) Net realized gain (loss) from futures

<b>Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>
Equity Contracts (a)	\$ (34,594)

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Operations account:

(a) Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on futures

### C. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$6,640,573 and \$24,674,428, 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.

Under the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee based on the average daily net assets of the Fund, 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, 2021, 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, 2021 through April 30, 2022 (through April 30, 2021 for Class B shares), the Advisor had 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.26%
Class B	.64%
Class B2	.66%

Effective May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of Class B shares to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) at 0.65%.

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$ 208,439
Class B	14,437
Class B2	6,138
	<b>\$ 229,014</b>

**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee (“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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$337,093, of which \$58,197 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, 2021, the Distribution Service Fees were as follows:

Distribution Service Fees	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2021
Class B	\$ 54,839	\$ 9,860
Class B2	23,317	3,928
	<b>\$ 78,156</b>	<b>\$ 13,788</b>

**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, 2021, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at June 30, 2021
Class A	\$ 287	\$ 89
Class B	50	15
Class B2	34	11
	<b>\$ 371</b>	<b>\$ 115</b>

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$3,110, of which \$670 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, 2021, the Fund incurred securities lending agent fees to Deutsche Bank AG in the amount of \$226.

#### **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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

#### **F. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2021, 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. One participating insurance company was beneficial owner of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, owning 90%. Two participating insurance companies were the 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 coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.



## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Class B2</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,151.00	\$ 1,149.10	\$ 1,148.80
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 1.39	\$ 3.41	\$ 3.46

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Class B2</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,023.51	\$ 1,021.62	\$ 1,021.57
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 1.30	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.26

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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. The Board also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, 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, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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

# Notes



vit-equ500-3 (R-028371-10 8/21)



June 30, 2021

# Semiannual Report

Deutsche DWS Investments VIT Funds

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**DWS Small Cap Index VIP**



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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. Smaller company stocks tend to be more volatile than medium-sized or large company stocks. 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 ongoing 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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# Performance Summary

June 30, 2021 (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 and B 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.

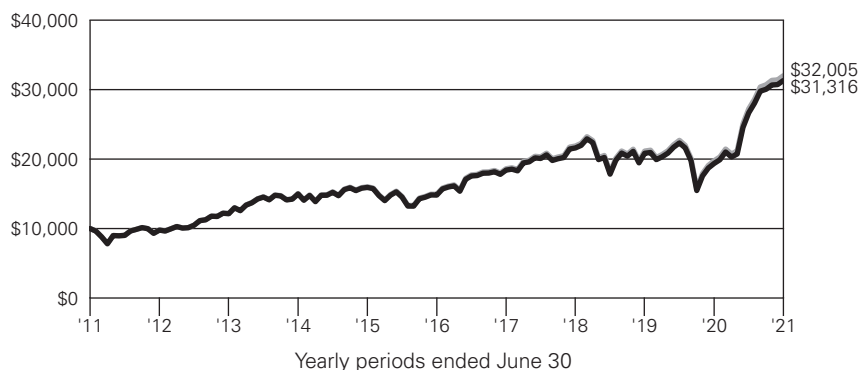
Please keep in mind that high double-digit returns were primarily achieved during favorable market conditions. Investors should not expect that such favorable returns can be consistently achieved. A fund's performance, especially for very short time periods, should not be the sole factor in making your investment decision.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated May 1, 2021 are 0.50% and 0.79% 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 Cap Index VIP – Class A  
 ■ Russell 2000® Index



Russell 2000® Index is an unmanaged, capitalization-weighted measure of approximately 2,000 of the smallest companies in the Russell 3000® Index.

The Russell 3000® Index is an unmanaged index that measures the performance of the 3,000 largest U.S. companies based on total market capitalization, which represents approximately 98% of the investable U.S. equity 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 Cap Index VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class A	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,745	\$16,172	\$14,496	\$21,141	\$31,316
	Average annual total return	17.45%	61.72%	13.17%	16.15%	12.09%
Russell 2000 Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,754	\$16,203	\$14,628	\$21,429	\$32,005
	Average annual total return	17.54%	62.03%	13.52%	16.47%	12.34%

DWS Small Cap Index VIP		6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Class B	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,745	\$16,131	\$14,373	\$20,843	\$30,498
	Average annual total return	17.25%	61.31%	12.85%	15.82%	11.80%
Russell 2000 Index	Growth of \$10,000	\$11,754	\$16,203	\$14,628	\$21,429	\$32,005
	Average annual total return	17.54%	62.03%	13.52%	16.47%	12.34%

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>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Common Stocks	98%	99%
Cash Equivalents	2%	1%
Government & Agency Obligations	0%	0%
Warrants	0%	0%
Corporate Bond	0%	—
Rights	0%	0%
	100%	100%

<b>Sector Diversification</b> (As a % of Common Stocks, Rights, Warrants and Corporate Bonds)	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>12/31/20</b>
Health Care	21%	21%
Financials	15%	16%
Industrials	14%	16%
Information Technology	14%	14%
Consumer Discretionary	12%	13%
Real Estate	7%	6%
Energy	4%	2%
Materials	4%	4%
Communication Services	4%	2%
Consumer Staples	3%	3%
Utilities	2%	3%
	100%	100%

## Ten Largest Equity Holdings at June 30, 2021 (3.1% of Net Assets)

<b>1 AMC Entertainment Holdings, Inc.</b> Operator of theatrical exhibition business	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>2 Intellia Therapeutics, Inc.</b> Developer of therapeutics biological tool and genome editing company	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>3 Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals, Inc.</b> Operates as a biotechnology company	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>4 Ovintiv, Inc.</b> Producer of natural gas, oil and natural gas liquids	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>5 Lattice Semiconductor Corp.</b> Manufacturer of high speed programmable logic devices	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>6 II-VI, Inc.</b> Manufacturer of electro-optical components, infrared missile guidance and nuclear radiation detection	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>7 Crocs, Inc.</b> Designer of casual lifestyle footwear and accessories	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>8 Scientific Games Corp.</b> Provider of gaming and lottery services	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>9 STAAR Surgical Co.</b> Developer and manufactures of high margin visual implants	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>10 Denali Therapeutics, Inc.</b> Operates as biotechnology Company	<b>0.2%</b>

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 posted on dws.com, and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary, or if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at sec.gov. Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on dws.com from time to time. Please see 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Common Stocks 97.9%</b>					
<b>Communication Services 3.7%</b>					
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services 0.7%</b>					
Anterix, Inc.* (a)	1,751	105,043	Liberty TripAdvisor Holdings, Inc. "A"*	10,989	44,725
ATN International, Inc.	1,608	73,148	MediaAlpha, Inc. "A"* (a)	3,182	133,962
Bandwidth, Inc. "A"* (a)	3,515	484,789	QuinStreet, Inc.* (a)	7,763	144,236
Cincinnati Bell, Inc.* (a)	7,454	114,941	TrueCar, Inc.* (a)	14,750	83,337
Cogent Communications Holdings, Inc.	6,572	505,321	Yelp, Inc.* (a)	11,135	444,955
Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc.*	11,043	97,068			<b>2,339,162</b>
Globalstar, Inc.* (a)	93,348	166,160	<b>Media 1.2%</b>		
IDT Corp. "B"* (a)	3,116	115,167	Advantage Solutions, Inc.* (a)	11,747	126,750
Iridium Communications, Inc.*	18,381	735,056	AMC Networks, Inc. "A"* (a)	4,475	298,930
Liberty Latin America Ltd. "A"*	6,447	89,355	Boston Omaha Corp. "A"*	2,684	85,110
Liberty Latin America Ltd. "C"*	23,973	338,019	Cardlytics, Inc.* (a)	4,914	623,734
Ooma, Inc.*	3,130	59,032	Clear Channel Outdoor Holdings, Inc.*	55,887	147,542
ORBCOMM, Inc.* (a)	11,600	130,384	comScore, Inc.*	10,039	50,195
Radius Global Infrastructure, Inc. "A"*	6,764	98,078	Daily Journal Corp.*	172	58,222
		<b>3,111,561</b>	Emerald Holding, Inc.*	4,554	24,546
			Entercom Communications Corp.*	18,721	80,688
<b>Entertainment 1.1%</b>			Entravision Communications Corp. "A"	9,050	60,454
AMC Entertainment Holdings, Inc. "A"* (a)	62,588	3,547,488	Fluent, Inc.*	6,063	17,765
Chicken Soup For The Soul Entertainment Inc.*	1,767	73,154	Gannett Co., Inc.* (a)	21,472	117,881
Cinemark Holdings, Inc.* (a)	16,614	364,677	Gray Television, Inc.	13,171	308,201
CuriosityStream, Inc.*	4,003	54,601	Hemisphere Media Group, Inc.*	2,832	33,418
Eros STX Global Corp.*	49,107	75,134	iHeartMedia, Inc. "A"*	17,219	463,708
IMAX Corp.*	7,513	161,530	John Wiley & Sons, Inc. "A"	6,636	399,354
Liberty Media Corp.-Liberty Braves "A"*	1,542	43,515	Loral Space & Communications, Inc. (a)	2,038	79,176
Liberty Media Corp.-Liberty Braves "C"*	5,459	151,597	Magnite, Inc.*	16,137	546,076
Lions Gate Entertainment Corp. "A"*	8,982	185,927	MDC Partners, Inc. "A"*	9,625	56,306
Lions Gate Entertainment Corp. "B"*	17,687	323,672	Meredith Corp.* (a)	6,150	267,156
LiveXLive Media, Inc.*	7,885	37,217	MSG Networks, Inc. "A"* (a)	4,831	70,436
Madison Square Garden Entertainment Corp.*	2,899	243,429	National CineMedia, Inc.	9,195	46,619
Marcus Corp.* (a)	3,616	76,695	Scholastic Corp. (a)	4,464	169,141
		<b>5,338,636</b>	Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. "A" (a)	7,155	237,689
			TechTarget, Inc.* (a)	3,979	308,333
<b>Interactive Media &amp; Services 0.5%</b>			TEGNA, Inc.	34,023	638,271
Cargurus, Inc.*	14,453	379,102	The E.W. Scripps Co. "A" (a)	8,588	175,109
Cars.com, Inc.* (a)	10,199	146,152	Thryv Holdings, Inc.*	1,001	35,806
Eventbrite, Inc. "A"* (a)	11,525	218,975	WideOpenWest, Inc.*	8,264	171,147
EverQuote, Inc. "A"* (a)	2,904	94,903			<b>5,697,763</b>
fuboTV, Inc.* (a)	20,206	648,815	<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 0.2%</b>		
			Gogo, Inc.* (a)	9,006	102,488
			Shenandoah Telecommunications Co.	7,450	361,399
			Telephone & Data Systems, Inc.	15,594	353,360

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
U.S. Cellular Corp.* (a)	2,389	86,745	Graham Holdings Co.		
		<b>903,992</b>	"B" (a)	595	377,170
<b>Consumer Discretionary 11.6%</b>			Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co.*	19,528	215,589
<b>Auto Components 1.3%</b>			Laureate Education, Inc. "A"*	16,244	235,700
Adient PLC*	14,562	658,202	OneSpaWorld Holdings Ltd.* (a)	8,077	78,266
American Axle & Manufacturing Holdings, Inc.*	17,200	178,020	Perdoceo Education Corp.*	10,462	128,369
Cooper-Standard Holdings, Inc.* (a)	2,638	76,502	Regis Corp.*	3,677	34,417
Dana, Inc. (a)	22,359	531,250	StoneMor, Inc.*	4,918	12,885
Dorman Products, Inc.* (a)	4,114	426,498	Strategic Education, Inc. (a)	3,739	284,388
Fox Factory Holding Corp.* (a)	6,491	1,010,389	Stride, Inc.*	6,152	197,664
Gentherm, Inc.*	5,120	363,776	Vivint Smart Home, Inc.* (a)	14,094	186,041
Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.*	42,490	728,703	WW International, Inc.*	8,087	292,264
LCI Industries	3,820	502,024			<b>3,022,343</b>
Modine Manufacturing Co.* (a)	7,910	131,227	<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 2.3%</b>		
Motorcar Parts of America, Inc.* (a)	2,880	64,627	Accel Entertainment, Inc.*	9,003	106,866
Patrick Industries, Inc.	3,452	251,996	Bally's Corp.* (a)	5,003	270,712
Standard Motor Products, Inc.	3,189	138,243	Biglari Holdings, Inc. "B"*	102	16,266
Stoneridge, Inc.*	3,879	114,431	BJ's Restaurants, Inc.* (a)	3,544	174,152
Tenneco, Inc. "A"*	10,883	210,260	Bloomin' Brands, Inc.* (a)	13,597	369,023
Visteon Corp.* (a)	4,274	516,898	Bluegreen Vacations Holding Corp*	2,414	43,452
XL Fleet Corp.* (a)	5,927	49,372	Brinker International, Inc.* (a)	6,974	431,342
XPEL, Inc.*	2,777	232,907	Carrols Restaurant Group, Inc.*	5,337	32,075
		<b>6,185,325</b>	Century Casinos, Inc.* (a)	4,231	56,822
<b>Automobiles 0.3%</b>			Chuy's Holdings, Inc.* (a)	3,124	116,400
Arcimoto, Inc.* (a)	4,223	72,593	Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc.	3,640	540,394
Canoo, Inc.*	12,270	121,964	Dave & Buster's Entertainment, Inc.* (a)	6,633	269,300
Fisker, Inc.* (a)	24,408	470,586	Del Taco Restaurants, Inc.	4,606	46,106
Lordstown Motors Corp. "A"*	17,256	190,851	Denny's Corp.* (a)	9,363	154,396
Winnebago Industries, Inc. (a)	5,008	340,344	Dine Brands Global, Inc.*	2,500	223,125
Workhorse Group, Inc.* (a)	19,008	315,343	Drive Shack, Inc.*	12,654	41,885
		<b>1,511,681</b>	El Pollo Loco Holdings, Inc.* (a)	3,155	57,705
<b>Distributors 0.1%</b>			Esc Diamond Resorts, Inc. (b)	7,043	0
Core-Mark Holding Co., Inc.	6,871	309,264	Esports Technologies, Inc.*	474	9,982
Funko, Inc. "A" (a)	4,202	89,419	Everi Holdings, Inc.* (a)	12,799	319,207
Greenlane Holdings, Inc. "A"*	1,386	6,195	Fiesta Restaurant Group, Inc.*	2,630	35,321
		<b>404,878</b>	Full House Resorts, Inc.*	4,990	49,601
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 0.7%</b>			GAN Ltd.* (a)	6,162	101,303
2U, Inc.* (a)	11,022	459,287	Golden Entertainment, Inc.*	2,583	115,718
Adtalem Global Education, Inc.* (a)	7,603	270,971	Golden Nugget Online Gaming, Inc.* (a)	4,900	62,524
American Public Education, Inc.* (a)	2,855	80,911	Hall of Fame Resort & Entertainment Co.*	8,403	33,024
Carriage Services, Inc. (a)	2,576	95,235	Hilton Grand Vacations, Inc.* (a)	13,094	541,961
Coursera, Inc.* (a)	1,850	73,186			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
International Game Technology PLC*	15,338	367,499	iRobot Corp.*	4,301	401,670
Jack in the Box, Inc. (a)	3,528	393,160	KB Home	13,789	561,488
Kura Sushi USA, Inc. "A"*	598	22,730	Landsea Homes Corp.*	1,234	10,329
Lindblad Expeditions Holdings, Inc.*	4,676	74,863	La-Z-Boy, Inc.	6,964	257,947
Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc.* (a)	2,034	134,590	Legacy Housing Corp.*	1,436	24,283
Nathan's Famous, Inc.	497	35,446	LGI Homes, Inc.* (a)	3,406	551,568
NEOGAMES SA*	791	48,623	Lifetime Brands, Inc.	2,187	32,739
Noodles & Co.* (a)	6,217	77,588	Lovesac Co.*	1,963	156,628
Papa John's International, Inc. (a)	5,079	530,451	M.D.C. Holdings, Inc.	8,802	445,381
PlayAGS, Inc.*	3,774	37,363	M/I Homes, Inc.*	4,341	254,686
RCI Hospitality Holdings, Inc. (a)	1,348	89,238	Meritage Homes Corp.*	5,757	541,619
Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc.* (a)	2,426	80,325	Purple Innovation, Inc.*	7,715	203,753
Red Rock Resorts, Inc. "A"* (a)	9,440	401,200	Skyline Champion Corp.* (a)	8,076	430,451
Rush Street Interactive, Inc.* (a)	7,998	98,055	Sonos, Inc.*	18,472	650,768
Ruth's Hospitality Group, Inc.*	5,173	119,134	Taylor Morrison Home Corp.*	19,311	510,197
Scientific Games Corp. "A"*	14,780	1,144,563	Tri Pointe Home, Inc.*	18,091	387,690
SeaWorld Entertainment, Inc.*	7,895	394,276	Tupperware Brands Corp.* (a)	7,697	182,804
Shake Shack, Inc. "A"*	5,746	614,937	Universal Electronics, Inc.*	1,953	94,720
Target Hospitality Corp.*	4,513	16,743	VOXX International Corp.*	2,409	33,750
Texas Roadhouse, Inc.	10,732	1,032,418	Vuzix Corp.*	9,012	165,370
The Cheesecake Factory, Inc.*	6,632	359,322			<b>8,666,588</b>
The ONE Group Hospitality, Inc.*	2,972	32,751			
Wingstop, Inc.	4,584	722,576			
		<b>11,046,513</b>			
<b>Household Durables 1.8%</b>			<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail 0.8%</b>		
Aterian, Inc.*	3,044	44,534	1-800-Flowers.com, Inc. "A"* (a)	3,967	126,428
Bassett Furniture Industries, Inc.	1,442	35,113	CarParts.com, Inc.* (a)	7,281	148,241
Beazer Homes U.S.A., Inc.*	4,420	85,262	Duluth Holdings, Inc. "B"*	1,836	37,913
Casper Sleep, Inc.*	4,361	35,935	Groupon, Inc.*	3,528	152,269
Cavco Industries, Inc.* (a)	1,420	315,510	Lands' End, Inc.* (a)	2,303	94,538
Century Communities, Inc.	4,643	308,945	Liquidity Services, Inc.*	3,862	98,288
Ethan Allen Interiors, Inc. (a)	3,631	100,216	Overstock.com, Inc.*	6,605	608,981
Flexsteel Industries, Inc.	1,032	41,682	PetMed Express, Inc. (a)	3,112	99,117
GoPro, Inc. "A"* (a)	18,788	218,880	Porch Group, Inc.*	2,439	47,170
Green Brick Partners, Inc.*	4,537	103,171	Quotient Technology, Inc.* (a)	13,994	151,275
Hamilton Beach Brands Holding Co. "A"	1,206	26,858	RealReal, Inc.* (a)	12,086	238,819
Helen of Troy Ltd.*	3,762	858,187	Revolve Group, Inc.*	5,515	379,984
Hooker Furniture Corp.	1,785	61,832	Shutterstock, Inc.	3,623	355,670
Hovnanian Enterprises, Inc. "A"* (a)	785	83,438	Stamps.com, Inc.* (a)	2,730	546,792
Installed Building Products, Inc. (a)	3,671	449,184	Stitch Fix, Inc. "A"* (a)	9,078	547,404
					<b>3,632,889</b>
			<b>Leisure Products 0.6%</b>		
			Acushnet Holdings Corp.	5,281	260,881
			American Outdoor Brands, Inc.*	2,303	80,927
			AMMO, Inc.*	10,139	99,261
			Callaway Golf Co. (a)	17,791	600,090
			Clarus Corp.	3,712	95,398
			Escalade, Inc.	1,389	31,878
			Genius Brands International, Inc.*	43,490	80,022
			Johnson Outdoors, Inc. "A" (a)	824	99,704
			Latham Group, Inc.*	3,555	113,618

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



	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Malibu Boats, Inc. "A"*	3,187	233,703	Lumber Liquidators Holdings, Inc.*	4,179	88,177
Marine Products Corp.	1,244	19,207	MarineMax, Inc.* (a)	3,229	157,381
MasterCraft Boat Holdings, Inc.* (a)	2,878	75,663	Monro, Inc. (a)	5,105	324,219
Nautilus, Inc.* (a)	4,789	80,695	Murphy USA, Inc.	3,874	516,675
Smith & Wesson Brands, Inc. (a)	8,183	283,950	National Vision Holdings, Inc.*	12,554	641,886
Sturm, Ruger & Co., Inc.	2,647	238,177	ODP Corp.*	7,527	361,371
Vista Outdoor, Inc.*	8,988	415,965	OneWater Marine, Inc. "A"	1,661	69,812
		<b>2,809,139</b>	Party City Holdco, Inc.*	16,985	158,470
<b>Multiline Retail 0.3%</b>			Rent-A-Center, Inc.	10,135	537,864
Big Lots, Inc.	5,338	352,361	Sally Beauty Holdings, Inc.* (a)	17,320	382,252
Dillard's, Inc. "A" (a)	966	174,730	Shift Technologies, Inc.* (a)	9,544	81,888
Franchise Group, Inc.	4,352	153,495	Shoe Carnival, Inc. (a)	1,300	93,067
Macy's, Inc.* (a)	48,289	915,560	Signet Jewelers Ltd.* (a)	8,014	647,451
		<b>1,596,146</b>	Sleep Number Corp.* (a)	3,678	404,396
<b>Specialty Retail 2.7%</b>			Sonic Automotive, Inc. "A" (a)	3,368	150,684
Aaron's Co., Inc.	5,325	170,347	Sportsman's Warehouse Holdings, Inc.*	6,878	122,222
Abercrombie & Fitch Co. "A"*	9,429	437,789	The Buckle, Inc. (a)	4,680	232,830
Academy Sports & Outdoors, Inc.* (a)	9,507	392,069	The Children's Place, Inc.* (a)	2,164	201,382
American Eagle Outfitters, Inc. (a)	23,380	877,451	The Container Store Group, Inc.* (a)	5,172	67,443
America's Car-Mart, Inc.*	955	135,343	Tilly's, Inc. "A"	3,218	51,424
Arko Corp.*	3,114	28,618	TravelCenters of America, Inc.*	1,914	55,965
Asbury Automotive Group, Inc.*	2,973	509,483	Urban Outfitters, Inc.*	10,543	434,582
At Home Group, Inc.*	10,085	371,531	Winmark Corp.	544	104,492
Barnes & Noble Education, Inc.* (a)	5,922	42,698	Zumiez, Inc.* (a)	3,369	165,047
Bed Bath & Beyond, Inc.*	16,873	561,702			<b>12,801,608</b>
Big 5 Sporting Goods Corp. (a)	3,195	82,048	<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 0.7%</b>		
Blink Charging Co.* (a)	5,606	230,799	Crocs, Inc.*	9,927	1,156,694
Boot Barn Holdings, Inc.*	4,417	371,249	Fossil Group, Inc.* (a)	7,423	106,000
Caleres, Inc. (a)	5,495	149,959	G-III Apparel Group Ltd.*	6,769	222,429
Camping World Holdings, Inc. "A" (a)	6,557	268,771	Kontoor Brands, Inc.	7,975	449,870
CarLotz, Inc.*	6,696	36,560	Movado Group, Inc.	2,398	75,465
Cato Corp. "A" (a)	3,028	51,082	Oxford Industries, Inc. (a)	2,482	245,321
Chico's FAS, Inc.*	18,718	123,164	PLBY Group, Inc.*	1,656	64,402
Citi Trends, Inc.*	1,358	118,146	Rocky Brands, Inc.	982	54,599
Conn's, Inc.* (a)	2,742	69,921	Steven Madden Ltd.	12,634	552,864
Designer Brands, Inc. "A"*	9,226	152,690	Superior Group of Company, Inc.	1,660	39,691
Genesco, Inc.* (a)	2,316	147,483	Unifi, Inc.* (a)	1,884	45,894
Group 1 Automotive, Inc.	2,702	417,270	Vera Bradley, Inc.*	3,992	49,461
GrowGeneration Corp.* (a)	8,307	399,567	Wolverine World Wide, Inc.	12,528	421,442
Guess?, Inc. (a)	6,282	165,845			<b>3,484,132</b>
Haverty Furniture Companies, Inc. (a)	2,641	112,929	<b>Consumer Staples 3.1%</b>		
Hibbett, Inc.* (a)	2,494	223,537	<b>Beverages 0.3%</b>		
JOANN, Inc.	1,803	28,397	Celsius Holdings, Inc.*	6,987	531,641
Kirkland's, Inc.*	2,145	49,078	Coca-Cola Consolidated, Inc. (a)	724	291,142
Lazydays Holdings, Inc.*	1,141	25,102	MGP Ingredients, Inc. (a)	2,202	148,943
			National Beverage Corp. (a)	3,521	166,297

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)	
NewAge, Inc.*	20,525	45,771	<b>Household Products 0.3%</b>			
Primo Water Corp.	24,210	405,033		Central Garden & Pet Co.* (a)	1,483	78,495
The Duckhorn Portfolio, Inc.*	3,138	69,224		Central Garden & Pet Co. "A"* (a)	6,167	297,866
		<b>1,658,051</b>	Energizer Holdings, Inc.	10,477	450,301	
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 0.8%</b>			Oil-Dri Corp. of America	876	29,942	
BJ's Wholesale Club Holdings, Inc.* (a)	21,067	1,002,368	WD-40 Co. (a)	2,100	538,209	
HF Foods Group, Inc.*	5,299	28,032			<b>1,394,813</b>	
Ingles Markets, Inc. "A" (a)	2,091	121,843	<b>Personal Products 0.5%</b>			
MedAvail Holdings, Inc.*	1,808	22,148	BellRing Brands, Inc. "A"*	6,123	191,895	
Natural Grocers by Vitamin Cottage, Inc.	1,516	16,282	Edgewell Personal Care Co. (a)	8,355	366,785	
Performance Food Group Co.*	20,277	983,232	elf Beauty, Inc.* (a)	6,984	189,546	
PriceSmart, Inc.	3,547	322,812	Inter Parfums, Inc. (a)	2,805	201,960	
Rite Aid Corp.* (a)	8,323	135,665	Medifast, Inc.	1,781	503,987	
SpartanNash Co.	5,715	110,357	Nature's Sunshine Products, Inc.	1,954	33,941	
Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc.*	18,263	453,835	Nu Skin Enterprises, Inc. "A"	7,640	432,806	
The Andersons, Inc.	4,695	143,338	Revlon, Inc. "A"*	1,271	16,320	
The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc.* (a)	4,817	153,325	The Beauty Health Co.*	7,136	119,885	
United Natural Foods, Inc.* (a)	8,579	317,251	The Honest Co., Inc.* (a)	3,822	61,878	
Village Super Market, Inc. "A"	1,112	26,143	USANA Health Sciences, Inc.* (a)	1,952	199,943	
Weis Markets, Inc. (a)	2,548	131,630	Veru, Inc.* (a)	10,144	81,862	
		<b>3,968,261</b>			<b>2,400,808</b>	
<b>Food Products 1.0%</b>			<b>Tobacco 0.2%</b>			
AppHarvest, Inc.*	7,366	117,856	22nd Century Group, Inc.* (a)	23,177	107,310	
B&G Foods, Inc. (a)	9,862	323,474	Turning Point Brands, Inc.	2,242	102,616	
Calavo Growers, Inc.	2,600	164,892	Universal Corp. (a)	3,755	213,923	
Cal-Maine Foods, Inc. (a)	5,501	199,191	Vector Group Ltd. (a)	21,738	307,375	
Fresh Del Monte Produce, Inc.	5,166	169,858			<b>731,224</b>	
Hostess Brands, Inc.* (a)	20,413	330,486	<b>Energy 4.2%</b>			
J & J Snack Foods Corp. (a)	2,269	395,736	<b>Energy Equipment &amp; Services 0.9%</b>			
John B. Sanfilippo & Son, Inc.	1,320	116,912	Archrock, Inc. (a)	20,442	182,138	
Laird Superfood, Inc.*	947	28,287	Aspen Aerogels, Inc.* (a)	3,271	97,868	
Lancaster Colony Corp. (a)	2,919	564,856	Bristow Group, Inc.*	1,144	29,298	
Landec Corp.*	3,778	42,503	Cactus, Inc. "A" (a)	8,414	308,962	
Limoneira Co.	2,398	42,085	ChampionX Corp.* (a)	31,177	799,690	
Mission Produce, Inc.* (a)	5,709	118,233	DMC Global, Inc.* (a)	2,865	161,042	
Sanderson Farms, Inc.	3,123	587,030	Dril-Quip, Inc.* (a)	5,357	181,227	
Seneca Foods Corp. "A"*	1,003	51,233	Frank's International NV* (a)	24,503	74,244	
Simply Good Foods Co.*	13,085	477,733	FTS International, Inc. "A"*	1,373	38,842	
Tattooed Chef, Inc.* (a)	7,188	154,183	Helix Energy Solutions Group, Inc.*	22,524	128,612	
Tootsie Roll Industries, Inc. (a)	2,252	76,365	Helmerich & Payne, Inc.	16,249	530,205	
TreeHouse Foods, Inc.*	7,999	356,116	Liberty Oilfield Services, Inc. "A"*	13,431	190,183	
Utz Brands, Inc.	9,060	197,417	Nabors Industries Ltd.*	1,047	119,609	
Vital Farms, Inc.* (a)	3,928	78,403	National Energy Services Reunited Corp.* (a)	4,622	65,863	
Whole Earth Brands, Inc.*	5,755	83,448	Newpark Resources, Inc.*	13,210	45,707	
		<b>4,676,297</b>				

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
NexTier Oilfield Solutions, Inc.*	25,809	122,851	Gevo, Inc.* (a)	29,928	217,577
Oceaneering International, Inc.*	15,341	238,859	Golar LNG Ltd.* (a)	15,740	208,555
Oil States International, Inc.* (a)	9,159	71,898	Green Plains, Inc.* (a)	6,577	221,119
Patterson-UTI Energy, Inc. (a)	28,601	284,294	HighPeak Energy, Inc.*	1,035	10,588
ProPetro Holding Corp.*	12,735	116,653	International Seaways, Inc. (a)	3,702	71,004
RPC, Inc.*	10,769	53,307	Kosmos Energy Ltd.*	62,131	214,973
Select Energy Services, Inc. "A"*	8,541	51,588	Laredo Petroleum, Inc.*	1,935	179,549
Solaris Oilfield Infrastructure, Inc. "A"	4,525	44,073	Magnolia Oil & Gas Corp. "A"*	21,381	334,185
TETRA Technologies, Inc.* (a)	18,938	82,191	Matador Resources Co. (a)	17,011	612,566
Tidewater, Inc.*	6,541	78,819	Meta Materials, Inc.*	9,452	70,792
U.S. Silica Holdings, Inc.*	11,041	127,634	Murphy Oil Corp.	22,526	524,405
		<b>4,225,657</b>	Nordic American Tankers Ltd. (a)	23,205	76,112
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 3.3%</b>			Northern Oil and Gas, Inc.	7,352	152,701
Aemetis, Inc.*	3,533	39,464	Oasis Petroleum, Inc.	3,102	311,906
Alto Ingredients, Inc.*	10,918	66,709	Ovintiv, Inc.	40,283	1,267,706
Altus Midstream Co. "A"	497	33,553	Par Pacific Holdings, Inc.*	6,929	116,546
Antero Resources Corp.* (a)	43,967	660,824	PBF Energy, Inc. "A"*	14,796	226,379
Arch Resources, Inc.* (a)	2,241	127,692	PDC Energy, Inc.	15,270	699,213
Berry Corp. (a)	10,275	69,048	Peabody Energy Corp.* (a)	11,159	88,491
Bonanza Creek Energy, Inc. (a)	4,740	223,112	Penn Virginia Corp.*	2,310	54,539
Brigham Minerals, Inc. "A" (a)	6,855	145,943	Range Resources Corp.* (a)	36,736	615,695
California Resources Corp.*	12,918	389,349	Renewable Energy Group, Inc.*	6,935	432,328
Callon Petroleum Co.*	6,133	353,813	REX American Resources Corp.* (a)	859	77,465
Centennial Resource Development, Inc. "A"* (a)	27,810	188,552	Riley Exploration Permian, Inc.	352	10,201
Centrus Energy Corp. "A"*	1,450	36,801	Scorpio Tankers, Inc. (a)	7,493	165,221
Chesapeake Energy Corp.	15,179	788,094	SFL Corp. Ltd.	16,334	124,955
Clean Energy Fuels Corp.*	21,693	220,184	SM Energy Co.	17,917	441,296
CNX Resources Corp.* (a)	33,618	459,222	Southwestern Energy Co.* (a)	104,042	589,918
Comstock Resources, Inc.* (a)	14,081	93,920	Talos Energy, Inc.*	5,678	88,804
CONSOL Energy, Inc.*	5,268	97,300	Teekay Corp.*	10,677	39,718
Contango Oil & Gas Co.* (a)	22,542	97,381	Teekay Tankers Ltd. "A"* (a)	3,658	52,748
CVR Energy, Inc. (a)	4,770	85,669	Tellurian, Inc.* (a)	48,693	226,422
Delek U.S. Holdings, Inc.	10,070	217,713	Uranium Energy Corp.* (a)	33,838	90,009
Denbury, Inc.*	7,752	595,199	Ur-Energy, Inc.*	27,710	38,794
DHT Holdings, Inc. (a)	22,264	144,493	Vine Energy, Inc. "A"*	3,182	49,607
Diamond S Shipping, Inc.*	5,231	52,101	W&T Offshore, Inc.*	13,889	67,362
Dorian LPG Ltd.*	4,570	64,528	Whiting Petroleum Corp.*	6,055	330,300
Earthstone Energy, Inc. "A"*	3,555	39,354	World Fuel Services Corp.	9,551	303,053
Energy Fuels, Inc.* (a)	22,356	135,254			<b>15,687,200</b>
Equitrans Midstream Corp.	62,859	534,930	<b>Financials 14.5%</b>		
Extraction Oil & Gas, Inc.*	2,401	131,839	<b>Banks 7.6%</b>		
Falcon Minerals Corp.	6,307	32,040	1st Source Corp.	2,629	122,143
Frontline Ltd. (a)	17,813	160,317	Allegiance Bancshares, Inc.	2,840	109,170
			Altabancorp.	2,774	120,142
			Amalgamated Financial Corp.	1,860	29,072
			Amerant Bancorp, Inc.* (a)	3,132	66,962

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
American National Bankshares, Inc.	1,579	49,091	CrossFirst Bankshares, Inc.* (a)	7,492	103,015
Ameris Bancorp.	10,211	516,983	Customers Bancorp., Inc.*	4,574	178,340
Arrow Financial Corp.	1,933	69,491	CVB Financial Corp.	19,900	409,741
Associated Banc-Corp	23,416	479,560	Dime Community Bancshares, Inc.	5,409	181,851
Atlantic Capital Bankshares, Inc.* (a)	2,911	74,114	Eagle Bancorp., Inc.	4,889	274,175
Atlantic Union Bankshares Corp.	12,135	439,530	Eastern Bankshares, Inc.	26,608	547,327
Banc of California, Inc. (a)	7,191	126,130	Enterprise Bancorp., Inc.	1,527	50,009
BancFirst Corp.	2,639	164,753	Enterprise Financial Services Corp. (a)	4,464	207,085
BancorpSouth Bank	15,557	440,730	Equity Bancshares, Inc. "A"*	2,118	64,578
Bank First Corp. (a)	968	67,537	Farmers National Banc Corp.	3,761	58,333
Bank of Marin Bancorp.	2,055	65,555	FB Financial Corp. (a)	5,112	190,780
Bank of NT Butterfield & Son Ltd.	7,679	272,221	Fidelity D&D Bancorp, Inc.	606	32,785
BankUnited, Inc.	14,316	611,150	Financial Institutions, Inc. (a)	2,266	67,980
Banner Corp.	5,368	290,999	First BanCorp. (a)	33,136	394,981
Bar Harbor Bankshares	2,246	64,281	First BanCorp. - North Carolina (a)	4,221	172,681
Berkshire Hills Bancorp., Inc.	7,854	215,278	First Bancorp., Inc.	1,499	44,146
Blue Ridge Bankshares, Inc. (a)	2,701	47,322	First Bancshares, Inc. (a)	2,996	112,140
Boston Private Financial Holdings, Inc.	12,482	184,109	First Bank	2,061	27,906
Brookline Bancorp., Inc. (a)	11,891	177,770	First Busey Corp.	7,787	192,027
Bryn Mawr Bank Corp. (a)	3,112	131,295	First Choice Bancorp.	1,458	44,396
Business First Bancshares, Inc. (a)	3,086	70,824	First Commonwealth Financial Corp.	14,640	205,985
Byline Bancorp., Inc. (a)	3,729	84,387	First Community Bancshares, Inc. (a)	2,637	78,714
Cadence BanCorp.	18,913	394,903	First Financial Bancorp. (a)	14,875	351,496
Cambridge Bancorp. (a)	1,049	87,057	First Financial Bankshares, Inc. (a)	19,951	980,193
Camden National Corp.	2,310	110,326	First Financial Corp.	1,803	73,598
Capital Bancorp., Inc.*	1,139	23,293	First Foundation, Inc. (a)	6,271	141,160
Capital City Bank Group, Inc.	1,984	51,167	First Internet Bancorp.	1,408	43,620
Capstar Financial Holdings, Inc. (a)	3,154	64,657	First Interstate BancSystem, Inc. "A" (a)	6,185	258,719
Carter Bankshares, Inc.*	4,127	51,629	First Merchants Corp. (a)	8,339	347,486
Cathay General Bancorp.	11,829	465,589	First Mid-Illinois Bancshares, Inc. (a)	2,576	104,354
CBTX, Inc.	2,740	74,829	First Midwest Bancorp., Inc.	17,598	348,968
Central Pacific Financial Corp.	4,254	110,859	First of Long Island Corp. (a)	3,509	74,496
Century Bancorp., Inc. "A"	454	51,756	Five Star Bancorp.*	828	19,996
CIT Group, Inc.	15,259	787,212	Flushing Financial Corp.	4,317	92,513
Citizens & Northern Corp.	2,252	55,174	Fulton Financial Corp.	24,559	387,541
City Holding Co.	2,357	177,341	German American Bancorp., Inc.	3,720	138,384
Civista Bancshares, Inc.	2,320	51,272	Glacier Bancorp., Inc. (a)	14,725	811,053
CNB Financial Corp.	2,633	60,085	Great Southern Bancorp., Inc.	1,572	84,731
Coastal Financial Corp.*	1,361	38,870	Great Western Bancorp., Inc.	8,531	279,731
Columbia Banking System, Inc. (a)	11,078	427,168	Guaranty Bancshares, Inc.	1,115	37,988
Community Bank System, Inc.	8,233	622,826	Hancock Whitney Corp.	13,302	591,141
Community Trust Bancorp., Inc.	2,422	97,800	Hanmi Financial Corp.	4,922	93,813
ConnectOne Bancorp., Inc.	5,585	146,159			

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

	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>		<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
HarborOne Bancorp, Inc. (a)	7,619	109,256	Peoples Financial Services Corp.	1,001	42,643
Hawthorn Bancshares, Inc.	39	898	Preferred Bank (a)	2,076	131,349
HBT Financial, Inc.	1,633	28,431	Premier Financial Bancorp., Inc.	1,693	28,527
Heartland Financial U.S.A., Inc. (a)	6,238	293,124	Primis Financial Corp.	4,004	61,101
Heritage Commerce Corp. (a)	9,092	101,194	QCR Holdings, Inc. (a)	2,337	112,386
Heritage Financial Corp. (a)	5,418	135,558	RBB Bancorp. (a)	2,025	49,046
Hilltop Holdings, Inc. (a)	9,936	361,670	Red River Bancshares, Inc.	726	36,670
Home Bancshares, Inc. (a)	23,437	578,425	Reliant Bancorp., Inc. (a)	2,494	69,159
HomeTrust Bancshares, Inc.	2,310	64,449	Renasant Corp.	8,524	340,960
Hope Bancorp., Inc.	18,325	259,848	Republic Bancorp., Inc. "A" (a)	1,528	70,487
Horizon Bancorp, Inc.	6,756	117,757	Republic First Bancorp., Inc.*	7,485	29,865
Howard Bancorp., Inc.*	1,839	29,663	S&T Bancorp., Inc.	5,917	185,202
Independent Bank Corp. (a)	5,074	383,087	Sandy Spring Bancorp., Inc.	7,154	315,706
Independent Bank Corp./Michigan (a)	3,251	70,579	Seacoast Banking Corp. of Florida	8,358	285,426
Independent Bank Group, Inc. (a)	5,788	428,196	ServisFirst Bancshares, Inc. (a)	7,671	521,475
International Bancshares Corp.	8,276	355,371	Sierra Bancorp. (a)	2,103	53,521
Investors Bancorp., Inc. (a)	35,261	502,822	Silvergate Capital Corp. "A"*	3,517	398,546
Lakeland Bancorp., Inc.	7,752	135,505	Simmons First National Corp. "A"	16,528	484,932
Lakeland Financial Corp.	3,679	226,774	SmartFinancial, Inc.	1,986	47,684
Live Oak Bancshares, Inc. (a)	4,842	285,678	South Plains Financial, Inc.	1,510	34,926
Macatawa Bank Corp.	4,472	39,130	South State Corp. (a)	10,893	890,612
Mercantile Bank Corp.	2,444	73,809	Southern First Bancshares, Inc.*	1,055	53,974
Metrocity Bankshares, Inc.	3,075	53,843	Southside Bancshares, Inc.	4,831	184,689
Metropolitan Bank Holding Corp.* (a)	1,137	68,470	Spirit of Texas Bancshares, Inc.	1,968	44,949
Mid Penn Bancorp, Inc.	1,538	42,218	Stock Yards Bancorp., Inc.	3,081	156,792
Midland States Bancorp., Inc. (a)	3,289	86,402	Summit Financial Group, Inc.	1,854	40,807
MidWestOne Financial Group, Inc.	2,243	64,531	Texas Capital Bancshares, Inc.*	7,793	494,778
MVB Financial Corp. (a)	1,471	62,753	The Bancorp, Inc.*	7,905	181,894
National Bank Holdings Corp. "A"	4,512	170,283	Tompkins Financial Corp. (a)	2,253	174,743
NBT Bancorp., Inc.	6,526	234,740	TowneBank	10,393	316,155
Nicolet Bankshares, Inc.* (a)	1,338	94,115	TriCo Bancshares	4,279	182,200
Northrim BanCorp., Inc.	890	38,048	TriState Capital Holdings, Inc.*	4,412	89,961
OceanFirst Financial Corp.	9,047	188,539	Triumph Bancorp., Inc.*	3,655	271,384
OFG Bancorp.	7,707	170,479	Trustmark Corp. (a)	9,745	300,146
Old National Bancorp. (a)	25,537	449,707	UMB Financial Corp.	6,730	626,294
Old Second Bancorp., Inc.	4,268	52,923	United Bankshares, Inc. (a)	19,221	701,566
Origin Bancorp, Inc. (a)	3,436	145,893	United Community Banks, Inc.	13,399	428,902
Orrstown Financial Services, Inc.	1,832	42,264	Univest Financial Corp.	4,557	120,168
Pacific Premier Bancorp., Inc.	14,405	609,187	Valley National Bancorp.	61,657	828,054
Park National Corp. (a)	2,187	256,798	Veritex Holdings, Inc.	7,325	259,378
Peapack-Gladstone Financial Corp. (a)	2,903	90,196	Washington Trust Bancorp., Inc.	2,543	130,583
Peoples Bancorp., Inc. (a)	2,678	79,322	WesBanco, Inc.	10,076	359,008

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	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
West BanCorp, Inc.	2,316	64,269	Green Dot Corp. "A"*	8,255	386,747
Westamerica BanCorp. (a)	4,014	232,932	LendingClub Corp.*	14,824	268,759
		<b>35,956,311</b>	LendingTree, Inc.* (a)	1,786	378,418
<b>Capital Markets 1.5%</b>			Navient Corp.	27,103	523,901
Artisan Partners Asset Management, Inc. "A" (a)	9,004	457,583	Nelnet, Inc. "A"	2,611	196,425
AssetMark Financial Holdings, Inc.*	2,837	71,095	Oportun Financial Corp.*	3,124	62,574
Associated Capital Group, Inc. "A"	276	10,725	PRA Group, Inc.*	6,976	268,367
B. Riley Financial, Inc.	3,005	226,877	PROG Holdings, Inc. Regional Management Corp. (a)	1,265	58,873
BGC Partners, Inc. "A"	51,486	291,926	World Acceptance Corp.* (a)	699	112,008
Blucora, Inc.*	7,634	132,145			<b>3,774,322</b>
Brightsphere Investment Group, Inc.	8,890	208,293	<b>Diversified Financial Services 0.1%</b>		
Cohen & Steers, Inc. (a)	3,788	310,957	Alerus Financial Corp.	2,359	68,435
Cowen, Inc. "A"	4,010	164,610	A-Mark Precious Metals, Inc.	1,346	62,589
Diamond Hill Investment Group, Inc. (a)	476	79,640	Banco Latinoamericano de Comercio Exterior SA "E"	4,821	74,099
Donnelley Financial Solutions, Inc.*	4,393	144,969	Cannae Holdings, Inc.*	13,374	453,512
Federated Hermes, Inc. (a)	14,540	493,051	Marlin Business Services Corp.	1,215	27,653
Focus Financial Partners, Inc. "A"* (a)	7,934	384,799			<b>686,288</b>
GAMCO Investors, Inc. "A"	957	24,021	<b>Insurance 1.8%</b>		
GCM Grosvenor, Inc. "A"	4,987	51,965	Ambac Financial Group, Inc.*	7,245	113,457
Greenhill & Co., Inc.	2,454	38,184	American Equity Investment Life Holding Co.	13,128	424,297
Hamilton Lane, Inc. "A" (a)	5,272	480,385	American National Group, Inc.	1,148	170,535
Houlihan Lokey, Inc. (a)	7,971	651,948	AMERISAFE, Inc.	2,944	175,727
Moelis & Co. "A" (a)	9,385	533,913	Argo Group International Holdings Ltd.	4,885	253,190
Open Lending Corp. "A"*	16,023	690,431	BRP Group, Inc. "A"* (a)	7,141	190,308
Oppenheimer Holdings, Inc. "A"	1,444	73,413	Citizens, Inc.* (a)	7,521	39,786
Piper Sandler Companies (a)	2,716	351,885	CNO Financial Group, Inc.	20,216	477,502
PJT Partners, Inc. "A"	3,745	267,318	Crawford & Co. "A"	2,763	25,060
Pzena Investment Management, Inc. "A"	2,173	23,925	Donegal Group, Inc. "A"	2,546	37,095
Sculptor Capital Management, Inc.	3,497	85,991	eHealth, Inc.*	3,751	219,058
StepStone Group, Inc. "A"	5,720	196,768	Employers Holdings, Inc.	4,341	185,795
StoneX Group, Inc.*	2,514	152,524	Enstar Group Ltd.* (a)	2,114	505,077
Value Line, Inc.	187	5,797	Genworth Financial, Inc. "A"*	77,945	303,986
Virtus Investment Partners, Inc.	1,119	310,825	Goosehead Insurance, Inc. "A"	2,721	346,383
WisdomTree Investments, Inc. (a)	20,907	129,623	Greenlight Capital Re Ltd. "A"*	3,838	35,041
		<b>7,045,586</b>	HCI Group, Inc. (a)	869	86,405
<b>Consumer Finance 0.8%</b>			Heritage Insurance Holdings, Inc.	3,614	31,008
Atlanticus Holdings Corp.*	764	30,331	Horace Mann Educators Corp. (a)	6,292	235,447
Curo Group Holdings Corp.	3,151	53,567	Independence Holding Co.	589	27,282
Encore Capital Group, Inc.* (a)	4,750	225,102	Investors Title Co.	183	31,957
Enova International, Inc.* (a)	5,574	190,687	James River Group Holdings Ltd.	5,512	206,810
EZCORP, Inc. "A"*	8,138	49,072			
FirstCash, Inc.	6,187	472,934			

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	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Kinsale Capital Group, Inc. (a)	3,304	544,400	Invesco Mortgage Capital, Inc. (a)	38,689	150,887
Maiden Holdings, Ltd.*	10,666	35,944	KKR Real Estate Finance Trust, Inc.	4,955	107,177
MBA, Inc.* (a)	7,025	77,275	Ladder Capital Corp.	17,849	205,977
MetroMile, Inc.*	5,670	51,881	MFA Financial, Inc.	67,978	312,019
National Western Life Group, Inc. "A" (a)	401	89,980	New York Mortgage Trust, Inc.	58,223	260,257
NI Holdings, Inc.*	1,077	20,474	Orchid Island Capital, Inc. (a)	14,096	73,158
Palomar Holdings, Inc.*	3,776	284,937	PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust	15,045	316,848
ProAssurance Corp. (a)	8,202	186,596	Ready Capital Corp. (a)	8,670	137,593
ProSight Global, Inc.*	1,658	21,156	Redwood Trust, Inc.	17,128	206,735
RLI Corp. (a)	6,148	643,019	TPG RE Finance Trust, Inc.	9,450	127,103
Safety Insurance Group, Inc.	2,166	169,554	Two Harbors Investment Corp. (a)	42,042	317,838
Selective Insurance Group, Inc.	9,139	741,630			<b>5,824,963</b>
Selectquote, Inc.* (a)	20,449	393,848	<b>Thriffs &amp; Mortgage Finance 1.5%</b>		
SiriusPoint Ltd.*	13,573	136,680	Axos Financial, Inc.* (a)	8,769	406,794
State Auto Financial Corp.	2,693	46,104	Bridgewater Bancshares, Inc.*	3,349	54,086
Stewart Information Services Corp.	4,165	236,114	Capitol Federal Financial, Inc.	20,080	236,542
Tiptree, Inc.	3,292	30,616	Columbia Financial, Inc.* (a)	6,170	106,247
Trean Insurance Group, Inc.*	2,703	40,761	Essent Group Ltd.	17,017	764,914
Trupanion, Inc.*	5,868	675,407	Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corp. "C"	1,360	134,504
United Fire Group, Inc.	3,279	90,927	Finance of America Companies, Inc. "A"*	5,059	38,600
United Insurance Holdings Corp.	3,590	20,463	Flagstar Bancorp., Inc.	8,023	339,132
Universal Insurance Holdings, Inc. (a)	4,357	60,475	FS Bancorp, Inc.	624	44,473
Watford Holdings Ltd.*	2,809	98,287	Hingham Institution For Savings	237	68,849
		<b>8,817,734</b>	Home Bancorp., Inc.	1,080	41,159
<b>Mortgage Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) 1.2%</b>			Home Point Capital, Inc.*	1,180	6,997
AFC Gamma, Inc.	1,108	22,880	HomeStreet, Inc.	3,121	127,150
Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc.	21,512	343,116	Kearny Financial Corp.	11,127	132,968
Arbor Realty Trust, Inc. (a)	19,529	348,007	Luther Burbank Corp.	2,316	27,468
Ares Commercial Real Estate Corp.	5,755	84,541	Merchants Bancorp.	1,610	63,176
ARMOUR Residential REIT, Inc. (a)	11,083	126,568	Meridian Bancorp., Inc.	7,403	151,465
Blackstone Mortgage Trust, Inc. "A"	21,232	677,088	Meta Financial Group, Inc.	4,813	243,682
BrightSpire Capital, Inc. (a)	13,242	124,475	Mr Cooper Group, Inc.* (a)	10,887	359,924
Broadmark Realty Capital, Inc.	19,670	208,305	NMI Holdings, Inc. "A"* (a)	12,789	287,497
Capstead Mortgage Corp.	14,921	91,615	Northfield Bancorp., Inc.	6,945	113,898
Chimera Investment Corp.	35,364	532,582	Northwest Bancshares, Inc.	18,898	257,769
Dynex Capital, Inc.	4,734	88,336	Ocwen Financial Corp.*	1,261	39,066
Ellington Financial, Inc.	6,493	124,341	PCSB Financial Corp.	2,106	38,266
Granite Point Mortgage Trust, Inc.	8,706	128,413	PennyMac Financial Services, Inc.	5,427	334,954
Great Ajax Corp.	3,611	46,871	Pioneer Bancorp., Inc.*	1,979	23,788
Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc. (a)	11,794	662,233	Premier Financial Corp. (a)	5,607	159,295
			Provident Bancorp, Inc.	2,529	41,248
			Provident Financial Services, Inc.	11,837	270,949
			Radian Group, Inc.	29,569	657,910

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Southern Missouri Bancorp., Inc.	1,107	49,771	Applied Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	2,831	58,828
TrustCo Bank Corp. NY (a)	3,010	103,484	AquaBounty Technologies, Inc.*	8,030	43,041
Velocity Financial, Inc.*	1,318	16,462	Arbutus Biopharma Corp.*	11,933	36,157
Walker & Dunlop, Inc.	4,451	464,595	Arcturus Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.* (a)	3,239	109,608
Washington Federal, Inc.	11,147	354,252	Arcus Biosciences, Inc.*	6,759	185,602
Waterstone Financial, Inc.	3,353	65,920	Arcutis Biotherapeutics, Inc.* (a)	4,241	115,737
WSFS Financial Corp.	7,226	336,659	Ardelyx, Inc.*	12,958	98,222
		<b>6,963,913</b>	Arena Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	9,457	644,967
<b>Health Care 20.7%</b>			Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	15,569	1,289,425
<b>Biotechnology 10.0%</b>			Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc.*	12,831	199,522
4D Molecular Therapeutics, Inc.*	1,696	40,840	Athenex, Inc.* (a)	13,245	61,192
89bio, Inc.*	1,368	25,582	Athersys, Inc.* (a)	33,481	48,213
ACADIA Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	18,380	448,288	Atossa Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	17,955	113,476
Adicet Bio, Inc.*	3,171	32,630	Atreca, Inc. "A" (a)	3,654	31,132
Aduro Biotech Holding Europe BV (b)	2,328	0	Avid Bioservices, Inc.* (a)	9,264	237,622
Adverum Biotechnologies, Inc.* (a)	14,257	49,899	Avidity Biosciences, Inc.* (a)	4,584	113,271
Aeglea BioTherapeutics, Inc.*	5,803	40,389	Avita Medical, Inc.*	3,660	75,103
Affimed NV*	18,122	154,037	AvroBio, Inc.*	5,779	51,375
Agenus, Inc.* (a)	30,267	166,166	Beam Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	7,215	928,643
Agios Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	9,460	521,341	Beyondspring, Inc.*	3,153	32,917
Akebia Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	23,330	88,421	BioAtla, Inc.* (a)	1,895	80,310
Akero Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	3,939	97,727	BioCryst Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	27,301	431,629
Akouos, Inc.* (a)	4,010	50,325	Biohaven Pharmaceutical Holding Co., Ltd.*	8,299	805,667
Albireo Pharma, Inc.* (a)	2,658	93,508	Biomea Fusion, Inc.*	1,320	20,605
Aldeyra Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	7,426	84,137	Bioxcel Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	2,344	68,117
Alector, Inc.*	8,845	184,241	Black Diamond Therapeutics, Inc.*	3,653	44,530
Aligos Therapeutics, Inc.*	2,874	58,586	Bluebird Bio, Inc.*	10,373	331,729
Alkermes PLC*	24,628	603,879	Blueprint Medicines Corp.* (a)	8,994	791,112
Allakos, Inc.* (a)	5,362	457,754	Bolt Biotherapeutics, Inc.*	1,493	23,082
Allogene Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	10,434	272,119	BridgeBio Pharma, Inc.* (a)	16,535	1,007,974
Allovir, Inc.* (a)	4,336	85,593	Brooklyn ImmunoTherapeutics, Inc.*	3,633	65,430
Alpine Immune Sciences, Inc.*	1,727	15,543	C4 Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	5,283	199,909
Altimmune, Inc.* (a)	4,979	49,043	Cardiff Oncology, Inc.*	5,505	36,608
ALX Oncology Holdings, Inc.* (a)	2,798	152,995	CareDx, Inc.*	7,680	702,874
Amicus Therapeutics, Inc.*	40,187	387,403	Catalyst Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	15,196	87,377
AnaptysBio, Inc.* (a)	2,936	76,130	Celcuity, Inc.*	1,210	29,040
Anavex Life Sciences Corp.* (a)	9,526	217,764	CellDex Therapeutics, Inc.*	6,013	201,075
Anika Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	2,197	95,108	CELSCI Corp* (a)	5,598	48,591
Annexon, Inc.* (a)	4,786	107,733	Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.*	5,389	138,066
Apellis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	9,974	630,357	ChemoCentryx, Inc.* (a)	8,655	115,890
Applied Molecular Transport, Inc.* (a)	3,792	173,446	Chimerix, Inc.*	11,169	89,352

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



	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>		<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Chinook Therapeutics, Inc.*	4,816	68,002	Geron Corp.* (a)	46,692	65,836
Clene Inc.*	3,513	39,486	Global Blood Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	9,182	321,554
Clovis Oncology, Inc.* (a)	15,308	88,786	Gossamer Bio, Inc.* (a)	9,395	76,287
Codiak Biosciences, Inc.*	2,408	44,620	Greenwich Lifesciences, Inc.*	614	27,593
Cogent Biosciences, Inc.* (a)	5,680	46,065	Gritstone bio, Inc.*	6,179	56,414
Coherus Biosciences, Inc.* (a)	10,121	139,973	GT Biopharma, Inc.*	3,671	56,900
Constellation Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	5,572	188,334	Halozyme Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	21,633	982,355
Cortexyme, Inc.* (a)	3,063	162,339	Harpoon Therapeutics, Inc.*	2,916	40,445
Crinetics Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	5,591	105,390	Heron Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	13,963	216,706
Cue Biopharma, Inc.* (a)	4,881	56,864	Homology Medicines, Inc.*	6,738	48,985
Cullinan Oncology, Inc.* (a)	2,147	55,285	Hookipa Pharma, Inc.*	3,395	31,098
Curis, Inc.* (a)	13,236	106,815	Humanigen, Inc.*	6,874	119,470
Cytokinetics, Inc.* (a)	10,644	210,645	iBio, Inc.* (a)	34,708	52,409
CytomX Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	10,055	63,648	Ideaya Biosciences, Inc.* (a)	4,299	90,236
Deciphera Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	5,918	216,658	IGM Biosciences, Inc.* (a)	1,223	101,754
Denali Therapeutics, Inc.*	13,975	1,096,199	Immunic, Inc.*	2,355	28,872
DermTech, Inc.* (a)	3,638	151,232	ImmunityBio, Inc.*	10,244	146,284
Design Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	2,065	41,073	ImmunoGen, Inc.* (a)	30,693	202,267
Dicerna Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	10,527	392,868	Immunovant, Inc.* (a)	6,133	64,826
Dynavax Technologies Corp.* (a)	17,049	167,933	Impel Neuropharma, Inc.*	1,223	10,824
Dyne Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	4,605	96,889	Infinity Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	13,364	39,958
Eagle Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	1,677	71,776	Inhibrx, Inc.* (a)	4,285	117,923
Editas Medicine, Inc.* (a)	10,424	590,415	Inovio Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	31,757	294,387
Eiger BioPharmaceuticals, Inc.*	5,072	43,213	Inozyme Pharma, Inc.*	1,975	33,654
Emergent BioSolutions, Inc.* (a)	7,529	474,252	Insmed, Inc.*	15,850	451,091
Enanta Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	2,860	125,869	Instil Bio, Inc.* (a)	2,660	51,391
Epizyme, Inc.* (a)	13,419	111,512	Intellia Therapeutics, Inc.*	9,811	1,588,499
Esperion Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	4,147	87,709	Intercept Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	4,176	83,395
Evelo Biosciences, Inc.* (a)	4,653	63,932	Invitae Corp.* (a)	30,781	1,038,243
Fate Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	12,338	1,070,815	Ironwood Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	22,275	286,679
FibroGen, Inc.*	13,123	349,465	iTeos Therapeutics, Inc.*	3,222	82,644
Finch Therapeutics Group, Inc.*	1,151	16,195	IVERIC bio, Inc.* (a)	14,501	91,501
Flexion Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	7,097	58,408	Jounce Therapeutics, Inc.*	5,032	34,218
Foghorn Therapeutics, Inc.*	2,986	31,861	Kadmon Holdings, Inc.*	27,290	105,612
Forma Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.* (a)	4,830	120,219	KalVista Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	3,116	74,659
Forte Biosciences, Inc.*	1,729	58,129	Karuna Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	3,409	388,592
Fortress Biotech, Inc.*	10,826	38,649	Karyopharm Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	11,474	118,412
Frequency Therapeutics, Inc.*	5,090	50,696	Keros Therapeutics, Inc.*	2,392	101,588
G1 Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	6,012	131,903	Kezar Life Sciences, Inc.*	4,843	26,297
Gemini Therapeutics, Inc.*	3,333	21,564	Kiniksa Pharmaceuticals Ltd. "A"*	4,174	58,144
Generation Bio Co.* (a)	6,852	184,319	Kinnate Biopharma, Inc.* (a)	2,212	51,495
			Kodiak Sciences, Inc.* (a)	5,141	478,113
			Kronos Bio, Inc.* (a)	5,952	142,550

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

	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>		<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Krystal Biotech, Inc.* (a)	2,747	186,796	Prelude Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	1,618	46,323
Kura Oncology, Inc.*	9,577	199,680	Prometheus Biosciences, Inc.*	1,734	42,587
Kymera Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	4,436	215,146	Protagonist Therapeutics, Inc.*	6,348	284,898
Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	10,380	47,644	Prothena Corp. PLC*	5,236	269,183
Ligand Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	2,314	303,574	PTC Therapeutics, Inc.*	10,662	450,683
Lineage Cell Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	18,562	52,902	Puma Biotechnology, Inc.*	4,810	44,156
MacroGenics, Inc.*	9,225	247,783	Radius Health, Inc.*	7,334	133,772
Madrigal Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	1,738	169,299	RAPT Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	2,758	87,677
Magenta Therapeutics, Inc.*	4,575	44,743	Recursion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. "A" (a)	3,240	118,260
MannKind Corp.* (a)	38,351	209,013	REGENXBIO, Inc.*	6,109	237,335
MEI Pharma, Inc.* (a)	15,242	43,440	Relay Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	8,988	328,871
MeiraGTx Holdings PLC* (a)	4,590	71,145	Reneo Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	1,096	10,226
Mersana Therapeutics, Inc.*	10,564	143,459	Replimune Group, Inc.*	4,104	157,676
MiMedx Group, Inc.* (a)	17,052	213,321	REVOLUTION Medicines, Inc.*	9,118	289,405
Mirum Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	287	4,962	Rhythm Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	6,753	132,224
Molecular Templates, Inc.*	5,730	44,809	Rigel Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	25,327	109,919
Morphic Holding, Inc.* (a)	3,186	182,845	Rocket Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	6,212	275,129
Mustang Bio, Inc.*	11,045	36,669	Rubius Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	6,913	168,746
Myriad Genetics, Inc.*	11,771	359,957	Sana Biotechnology, Inc.*	4,115	80,901
Neoleukin Therapeutics, Inc.*	5,089	46,971	Sangamo Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	18,442	220,751
NexImmune, Inc.*	1,044	17,038	Scholar Rock Holding Corp.* (a)	4,110	118,779
Nkarta, Inc.* (a)	2,156	68,324	Selecta Biosciences, Inc.* (a)	13,726	57,375
Nurix Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	4,806	127,503	Sensei Biotherapeutics, Inc.*	1,245	12,151
Ocugen, Inc.*	28,302	227,265	Seres Therapeutics, Inc.*	10,676	254,623
Olema Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	1,984	55,512	Sesen Bio, Inc.*	26,218	121,127
Oncocyte Corp.*	10,247	58,818	Shattuck Labs, Inc.* (a)	4,078	118,221
Oncorus, Inc.*	3,123	43,097	Sigilon Therapeutics, Inc.*	1,254	13,455
Oncternal Therapeutics, Inc.*	6,739	32,010	Silverback Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	2,077	64,159
OPKO Health, Inc.* (a)	60,356	244,442	Solid Biosciences, Inc.*	9,102	33,313
Organogenesis Holdings, Inc.*	5,846	97,161	Sorrento Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	41,874	405,759
ORIC Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	4,513	79,835	Spectrum Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	24,947	93,551
Outlook Therapeutics, Inc.*	13,336	33,207	Spero Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	3,443	48,064
Oyster Point Pharma, Inc.*	1,696	29,154	SpringWorks Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	4,479	369,114
Passage Bio, Inc.*	5,678	75,177	Spruce Biosciences, Inc.*	1,143	12,813
PMV Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	4,022	137,392	SQZ Biotechnologies Co.*	3,478	50,257
Portage Biotech, Inc.*	548	11,486	Stoke Therapeutics, Inc.*	2,923	98,388
Poseida Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	4,323	43,316	Summit Therapeutics, Inc.*	3,405	25,401
Praxis Precision Medicines, Inc.* (a)	3,735	68,276	Surface Oncology, Inc.*	5,050	37,673
Precigen, Inc.* (a)	14,534	94,762			
Precision BioSciences, Inc.* (a)	7,154	89,568			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Sutro Biopharma, Inc.* (a)	6,637	123,382	Aspira Women's Health, Inc.* (a)	11,120	62,494
Syndax Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	6,894	118,370	AtriCure, Inc.*	6,877	545,552
Syros Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	9,617	52,413	Atrion Corp. (a)	210	130,395
Talaris Therapeutics, Inc.*	1,360	19,978	Avanos Medical, Inc.*	7,346	267,174
Taysha Gene Therapies, Inc.*	3,409	72,271	Axogen, Inc.* (a)	5,986	129,357
TCR2 Therapeutics, Inc.*	4,733	77,669	Axonics, Inc.* (a)	6,390	405,190
TG Therapeutics, Inc.*	19,780	767,266	BioLife Solutions, Inc.*	3,746	166,735
Tonix Pharmaceuticals Holding Corp.* (a)	50,002	55,502	Bioventus, Inc. "A"*	1,247	21,947
Translate Bio, Inc.* (a)	10,290	283,387	Butterfly Network, Inc.* (a)	4,990	72,255
Traverse Therapeutics, Inc.*	8,863	129,311	Cardiovascular Systems, Inc.* (a)	6,031	257,222
Trevena, Inc.*	25,031	42,302	Cerus Corp.*	26,241	155,084
Trillium Therapeutics, Inc.*	15,004	145,539	ClearPoint Neuro, Inc.*	2,881	54,998
Turning Point Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	7,059	550,743	CONMED Corp.	4,457	612,526
Twist Bioscience Corp.*	7,250	966,062	CryoLife, Inc.* (a)	5,766	163,754
UroGen Pharma Ltd.* (a)	3,025	46,192	CryoPort, Inc.*	6,232	393,239
Vanda Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	8,210	176,597	Cutera, Inc.* (a)	2,722	133,460
Vaxart, Inc.* (a)	18,328	137,277	CytoSorbents Corp.* (a)	6,431	48,554
Vaxcyte, Inc.* (a)	6,100	137,311	DarioHealth Corp.*	2,068	44,173
VBI Vaccines, Inc.* (a)	28,377	95,063	Eargo, Inc.*	2,962	118,213
Veracyte, Inc.*	10,356	414,033	Glaukos Corp.*	6,856	581,595
Verastem, Inc.* (a)	27,171	110,586	Haemonetics Corp.*	7,750	516,460
Vericel Corp.*	7,136	374,640	Heska Corp.*	1,470	337,703
Viking Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	10,059	60,253	Inari Medical, Inc.*	5,218	486,735
Vincerx Pharma, Inc.*	806	10,470	Inogen, Inc.*	2,986	194,598
Vir Biotechnology, Inc.* (a)	9,229	436,347	Integer Holdings Corp.* (a)	5,044	475,145
Viracta Therapeutics, Inc.*	5,563	63,084	Intersect ENT, Inc.* (a)	5,250	89,723
VistaGen Therapeutics, Inc.*	29,306	92,314	Invacare Corp.*	5,137	41,456
Vor BioPharma, Inc.*	1,862	34,726	iRadimed Corp.*	1,016	29,881
Werewolf Therapeutics, Inc.*	1,146	19,986	iRhythm Technologies, Inc.* (a)	4,477	297,049
XBiotech, Inc.*	2,119	35,091	Lantheus Holdings, Inc.*	10,285	284,277
Xencor, Inc.*	8,560	295,234	LeMaitre Vascular, Inc.	2,789	170,185
XOMA Corp.* (a)	1,030	35,020	LivaNova PLC*	7,545	634,610
Y-mAbs Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	5,362	181,236	Meridian Bioscience, Inc.* (a)	6,675	148,052
Zentalis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	5,103	271,480	Merit Medical Systems, Inc.*	7,874	509,133
ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc.* (a)	30,832	81,396	Mesa Laboratories, Inc.	763	206,903
		<b>47,367,146</b>	Misonix, Inc.*	1,979	43,894
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 3.6%</b>			Natus Medical, Inc.* (a)	5,043	131,017
Accelerate Diagnostics, Inc.*	5,301	42,726	Neogen Corp.*	16,503	759,798
Accuray, Inc.* (a)	14,218	64,265	Neuronetics, Inc.*	3,831	61,373
Acutus Medical, Inc.*	2,349	39,886	NeuroPace, Inc.*	1,062	25,265
Alphatec Holdings, Inc.*	10,554	161,687	Nevro Corp.* (a)	5,313	880,842
AngioDynamics, Inc.* (a)	5,773	156,622	NuVasive, Inc.*	7,952	538,987
Apyx Medical Corp.*	4,365	45,003	OraSure Technologies, Inc.* (a)	11,451	116,113
Asensus Surgical, Inc.* (a)	35,936	113,917	Ortho Clinical Diagnostics Holdings PLC*	13,581	290,769
			Orthofix Medical, Inc.* (a)	3,021	121,172
			OrthoPediatrics Corp.* (a)	2,118	133,815
			Outset Medical, Inc.* (a)	7,025	351,110
			PAVmed, Inc.* (a)	11,756	75,238
			Pulmonox Corp.*	3,897	171,936

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

	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>		<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Pulse Biosciences, Inc.* (a)	2,153	35,309	Hanger, Inc.*	5,604	141,669
Quotient Ltd.*	12,092	44,015	HealthEquity, Inc.* (a)	12,568	1,011,473
Retractable Technologies, Inc.* (a)	3,082	35,628	InfuSystems Holdings, Inc.*	2,777	57,734
SeaSpine Holdings Corp.*	4,869	99,863	Innovage Holding Corp.* (a)	2,834	60,393
Senseonics Holdings, Inc.* (a)	63,776	244,900	LHC Group, Inc.*	4,696	940,421
Shockwave Medical, Inc.*	5,183	983,371	Magellan Health, Inc.* (a)	3,642	343,076
SI-BONE, Inc.* (a)	4,922	154,895	MEDNAX, Inc.*	11,610	350,042
Sientra, Inc.* (a)	8,318	66,211	ModivCare, Inc.* (a)	1,893	321,943
Silk Road Medical, Inc.* (a)	5,206	249,159	National HealthCare Corp.	1,872	130,853
Soliton, Inc.*	1,565	35,197	National Research Corp. (a)	2,208	101,347
STAAR Surgical Co.* (a)	7,223	1,101,508	Ontrack, Inc.*	1,246	40,470
Stereotaxis, Inc.*	7,906	76,214	Option Care Health, Inc.*	17,020	372,227
Surmodics, Inc.*	2,093	113,545	Owens & Minor, Inc.	11,146	471,810
Tactile Systems Technology, Inc.* (a)	2,930	152,360	Patterson Companies, Inc. (a)	13,167	400,145
Talis Biomedical Corp.* (a)	2,153	23,748	PetIQ, Inc.* (a)	4,056	156,562
TransMedics Group, Inc.* (a)	4,014	133,185	Privia Health Group, Inc.*	3,027	134,308
Treace Medical Concepts, Inc.*	1,678	52,454	Progyny, Inc.* (a)	9,683	571,297
Utah Medical Products, Inc.	578	49,153	R1 RCM, Inc.*	20,307	451,628
Vapotherm, Inc.* (a)	3,510	82,976	RadNet, Inc.*	6,929	233,438
Varex Imaging Corp.*	6,034	161,832	Select Medical Holdings Corp. (a)	16,992	718,082
ViewRay, Inc.*	21,404	141,266	Sharps Compliance Corp.*	2,351	24,215
Zynex, Inc.* (a)	3,097	48,096	SOC Telemed, Inc.*	6,297	35,830
		<b>17,196,147</b>	Surgery Partners, Inc.* (a)	4,873	324,639
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 3.1%</b>			Tenet Healthcare Corp.* (a)	16,325	1,093,612
1Life Healthcare, Inc.*	17,918	592,369	The Ensign Group, Inc. (a)	8,078	700,120
Accolade, Inc.* (a)	7,742	420,468	The Joint Corp.* (a)	2,095	175,812
AdaptHealth Corp.*	12,064	330,674	The Pennant Group, Inc.* (a)	3,857	157,751
Addus HomeCare Corp.* (a)	2,397	209,114	Tivity Health, Inc.*	6,608	173,856
Agility, Inc.* (a)	3,464	75,758	Triple-S Management Corp. "B" (a)	3,665	81,620
Alignment Healthcare, Inc.* (a)	4,072	95,163	U.S. Physical Therapy, Inc.	1,953	226,294
AMN Healthcare Services, Inc.*	7,249	703,008	Viemed Healthcare, Inc.* (a)	5,371	38,403
Apollo Medical Holdings, Inc.* (a)	5,578	350,354			<b>14,729,158</b>
Apria, Inc.*	1,240	34,720	<b>Health Care Technology 1.3%</b>		
Aveanna Healthcare Holdings, Inc.*	5,986	74,047	Allscripts Healthcare Solutions, Inc.* (a)	21,477	397,539
Biodesix, Inc.*	1,882	24,861	American Well Corp. "A" (a)	29,908	376,243
Brookdale Senior Living, Inc.*	28,385	224,242	Castlight Health, Inc. "B" (a)	18,342	48,239
Castle Biosciences, Inc.* (a)	3,271	239,862	Computer Programs & Systems, Inc.	2,115	70,281
Community Health Systems, Inc.*	19,101	294,919	Evolent Health, Inc. "A" (a)	12,082	255,172
CorVel Corp.* (a)	1,372	184,260	Forian, Inc.*	2,788	35,045
Covetrus, Inc.*	15,889	429,003	Health Catalyst, Inc.* (a)	6,864	381,021
Cross Country Healthcare, Inc.*	5,622	92,819	HealthStream, Inc.*	4,056	113,325
Exagen, Inc.*	1,684	25,243	Icad, Inc.* (a)	3,128	54,146
Fulgent Genetics, Inc.*	3,114	287,204	Inovalon Holdings, Inc. "A" (a)	11,605	395,498
			Inspire Medical Systems, Inc.* (a)	4,131	798,357
			Multiplan Corp.*	61,336	583,919
			NantHealth, Inc.*	5,014	11,632

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

	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>		<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
NextGen Healthcare, Inc.* (a)	8,351	138,543	Cassava Sciences, Inc.* (a)	5,876	502,045
Omniceil, Inc.* (a)	6,605	1,000,327	Cerecor, Inc.*	8,757	28,635
OptimizeRx Corp.*	2,554	158,093	Citius Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	17,411	60,590
Phreesia, Inc.* (a)	5,857	359,034	Collegium Pharmaceutical, Inc.* (a)	5,452	128,885
Schrodinger, Inc.* (a)	6,962	526,397	Corcept Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	14,850	326,700
Simulations Plus, Inc. (a)	2,381	130,741	CorMedix, Inc.*	6,430	44,110
Tabula Rasa HealthCare, Inc.* (a)	3,409	170,450	Cymabay Therapeutics, Inc.*	10,657	46,465
Vocera Communications, Inc.* (a)	5,174	206,184	Durect Corp.* (a)	36,276	59,130
		<b>6,210,186</b>	Edgewise Therapeutics, Inc.*	1,885	40,207
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services 1.0%</b>			Endo International PLC* (a)	34,251	160,295
Akoya Biosciences, Inc.*	1,161	22,454	Evolus, Inc.* (a)	4,943	62,529
Berkeley Lights, Inc.*	7,366	330,071	EyePoint Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	3,227	29,011
Bionano Genomics, Inc.* (a)	43,208	316,715	Fulcrum Therapeutics, Inc.*	3,521	36,900
ChromaDex Corp.* (a)	7,696	75,883	Harmony Biosciences Holdings, Inc.*	3,434	96,942
Codexis, Inc.*	9,255	209,718	Ikena Oncology, Inc.*	1,363	19,137
Fluidigm Corp.* (a)	10,746	66,195	Innoviva, Inc.*	9,496	127,341
Harvard Bioscience, Inc.*	6,434	53,595	Intra-Cellular Therapies, Inc.*	10,860	443,305
Inotiv, Inc.*	1,985	52,960	Kala Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	7,896	41,849
Luminex Corp.	6,914	254,435	Kaleido Biosciences, Inc.*	2,389	17,774
Medpace Holdings, Inc.*	4,481	791,479	KemPharm, Inc.*	4,383	56,190
NanoString Technologies, Inc.*	6,932	449,124	Landos Biopharma, Inc.* (a)	1,053	12,162
NeoGenomics, Inc.* (a)	17,436	787,584	Marinus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	5,675	101,810
Pacific Biosciences of California, Inc.* (a)	29,873	1,044,659	Mind Medicine MindMed, Inc.*	49,397	170,420
Personalis, Inc.* (a)	5,460	138,138	NGM Biopharmaceuticals, Inc.*	4,818	95,011
Quanterix Corp.*	4,740	278,048	Nuvation Bio, Inc.*	5,408	50,349
Seer, Inc.* (a)	2,356	77,230	Ocular Therapeutix, Inc.*	11,617	164,729
		<b>4,948,288</b>	Omeros Corp.* (a)	9,459	140,372
<b>Pharmaceuticals 1.7%</b>			Oramed Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	4,092	54,751
9 Meters Biopharma, Inc.*	32,519	35,771	Pacira BioSciences, Inc.* (a)	6,689	405,889
Aclaris Therapeutics, Inc.*	6,643	116,651	Paratek Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	6,988	47,658
Aerie Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	6,490	103,905	Phathom Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	3,105	105,104
Amneal Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	15,449	79,099	Phibro Animal Health Corp. "A" (a)	3,142	90,741
Amphastar Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	5,776	116,444	Pliant Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	3,852	112,170
Ampio Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	28,996	48,423	Prestige Consumer Healthcare, Inc.* (a)	7,709	401,639
Angion Biomedica Corp.*	963	12,538	Provention Bio, Inc.* (a)	8,664	73,038
ANI Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	1,463	51,278	Rain Therapeutics, Inc.*	1,128	17,529
Antares Pharma, Inc.*	25,905	112,946	Reata Pharmaceuticals, Inc. "A"*	4,218	596,974
Arvinas, Inc.*	6,703	516,131			
Atea Pharmaceuticals, Inc.* (a)	9,911	212,888			
Athira Pharma, Inc.*	4,925	50,432			
Axsome Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	4,264	287,649			
BioDelivery Sciences International, Inc.*	13,810	49,440			
Cara Therapeutics, Inc.*	6,518	93,012			

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

	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>		<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Relmada Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	2,318	74,199	Frontier Group Holdings, Inc.*	5,328	90,789
Revance Therapeutics, Inc.* (a)	10,771	319,252	Hawaiian Holdings, Inc.*	7,882	192,084
Seelos Therapeutics, Inc.*	11,542	30,471	Mesa Air Group, Inc.*	5,331	49,738
SIGA Technologies, Inc.*	8,001	50,246	SkyWest, Inc.*	7,639	329,012
Supernus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	7,513	231,325	Spirit Airlines, Inc.* (a)	15,082	459,096
Tarsus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	1,379	39,963	Sun Country Airlines Holdings, Inc.*	2,643	97,818
Terns Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	1,447	17,740			<b>1,668,617</b>
TherapeuticsMD, Inc.* (a)	54,921	65,356	<b>Building Products 1.1%</b>		
Theravance Biopharma, Inc.* (a)	8,192	118,948	AAON, Inc. (a)	6,425	402,141
Verrica Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*	2,141	24,193	American Woodmark Corp.*	2,602	212,557
WaVe Life Sciences Ltd.*	5,506	36,670	Apogee Enterprises, Inc. (a)	3,839	156,362
Zogenix, Inc.* (a)	8,862	153,135	Caesarstone Ltd.	3,272	48,295
		<b>8,016,491</b>	Cornerstone Building Brands, Inc.*	8,433	153,312
			CSW Industrials, Inc.	2,082	246,634
			Gibraltar Industries, Inc.*	5,040	384,602
			Griffon Corp. (a)	7,041	180,461
			Insteel Industries, Inc. (a)	2,877	92,496
			JELD-WEN Holding, Inc.*	12,906	338,912
			Masonite International Corp.*	3,771	421,560
			PGT Innovations, Inc.*	8,782	204,006
			Quanex Building Products Corp. (a)	5,279	131,130
			Resideo Technologies, Inc.*	22,221	666,630
			Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.	6,692	739,064
			UFP Industries, Inc.	9,247	687,422
			View, Inc.*	13,034	110,528
					<b>5,176,112</b>
			<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 1.8%</b>		
			ABM Industries, Inc.	10,356	459,289
			ACCO Brands Corp.	13,776	118,887
			Brady Corp. "A"	7,256	406,626
			BrightView Holdings, Inc.* (a)	6,014	96,946
			Casella Waste Systems, Inc. "A"*	7,556	479,277
			CECO Environmental Corp.*	4,425	31,683
			Cimpres PLC* (a)	2,697	292,382
			CompX International, Inc.	256	5,317
			CoreCivic, Inc.* (a)	18,400	192,648
			Covanta Holding Corp. (a)	18,448	324,869
			Deluxe Corp. (a)	6,478	309,454
			Ennis, Inc. (a)	4,003	86,145
			Harsco Corp.* (a)	12,034	245,734
			Healthcare Services Group, Inc. (a)	11,526	363,876
			Heritage-Crystal Clean, Inc.* (a)	2,264	67,196
			Herman Miller, Inc. (a)	9,090	428,503
			HNI Corp. (a)	6,665	293,060
			Interface, Inc.	8,677	132,758
<b>Industrials 14.0%</b>					
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 0.7%</b>					
AAR Corp.*	5,141	199,214			
Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings, Inc.	11,580	559,198			
AeroVironment, Inc.* (a)	3,478	348,322			
AerSale Corp.*	1,422	17,718			
Astronics Corp.* (a)	3,430	60,059			
Byrna Technologies, Inc.*	1,627	36,965			
Ducommun, Inc.*	1,690	92,206			
Kaman Corp.	4,241	213,746			
Kratos Defense & Security Solutions, Inc.*	18,861	537,350			
Maxar Technologies, Inc.	11,029	440,278			
Moog, Inc. "A"	4,463	375,160			
National Presto Industries, Inc. (a)	791	80,405			
PAE, Inc.* (a)	10,705	95,275			
Park Aerospace Corp.	2,688	40,051			
Parsons Corp.* (a)	4,038	158,936			
Triumph Group, Inc.* (a)	7,708	159,941			
Vectrus, Inc.*	1,813	86,281			
		<b>3,501,105</b>			
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics 0.3%</b>					
Air Transport Services Group, Inc.* (a)	9,004	209,163			
Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings, Inc.*	4,426	301,455			
Echo Global Logistics, Inc.* (a)	4,181	128,524			
Forward Air Corp.	4,174	374,616			
Hub Group, Inc. "A"*	5,073	334,717			
Radiant Logistics, Inc.*	5,654	39,182			
		<b>1,387,657</b>			
<b>Airlines 0.3%</b>					
Allegiant Travel Co.*	2,320	450,080			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
KAR Auction Services, Inc.*	19,135	335,819	Allied Motion Technologies, Inc. (a)	1,660	57,320
Kimball International, Inc. "B"	5,579	73,364	American Superconductor Corp.*	4,125	71,734
Knoll, Inc.	7,319	190,221	Array Technologies, Inc.*	19,628	306,197
Matthews International Corp. "A" (a)	4,690	168,652	Atkore, Inc.*	7,220	512,620
Montrose Environmental Group, Inc.*	3,361	180,351	AZZ, Inc.	3,858	199,767
NL Industries, Inc.	1,487	9,665	Babcock & Wilcox Enterprises, Inc.*	8,521	67,145
Pitney Bowes, Inc.	26,549	232,835	Beam Global* (a)	1,351	51,757
RR Donnelley & Sons Co.*	10,908	68,502	Bloom Energy Corp. "A"* (a)	21,404	575,125
SP Plus Corp.*	3,635	111,195	Encore Wire Corp. (a)	3,107	235,480
Steelcase, Inc. "A"	13,868	209,545	EnerSys	6,612	646,191
Team, Inc.* (a)	3,398	22,767	Eos Energy Enterprises, Inc.*	2,712	48,707
Tetra Tech, Inc.	8,285	1,011,101	FTC Solar, Inc.*	2,958	39,371
The Brink's Co. (a)	7,480	574,763	FuelCell Energy, Inc.* (a)	49,471	440,292
U.S. Ecology, Inc.* (a)	4,825	181,034	GrafTech International, Ltd.	26,197	304,409
UniFirst Corp.	2,318	543,895	Powell Industries, Inc.	1,308	40,483
Viad Corp.* (a)	3,035	151,295	Preformed Line Products Co.	404	29,977
VSE Corp. (a)	1,715	84,910	Romeo Power, Inc.*	6,448	52,487
		<b>8,484,564</b>	Stem, Inc.* (a)	9,625	346,596
<b>Construction &amp; Engineering 1.3%</b>			Thermon Group Holdings, Inc.* (a)	5,319	90,636
Ameresco, Inc. "A"*	4,745	297,606	TPI Composites, Inc.*	5,491	265,874
API Group Corp. 144A* (a)	27,730	579,280	Vicor Corp.* (a)	3,247	343,338
Arcosa, Inc.	7,446	437,378			<b>4,750,801</b>
Argan, Inc. (a)	2,382	113,836	<b>Industrial Conglomerates 0.1%</b>		
Comfort Systems U.S.A., Inc.	5,478	431,612	Raven Industries, Inc.	5,479	<b>316,960</b>
Concrete Pumping Holdings, Inc.*	4,510	38,200	<b>Machinery 3.8%</b>		
Construction Partners, Inc. "A"* (a)	4,412	138,537	AgEagle Aerial Systems, Inc.*	10,273	54,139
Dycom Industries, Inc.*	4,591	342,167	Alamo Group, Inc.	1,529	233,448
EMCOR Group, Inc.	8,313	1,024,078	Albany International Corp. "A" (a)	4,733	422,468
Fluor Corp.*	21,825	386,302	Altra Industrial Motion Corp. (a)	9,953	647,144
Granite Construction, Inc.	7,041	292,413	Astec Industries, Inc.	3,457	217,584
Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Corp.*	9,626	140,636	Barnes Group, Inc. (a)	7,293	373,766
HC2 Holdings, Inc.*	8,367	33,301	Blue Bird Corp.* (a)	2,368	58,868
IES Holdings, Inc.*	1,268	65,124	Chart Industries, Inc.*	5,609	820,709
Infrastructure and Energy Alternatives, Inc.*	3,210	41,281	CIRCOR International, Inc.*	2,832	92,323
Matrix Service Co.*	4,083	42,871	Columbus McKinnon Corp. (a)	4,274	206,178
MYR Group, Inc.* (a)	2,562	232,937	Commercial Vehicle Group, Inc.*	4,934	52,448
Northwest Pipe Co.*	1,413	39,917	Desktop Metal, Inc. "A"* (a)	12,838	147,637
NV5 Global, Inc.* (a)	1,968	185,996	Douglas Dynamics, Inc.	3,379	137,491
Primoris Services Corp.	8,223	242,003	Energy Recovery, Inc.* (a)	6,511	148,321
Sterling Construction Co., Inc.*	4,316	104,145	Enerpac Tool Group Corp. (a)	9,255	246,368
Tutor Perini Corp.*	6,512	90,191	EnPro Industries, Inc.	3,176	308,548
WillScot Mobile Mini Holdings Corp*	28,714	800,259	ESCO Technologies, Inc.	3,932	368,861
		<b>6,100,070</b>	Evoqua Water Technologies Corp.*	17,786	600,811
<b>Electrical Equipment 1.0%</b>					
Advent Technologies Holdings, Inc.* (a)	2,624	25,295			

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Federal Signal Corp.	9,264	372,691	Genco Shipping & Trading Ltd.	4,947	93,399
Franklin Electric Co., Inc.	7,119	573,934	Matson, Inc.	6,605	422,720
Gorman-Rupp Co.	3,533	121,677	Safe Bulkers, Inc.*	9,520	38,175
Greenbrier Companies, Inc. (a)	4,918	214,326			<b>706,971</b>
Helios Technologies, Inc. (a)	5,001	390,328	<b>Professional Services 1.5%</b>		
Hillenbrand, Inc.	11,561	509,609	Acacia Research Corp.*	7,472	50,511
Hydrofarm Holdings Group, Inc.*	1,739	102,792	ASGN, Inc.*	7,980	773,501
Hyllion Holdings Corp.*	18,034	210,096	Atlas Technical Consultants, Inc.*	2,067	20,009
Hyster-Yale Materials Handling, Inc. (a)	1,567	114,360	Barrett Business Services, Inc.	1,183	85,898
John Bean Technologies Corp.	4,821	687,571	CBIZ, Inc.* (a)	7,686	251,870
Kadant, Inc. (a)	1,770	311,679	CRA International, Inc. (a)	1,072	91,763
Kennametal, Inc. (a)	12,850	461,572	Exponent, Inc.	7,973	711,271
Lindsay Corp.	1,676	277,009	Forrester Research, Inc.*	1,718	78,684
Luxfer Holdings PLC	4,431	98,590	Franklin Covey Co.*	2,054	66,447
Lydall, Inc.*	2,653	160,560	GP Strategies Corp.*	2,171	34,128
Mayville Engineering Co., Inc.*	1,165	23,428	Heidrick & Struggles International, Inc.	3,060	136,323
Meritor, Inc.*	10,731	251,320	HireQuest, Inc.	779	14,419
Miller Industries, Inc.	1,713	67,561	Huron Consulting Group, Inc.*	3,436	168,879
Mueller Industries, Inc.	8,647	374,502	ICF International, Inc.	2,828	248,468
Mueller Water Products, Inc. "A" (a)	24,314	350,608	Insperity, Inc.	5,586	504,807
Navistar International Corp.*	7,698	342,561	KBR, Inc. (a)	21,717	828,504
Nikola Corp.* (a)	30,826	556,718	Kelly Services, Inc. "A"* (a)	5,377	128,887
NN, Inc.*	7,174	52,729	Kforce, Inc.	3,096	194,831
Omega Flex, Inc.	450	66,019	Korn Ferry	8,199	594,837
Park-Ohio Holdings Corp.	1,208	38,825	ManTech International Corp. "A"	4,216	364,853
Proto Labs, Inc.* (a)	4,289	393,730	Mistras Group, Inc.*	2,950	28,999
RBC Bearings, Inc.* (a)	3,799	757,597	Rekor Systems, Inc.*	4,802	48,788
REV Group, Inc.	4,423	69,397	Resources Connection, Inc. (a)	4,683	67,248
Rexnord Corp.	18,433	922,387	TriNet Group, Inc.*	6,221	450,898
Shyft Group, Inc.	5,242	196,103	TrueBlue, Inc.*	5,326	149,714
SPX Corp.* (a)	6,735	411,374	Upwork, Inc.*	17,920	1,044,557
SPX FLOW, Inc.	6,471	422,168	Willdan Group, Inc.*	1,623	61,090
Standex International Corp.	1,860	176,533			<b>7,200,184</b>
Tennant Co.	2,818	225,017	<b>Road &amp; Rail 0.6%</b>		
Terex Corp.	10,496	499,819	ArcBest Corp.	3,882	225,894
The ExOne Co.* (a)	2,771	59,964	Avis Budget Group, Inc.* (a)	7,859	612,138
The Manitowoc Co., Inc.*	5,321	130,364	Covenant Logistics Group, Inc.*	1,733	35,838
Titan International, Inc.*	7,771	65,898	Daseke, Inc.* (a)	5,765	37,357
TriMas Corp.*	6,626	200,967	Heartland Express, Inc.	7,189	123,148
Trinity Industries, Inc. (a)	13,362	359,304	HyreCar, Inc.* (a)	2,692	56,317
Wabash National Corp. (a)	7,648	122,368	Marten Transport Ltd.	9,271	152,879
Watts Water Technologies, Inc. "A"	4,229	617,053	P.A.M. Transportation Services, Inc.*	333	17,566
Welbilt, Inc.*	20,092	465,130	Saia, Inc.*	4,072	853,043
		<b>17,963,350</b>	U.S. Xpress Enterprises, Inc. "A"*	4,479	38,519
<b>Marine 0.1%</b>			Universal Logistics Holdings, Inc.	1,353	31,525
Costamare, Inc. (a)	7,787	91,965			
Eagle Bulk Shipping, Inc.* (a)	1,283	60,712			

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



	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Werner Enterprises, Inc. (a)	9,604	427,570	DZS, Inc.* (a)	2,494	51,751
Yellow Corp.*	7,738	50,374	EchoStar Corp. "A"*	6,408	155,650
		<b>2,662,168</b>	EMCORE Corp.*	5,639	51,992
<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors 1.3%</b>			Extreme Networks, Inc.*	18,550	207,018
Alta Equipment Group, Inc.*	2,939	39,059	Harmonic, Inc.*	13,845	117,959
Applied Industrial Technologies, Inc.	5,974	543,992	Infinera Corp.* (a)	27,403	279,511
Beacon Roofing Supply, Inc.*	8,580	456,885	Inseego Corp.* (a)	12,848	129,636
BlueLinx Holdings, Inc.* (a)	1,378	69,286	KVH Industries, Inc.*	2,389	29,385
Boise Cascade Co.	6,058	353,484	NETGEAR, Inc.*	4,579	175,467
CAI International, Inc.	2,448	137,088	NetScout Systems, Inc.*	10,798	308,175
Custom Truck One Source, Inc.*	2,494	23,743	Plantronics, Inc.*	5,250	219,082
DXP Enterprises, Inc.* (a)	2,817	93,806	Ribbon Communications, Inc.* (a)	10,566	80,407
EVI Industries, Inc.*	839	23,828	Viavi Solutions, Inc.* (a)	35,293	623,274
GATX Corp. (a)	5,446	481,808			<b>3,463,222</b>
Global Industrial Co.	2,010	73,787	<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components 2.1%</b>		
GMS, Inc.*	6,473	311,610	908 Devices, Inc.*	1,166	45,182
H&E Equipment Services, Inc.	4,875	162,191	Aeva Technologies, Inc.*	3,848	40,673
Herc Holdings, Inc.* (a)	3,829	429,116	Akoustis Technologies, Inc.* (a)	6,877	73,653
Karat Packaging, Inc.*	711	14,483	Arlo Technologies, Inc.*	12,589	85,228
Lawson Products, Inc.*	770	41,203	Badger Meter, Inc.	4,490	440,559
McGrath RentCorp.	3,727	304,011	Belden, Inc.	6,806	344,179
MRC Global, Inc.* (a)	12,309	115,705	Benchmark Electronics, Inc. (a)	5,510	156,815
NOW, Inc.*	16,588	157,420	CTS Corp. (a)	4,830	179,483
Rush Enterprises, Inc. "A"	6,502	281,147	Daktronics, Inc.*	6,326	41,688
Rush Enterprises, Inc. "B"	956	36,462	ePlus, Inc.*	2,036	176,501
Textainer Group Holdings Ltd.*	7,374	249,020	Fabrinet*	5,688	545,309
Titan Machinery, Inc.* (a)	2,927	90,561	FARO Technologies, Inc.* (a)	2,735	212,701
Transcat, Inc.*	1,066	60,240	Identiv, Inc.*	3,177	54,009
Triton International Ltd.	10,276	537,846	II-VI, Inc.* (a)	16,074	1,166,812
Veritiv Corp.*	2,423	148,821	Insight Enterprises, Inc.*	5,380	538,054
WESCO International, Inc.*	6,844	703,700	Iteris, Inc.* (a)	6,737	44,801
Willis Lease Finance Corp.*	491	21,044	Itron, Inc.* (a)	6,948	694,661
		<b>5,961,346</b>	Kimball Electronics, Inc.*	3,816	82,960
<b>Transportation Infrastructure 0.1%</b>			Knowles Corp.* (a)	13,533	267,141
Macquarie Infrastructure Corp.	11,361	<b>434,785</b>	Luna Innovations, Inc.*	4,492	48,648
<b>Information Technology 13.3%</b>			Methode Electronics, Inc. (a)	5,908	290,733
<b>Communications Equipment 0.7%</b>			MicroVision, Inc.*	24,331	407,544
ADTRAN, Inc.	7,189	148,453	Napco Security Technologies, Inc.* (a)	2,320	84,378
Aviat Networks, Inc.*	1,489	48,795	nLight, Inc.* (a)	6,535	237,090
CalAmp Corp.*	5,260	66,907	Novanta, Inc.*	5,402	727,974
Calix, Inc.*	8,462	401,945	OSI Systems, Inc.*	2,617	265,992
Cambium Networks Corp.*	1,336	64,596	Ouster, Inc.*	4,458	55,680
Casa Systems, Inc.*	4,292	38,070	PAR Technology Corp.* (a)	3,644	254,861
Clearfield, Inc.*	1,783	66,773	PC Connection, Inc.	1,727	79,908
Comtech Telecommunications Corp. (a)	3,836	92,678	Plexus Corp.* (a)	4,348	397,451
Digi International, Inc.* (a)	5,256	105,698	Rogers Corp.* (a)	2,874	577,099
			Sanmina Corp.* (a)	9,872	384,613
			ScanSource, Inc.* (a)	3,703	104,165
			TTM Technologies, Inc.*	16,784	240,011

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Velodyne Lidar, Inc.*	10,869	115,646	Alpha & Omega Semiconductor Ltd.*	3,357	102,019
Vishay Intertechnology, Inc. (a)	20,494	462,140	Ambarella, Inc.* (a)	5,337	569,084
Vishay Precision Group, Inc.*	1,914	65,153	Amkor Technology, Inc.	15,582	368,826
		<b>9,989,495</b>	Atomera, Inc.* (a)	2,972	63,720
<b>IT Services 1.5%</b>			Axcelis Technologies, Inc.* (a)	5,095	205,940
BigCommerce Holdings, Inc.*	7,221	468,787	AXT, Inc.* (a)	6,078	66,736
BM Technologies, Inc.*	774	9,629	CEVA, Inc.*	3,530	166,969
Brightcove, Inc.*	6,293	90,305	CMC Materials, Inc.	4,489	676,672
Cantaloupe, Inc.*	8,950	106,147	Cohu, Inc.*	7,358	270,701
Cass Information Systems, Inc.	2,232	90,954	Diodes, Inc.* (a)	6,700	534,459
Conduent, Inc.*	25,797	193,478	DSP Group, Inc.*	3,324	49,195
CSG Systems International, Inc. (a)	4,987	235,287	FormFactor, Inc.*	11,942	435,405
DigitalOcean Holdings, Inc.* (a)	1,983	110,235	Ichor Holdings Ltd.* (a)	4,349	233,976
EVERTEC, Inc.	9,308	406,294	Impinj, Inc.* (a)	2,869	148,012
Evo Payments, Inc. "A"* (a)	7,327	203,251	Kopin Corp.* (a)	11,919	97,497
ExlService Holdings, Inc.*	5,048	536,401	Kulicke & Soffa Industries, Inc.	9,408	575,770
GreenBox POS*	2,667	31,817	Lattice Semiconductor Corp.*	20,847	1,171,185
GreenSky, Inc. "A"* (a)	11,702	64,946	MACOM Technology Solutions Holdings, Inc.*	7,484	479,575
Grid Dynamics Holdings, Inc.* (a)	4,549	68,371	MaxLinear, Inc.*	10,740	456,343
I3 Verticals, Inc. "A"*	3,037	91,778	NeoPhotonics Corp.*	7,981	81,486
IBEX Holdings Ltd.*	973	18,993	NVE Corp. (a)	734	54,353
International Money Express, Inc.* (a)	4,656	69,142	Onto Innovation, Inc.* (a)	7,477	546,120
Limelight Networks, Inc.* (a)	18,485	58,228	PDF Solutions, Inc.* (a)	4,558	82,864
LiveRamp Holdings, Inc.*	9,999	468,453	Photronics, Inc.* (a)	9,368	123,751
Marathon Digital Holdings, Inc.*	14,666	460,072	Power Integrations, Inc. (a)	9,272	760,860
MAXIMUS, Inc.	9,427	829,293	Rambus, Inc.* (a)	17,266	409,377
MoneyGram International, Inc.*	11,980	120,758	Semtech Corp.*	9,935	683,528
Paya Holdings, Inc.*	12,650	139,403	Silicon Laboratories, Inc.* (a)	6,824	1,045,778
Perficient, Inc.* (a)	4,999	402,020	SiTime Corp.*	1,977	250,268
Priority Technology Holdings, Inc.*	1,214	9,275	SkyWater Technology, Inc.*	1,213	34,752
Rackspace Technology, Inc.* (a)	8,261	161,998	SMART Global Holdings, Inc.* (a)	2,282	108,806
Repay Holdings Corp.* (a)	11,829	284,369	SunPower Corp.* (a)	12,287	359,026
StarTek, Inc.*	2,999	21,383	Synaptics, Inc.* (a)	5,425	844,022
Sykes Enterprises, Inc.*	5,899	316,776	Ultra Clean Holdings, Inc.*	6,682	358,957
The Hackett Group, Inc.	3,809	68,638	Veeco Instruments, Inc.* (a)	7,455	179,218
TTEC Holdings, Inc.	2,795	288,137			<b>13,261,479</b>
Tucows, Inc. "A"* (a)	1,493	119,918	<b>Software 5.9%</b>		
Unisys Corp.*	9,937	251,505	8x8, Inc.* (a)	16,368	454,376
Verra Mobility Corp.* (a)	20,602	316,653	A10 Networks, Inc.*	8,786	98,930
		<b>7,112,694</b>	ACI Worldwide, Inc.* (a)	18,096	672,085
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 2.8%</b>			Agilysys, Inc.*	2,871	163,274
Advanced Energy Industries, Inc. (a)	5,911	666,229	Alarm.com Holdings, Inc.*	7,262	615,091
			Alkami Technology, Inc.*	1,069	38,131
			Altair Engineering, Inc. "A"* (a)	6,982	481,549
			American Software, Inc. "A"	4,694	103,080
			Appfolio, Inc. "A"*	2,877	406,232
			Appian Corp.* (a)	6,044	832,561
			Asana, Inc. "A"* (a)	11,367	705,095

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Avaya Holdings Corp.* (a)	12,700	341,630	Smith Micro Software, Inc.*	7,445	38,863
Benefitfocus, Inc.*	3,761	53,030	Sprout Social, Inc. "A"*	6,787	606,894
Blackbaud, Inc.* (a)	7,439	569,604	SPS Commerce, Inc.*	5,540	553,169
Blackline, Inc.*	8,270	920,203	Sumo Logic, Inc.*	12,538	258,910
Bottomline Technologies DE, Inc.*	6,807	252,404	Telos Corp.*	2,693	91,589
Box, Inc. "A"* (a)	22,595	577,302	Tenable Holdings, Inc.*	13,939	576,378
BTRS Holdings, Inc.*	7,285	91,937	Upland Software, Inc.*	4,507	185,553
Cerence, Inc.* (a)	5,814	620,412	Varonis Systems, Inc.* (a)	16,286	938,399
ChannelAdvisor Corp.* (a)	4,451	109,094	Verint Systems, Inc.*	9,897	446,058
Cleanspark, Inc.*	5,029	83,683	Veritone, Inc.* (a)	4,312	84,990
Cloudera, Inc.*	35,575	564,219	Viant Technology, Inc. "A"* (a)	1,751	52,145
CommVault Systems, Inc.*	6,487	507,089	VirnetX Holding Corp.* (a)	9,845	42,038
Cornerstone OnDemand, Inc.*	9,662	498,366	Vonage Holdings Corp.* (a)	36,939	532,291
Digimarc Corp.* (a)	1,872	62,712	Workiva, Inc.* (a)	6,474	720,750
Digital Turbine, Inc.*	12,980	986,869	Xperi Holding Corp. (a)	16,134	358,820
Domo, Inc. "B"*	4,271	345,225	Yext, Inc.*	16,772	239,672
E2open Parent Holdings, Inc.*	6,433	73,465	Zix Corp.* (a)	8,527	60,115
Ebix, Inc. (a)	4,039	136,922	Zuora, Inc. "A"*	15,911	274,465
eGain Corp.*	3,562	40,892			<b>27,873,994</b>
Envestnet, Inc.*	8,357	633,962			
GTY Technology Holdings, Inc.* (a)	4,948	35,180	<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals 0.3%</b>		
Ideanomics, Inc.*	62,735	178,167	3D Systems Corp.*	18,660	745,840
Intelligent Systems Corp.* (a)	1,272	40,017	Avid Technology, Inc.*	5,556	217,517
InterDigital, Inc.	4,757	347,404	Corsair Gaming, Inc.* (a)	4,136	137,688
J2 Global, Inc.* (a)	6,678	918,559	Diebold Nixdorf, Inc.* (a)	11,253	144,489
JFrog Ltd.* (a)	7,930	360,974	Eastman Kodak Co.* (a)	6,917	57,549
LivePerson, Inc.* (a)	9,841	622,345	Quantum Corp.*	8,574	59,075
MicroStrategy, Inc. "A"* (a)	1,206	801,387	Super Micro Computer, Inc.*	6,653	234,053
Mimecast Ltd.*	9,133	484,506	Turtle Beach Corp.* (a)	2,183	69,681
Mitek Systems, Inc.* (a)	6,455	124,323			<b>1,665,892</b>
Model N, Inc.*	5,274	180,740	<b>Materials 3.8%</b>		
Momentive Global, Inc.* (a)	19,690	414,868	<b>Chemicals 1.9%</b>		
ON24, Inc.* (a)	1,411	50,062	AdvanSix, Inc.*	4,114	122,844
OneSpan, Inc.* (a)	5,357	136,818	American Vanguard Corp.	4,486	78,550
PagerDuty, Inc.*	12,404	528,162	Amyris, Inc.* (a)	25,694	420,611
Ping Identity Holding Corp.*	6,683	153,041	Avient Corp.	13,984	687,453
Progress Software Corp.	6,770	313,112	Balchem Corp.	4,954	650,262
PROS Holdings, Inc.* (a)	6,148	280,164	Cabot Corp.	8,645	492,160
Q2 Holdings, Inc.*	8,401	861,775	Chase Corp.	1,097	112,563
QAD, Inc. "A"	1,861	161,944	Danimer Scientific, Inc.*	10,565	264,653
Qualys, Inc.*	5,238	527,414	Ferro Corp.*	12,509	269,819
Rapid7, Inc.*	8,441	798,772	FutureFuel Corp.	3,994	38,342
Rimini Street, Inc.*	6,723	41,414	GCP Applied Technologies, Inc.* (a)	7,730	179,800
Riot Blockchain, Inc.*	12,952	487,902	H.B. Fuller Co.	8,023	510,343
Sailpoint Technologies Holdings, Inc.* (a)	13,903	710,026	Hawkins, Inc.	3,026	99,101
Sapiens International Corp. NV	4,762	125,098	Ingevity Corp.* (a)	6,183	503,049
SecureWorks Corp. "A"*	1,587	29,407	Innospec, Inc.	3,772	341,781
ShotSpotter, Inc.*	1,228	59,890	Intrepid Potash, Inc.*	1,624	51,741
			Koppers Holdings, Inc.* (a)	3,245	104,976
			Kraton Corp.*	4,910	158,544
			Kronos Worldwide, Inc.	3,404	48,745

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Livent Corp.* (a)	22,583	437,207	Hecla Mining Co.	81,647	607,454
Marrone Bio Innovations, Inc.*	16,520	27,423	Kaiser Aluminum Corp.	2,428	299,834
Minerals Technologies, Inc. (a)	5,168	406,567	Materion Corp.	3,126	235,544
Orion Engineered Carbons SA*	9,240	175,468	MP Materials Corp.* (a)	11,204	412,980
PQ Group Holdings, Inc.	7,905	121,421	Novagold Resources, Inc.*	36,426	291,772
PureCycle Technologies, Inc.*	5,067	119,835	Olympic Steel, Inc.	1,578	46,377
Quaker Chemical Corp.	2,073	491,695	Perpetua Resources Corp.*	4,104	29,959
Rayonier Advanced Materials, Inc.* (a)	9,680	64,759	PolyMet Mining Corp.*	4,457	16,090
Sensient Technologies Corp. (a)	6,507	563,246	Ryerson Holding Corp.*	2,757	40,252
Stepan Co.	3,313	398,454	Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc. "A" (a)	3,942	193,355
Tredegar Corp.	4,170	57,421	SunCoke Energy, Inc. (a)	13,293	94,912
Trinseo SA	5,980	357,843	TimkenSteel Corp.*	7,129	100,875
Tronox Holdings PLC "A"	17,515	392,336	Warrior Met Coal, Inc.	7,644	131,477
Valhi, Inc.	416	10,121	Worthington Industries, Inc.	5,273	322,602
Zymergen, Inc.* (a)	2,892	115,709			<b>5,961,095</b>
		<b>8,874,842</b>	<b>Paper &amp; Forest Products 0.2%</b>		
<b>Construction Materials 0.2%</b>			Clearwater Paper Corp.*	2,553	73,960
Forterra, Inc.*	4,539	106,712	Domtar Corp.*	7,683	422,258
Summit Materials, Inc. "A"* (a)	18,017	627,892	Glatfelter Corp.	6,412	89,576
U.S. Concrete, Inc.*	2,541	187,526	Neenah, Inc.	2,508	125,826
United States Lime & Minerals, Inc.	300	41,727	Schweitzer-Mauduit International, Inc. (a)	4,893	197,579
		<b>963,857</b>	Verso Corp. "A"	4,788	84,748
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging 0.2%</b>					<b>993,947</b>
Greif, Inc. "A"	3,950	239,172	<b>Real Estate 6.7%</b>		
Greif, Inc. "B" (a)	852	50,268	<b>Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) 6.0%</b>		
Myers Industries, Inc.	5,753	120,813	Acadia Realty Trust	13,038	286,314
O-I Glass, Inc.*	24,279	396,476	Agree Realty Corp.	10,358	730,135
Pactiv Evergreen, Inc. (a)	6,850	103,230	Alexander & Baldwin, Inc.	11,090	203,169
Ranpak Holdings Corp.* (a)	5,364	134,261	Alexander's, Inc.	337	90,299
UFP Technologies, Inc.*	1,043	59,889	American Assets Trust, Inc.	7,701	287,170
		<b>1,104,109</b>	American Finance Trust, Inc.	16,325	138,436
<b>Metals &amp; Mining 1.3%</b>			Apartment Investment and Management Co. "A"	22,957	154,041
Allegheny Technologies, Inc.* (a)	19,518	406,950	Apple Hospitality REIT, Inc.	32,285	492,669
Arconic Corp.*	16,959	604,080	Armada Hoffer Properties, Inc.	9,083	120,713
Carpenter Technology Corp. (a)	7,292	293,284	Ashford Hospitality Trust, Inc.*	16,865	76,904
Century Aluminum Co.* (a)	8,078	104,125	Braemar Hotels & Resorts, Inc.*	6,849	42,532
Coeur Mining, Inc.*	37,224	330,549	Brandywine Realty Trust	26,222	359,504
Commercial Metals Co.	18,355	563,866	Broadstone Net Lease, Inc.	21,896	512,585
Compass Minerals International, Inc.	5,260	311,708	BRT Apartments Corp.	1,764	30,588
Constellium SE*	18,864	357,473	CareTrust REIT, Inc.	14,859	345,175
Ferroglobe Representation & Warranty Insurance Trust (b)	12,466	0	CatchMark Timber Trust, Inc. "A"	7,559	88,440
Gatos Silver, Inc.* (a)	5,316	92,977	Centerspace	2,081	164,191
Haynes International, Inc.	2,052	72,600	Chatham Lodging Trust *	7,225	92,986
			City Office REIT, Inc.	6,317	78,520
			Clipper Realty, Inc.	1,258	9,246

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

	Shares	Value (\$)		Shares	Value (\$)
Columbia Property Trust, Inc.	17,675	307,368	Office Properties Income Trust (a)	7,380	216,308
Community Healthcare Trust, Inc.	3,559	168,910	One Liberty Properties, Inc. (a)	2,425	68,846
CorePoint Lodging, Inc. *	6,156	65,869	Outfront Media, Inc. *	22,372	537,599
Corporate Office Properties Trust	17,443	488,230	Paramount Group, Inc.	28,773	289,744
CTO Realty Growth, Inc. (a)	833	44,582	Pebblebrook Hotel Trust	19,979	470,505
DiamondRock Hospitality Co. *	32,092	311,292	Physicians Realty Trust	32,923	608,088
DigitalBridge Group, Inc. * (a)	73,499	580,642	Piedmont Office Realty Trust, Inc. "A" (a)	19,160	353,885
Diversified Healthcare Trust (a)	35,482	148,315	Plymouth Industrial REIT, Inc.	4,539	90,871
Easterly Government Properties, Inc.	13,126	276,696	Postal Realty Trust, Inc. "A"	1,871	34,127
EastGroup Properties, Inc.	6,116	1,005,776	PotlatchDeltic Corp.	10,144	539,154
Empire State Realty Trust, Inc. "A"	22,018	264,216	Preferred Apartment Communities, Inc. "A"	7,275	70,931
Equity Commonwealth	18,033	472,465	PS Business Parks, Inc.	3,089	457,419
Essential Properties Realty Trust, Inc.	18,000	486,720	QTS Realty Trust, Inc. "A" (a)	10,572	817,216
Farmland Partners, Inc. (a)	4,375	52,719	Retail Opportunity Investments Corp.	17,889	315,920
Four Corners Property Trust, Inc.	11,683	322,568	Retail Properties of America, Inc. "A"	32,987	377,701
Franklin Street Properties Corp.	15,870	83,476	Retail Value, Inc.	2,634	57,290
Getty Realty Corp.	6,202	193,192	RLJ Lodging Trust	25,160	383,187
Gladstone Commercial Corp. (a)	5,737	129,427	RPT Realty	12,139	157,564
Gladstone Land Corp. (a)	3,891	93,617	Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. * (a)	8,266	652,683
Global Medical REIT, Inc.	8,806	129,977	Sabra Health Care REIT, Inc.	32,933	599,381
Global Net Lease, Inc.	14,655	271,117	Safehold, Inc. (a)	2,705	212,342
Healthcare Realty Trust, Inc. (a)	21,858	660,112	Saul Centers, Inc.	1,829	83,128
Hersha Hospitality Trust *	4,795	51,594	Seritage Growth Properties "A" * (a)	5,449	100,262
Independence Realty Trust, Inc. (a)	15,577	283,969	Service Properties Trust	25,259	318,263
Indus Realty Trust, Inc.	692	45,430	SITE Centers Corp.	26,641	401,213
Industrial Logistics Properties Trust	10,066	263,125	STAG Industrial, Inc.	24,765	926,954
Innovative Industrial Properties, Inc. (a)	3,640	695,313	Summit Hotel Properties, Inc. * (a)	16,410	153,105
iStar, Inc. (a)	10,792	223,718	Sunstone Hotel Investors, Inc. * (a)	33,043	410,394
Kite Realty Group Trust	12,848	282,784	Tanger Factory Outlet Centers, Inc. (a)	15,263	287,708
Lexington Realty Trust (a)	42,267	505,091	Terreno Realty Corp.	10,543	680,234
LTC Properties, Inc.	5,899	226,463	The GEO Group, Inc. (a)	17,514	124,700
Mack-Cali Realty Corp.	13,409	229,964	The Macerich Co. (a)	30,391	554,636
Monmouth Real Estate Investment Corp.	14,705	275,278	UMH Properties, Inc.	6,125	133,648
National Health Investors, Inc. (a)	6,736	451,649	Uniti Group, Inc.	29,901	316,652
National Storage Affiliates Trust	10,820	547,059	Universal Health Realty Income Trust	1,912	117,684
NETSTREIT Corp.	6,114	140,989	Urban Edge Properties (a)	17,811	340,190
New Senior Investment Group, Inc. (a)	12,772	112,138	Urstadt Biddle Properties, Inc. "A"	4,590	88,954
NexPoint Residential Trust, Inc.	3,390	186,382	Washington Real Estate Investment Trust	13,085	300,955
			Whitestone REIT	5,595	46,159

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

	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Xenia Hotels & Resorts, Inc. * (a)	17,516	328,075
		<b>28,405,524</b>

#### **Real Estate Management & Development 0.7%**

Cushman & Wakefield PLC* (a)	18,290	319,526
eXp World Holdings, Inc.*	9,533	369,595
Fathom Holdings, Inc.*	795	26,068
Forestar Group, Inc.*	2,712	56,708
FRP Holdings, Inc.* (a)	975	54,288
Kennedy-Wilson Holdings, Inc. (a)	18,520	367,992
Marcus & Millichap, Inc.*	3,532	137,289
Newmark Group, Inc. "A" (a)	22,566	271,018
Rafael Holdings, Inc. "B"* (a)	1,586	80,965
RE/MAX Holdings, Inc. "A"	2,916	97,190
Realty Holdings Corp.*	17,701	322,512
Redfin Corp.* (a)	15,630	991,098
Tejon Ranch Co.* (a)	3,265	49,661
The RMR Group, Inc. "A"	2,384	92,118
The St. Joe Co. (a)	5,180	231,080
		<b>3,467,108</b>

#### **Utilities 2.3%**

##### **Electric Utilities 0.5%**

ALLETE, Inc.	8,076	565,159
MGE Energy, Inc. (a)	5,596	416,566
Otter Tail Corp.	6,324	308,675
PNM Resources, Inc.	13,155	641,569
Portland General Electric Co.	13,852	638,300
Spark Energy, Inc. "A"	2,030	23,000
		<b>2,593,269</b>

##### **Gas Utilities 0.8%**

Brookfield Infrastructure Corp. "A" (a)	5,624	424,049
Chesapeake Utilities Corp. (a)	2,648	318,634
New Jersey Resources Corp. (a)	14,849	587,575
Northwest Natural Holding Co.	4,703	247,001
ONE Gas, Inc. (a)	8,118	601,706
South Jersey Industries, Inc. (a)	15,819	410,187
Southwest Gas Holdings, Inc.	8,930	591,077
Spire, Inc. (a)	7,806	564,140
		<b>3,744,369</b>

##### **Independent Power & Renewable Electricity Producers 0.3%**

Clearway Energy, Inc. "A"	5,457	137,626
Clearway Energy, Inc. "C" (a)	12,540	332,059

	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
Ormat Technologies, Inc. (a)	7,023	488,309
Sunnova Energy International, Inc.*	13,225	498,053
		<b>1,456,047</b>

#### **Multi-Utilities 0.4%**

Avista Corp.	10,665	455,076
Black Hills Corp. (a)	9,713	637,464
NorthWestern Corp.	7,826	471,282
Unitil Corp. (a)	2,231	118,176
		<b>1,681,998</b>

#### **Water Utilities 0.3%**

American States Water Co. (a)	5,670	451,105
Artesian Resources Corp. "A"	1,330	48,904
Cadiz, Inc.*	2,735	37,196
California Water Service Group	7,778	431,990
Global Water Resources, Inc.	2,087	35,646
Middlesex Water Co. (a)	2,624	214,459
Pure Cycle Corp.*	2,619	36,195
SJW Group	4,250	269,025
York Water Co.	2,056	93,137
		<b>1,617,657</b>

**Total Common Stocks** (Cost \$327,289,792) **465,376,488**

#### **Rights 0.0%**

##### **Health Care**

GTX, Inc.* (a) (b)	123	252
Omthera Pharmaceutical, Inc.* (b)	1,167	700
Tobira Therapeutics, Inc.* (b)	1,687	102

**Total Rights** (Cost \$355) **1,054**

#### **Warrants 0.0%**

##### **Energy**

Nabors Industries Ltd., Expiration Date 6/11/2026* (Cost \$0)	450	<b>4,500</b>
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<b>Principal Amount (\$)</b>	<b>Value (\$)</b>
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#### **Corporate Bond 0.0%**

##### **Financials**

GAMCO Investors, Inc., Step-Up Coupon, 4.0% to 06/15/2022, 5.0% to 06/15/2023 (Cost \$1,914)	1,914	<b>1,914</b>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount (\$)	Value (\$)
<b>Government &amp; Agency Obligations 0.3%</b>		
<b>U.S. Treasury Obligations</b>		
U.S. Treasury Bills, 0.098% (c), 7/15/2021 (Cost \$1,519,964)	1,520,000	<b>1,519,973</b>

	Shares	Value (\$)
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 28.8%</b>		
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (d) (e) (Cost \$136,720,623)	136,720,623	<b>136,720,623</b>

### Cash Equivalents 1.7%

DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (d) (Cost \$8,071,420)	8,071,420	<b>8,071,420</b>
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	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
<b>Total Investment Portfolio</b> (Cost \$473,604,068)	128.7	<b>611,695,972</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net (a)</b>	(28.7)	<b>(136,351,321)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	100.0	<b>475,344,651</b>

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended June 30, 2021 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 12/31/2020	Purchases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distributions (\$)	Number of Shares at 6/30/2021	Value (\$) at 6/30/2021
<b>Securities Lending Collateral 28.8%</b>								
DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio "DWS Government Cash Institutional Shares", 0.01% (d) (e)								
21,733,499	114,987,124 (f)	—	—	—	109,699	—	136,720,623	136,720,623
<b>Cash Equivalents 1.7%</b>								
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 0.02% (d)								
1,628,225	78,656,054	72,212,859	—	—	980	—	8,071,420	8,071,420
<b>23,361,724</b>	<b>193,643,178</b>	<b>72,212,859</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>110,679</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>144,792,043</b>	<b>144,792,043</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, 2021 amounted to \$125,694,840, which is 26.4% of net assets.
- (b) Investment was valued using significant unobservable inputs.
- (c) Annualized yield at time of purchase; not a coupon rate.
- (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 \$3,120,252.
- (f) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended June 30, 2021.

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.

At June 30, 2021, open futures contracts purchased were as follows:

Futures	Currency	Expiration Date	Contracts	Notional Amount (\$)	Notional Value (\$)	Unrealized Depreciation (\$)
Russell E-Mini 2000 Index	USD	9/17/2021	87	10,077,812	10,038,930	<b>(38,882)</b>

### Currency Abbreviation(s)

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.

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, 2021 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 (a)	\$ 465,376,488	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 465,376,488
Rights	—	—	1,054	1,054
Warrants	4,500	—	—	4,500
Corporate Bond	—	1,914	—	1,914
Government & Agency Obligations	—	1,519,973	—	1,519,973
Short-Term Investments (a)	144,792,043	—	—	144,792,043
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 610,173,031</b>	<b>\$ 1,521,887</b>	<b>\$ 1,054</b>	<b>\$ 611,695,972</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
Derivatives (b)				
Futures Contracts	\$ (38,882)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (38,882)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (38,882)</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ (38,882)</b>

(a) See Investment Portfolio for additional detailed categorizations.

(b) 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, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$328,812,025) — including \$125,694,840 of securities loaned	\$ 466,903,929
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$136,720,623)*	136,720,623
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$8,071,420)	8,071,420
Receivable for investments sold	9,595,249
Receivable for Fund shares sold	251,582
Dividends receivable	331,388
Interest receivable	20,355
Receivable for variation margin on futures contracts	12,877
Other assets	3,338
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>621,910,761</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Cash overdraft	9,292,251
Payable upon return of securities loaned	136,720,623
Payable for investments purchased	284,118
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	51,667
Accrued management fee	97,370
Accrued Trustees' fees	995
Other accrued expenses and payables	119,086
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>146,566,110</b>
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 475,344,651</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of</b>	
Distributable earnings (loss)	185,557,279
Paid-in capital	289,787,372
<b>Net assets, at value</b>	<b>\$ 475,344,651</b>
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$431,505,468 ÷ 22,581,922 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 19.11</b>
<b>Class B</b>	
<b>Net Asset Value</b> , offering and redemption price per share (\$43,839,183 ÷ 2,292,069 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, no par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	<b>\$ 19.13</b>

\* Represents collateral on securities loaned. In addition, the Fund held non-cash collateral having a value of \$3,120,252.

# Statement of Operations

for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

<b>Investment Income</b>	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$3,942)	\$ 882,927
Interest	516
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	980
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	109,699
<b>Total income</b>	<b>994,122</b>
Expenses:	
Management fee	802,750
Administration fee	222,476
Services to shareholders	1,596
Record keeping fee (Class B)	8,388
Distribution service fee (Class B)	52,020
Custodian fee	12,668
Professional fees	33,481
Reports to shareholders	27,848
Trustees' fees and expenses	9,377
Other	12,090
<b>Total expenses before expense reductions</b>	<b>1,182,694</b>
Expense reductions	(228,904)
<b>Total expenses after expense reductions</b>	<b>953,790</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>40,332</b>
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Investments	54,882,700
Futures	279,216
	55,161,916
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	15,625,476
Futures	(104,487)
	15,520,989
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	<b>70,682,905</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$70,723,237</b>

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

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 40,332	\$ 3,304,892
Net realized gain (loss)	55,161,916	24,331,163
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	15,520,989	44,444,817
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	70,723,237	72,080,872
Distributions to shareholders:		
Class A	(27,860,902)	(36,874,155)
Class B	(2,609,130)	(3,407,812)
Total distributions	(30,470,032)	(40,281,967)
Fund share transactions:		
<b>Class A</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	58,920,647	97,628,393
Reinvestment of distributions	27,860,902	36,874,155
Payments for shares redeemed	(78,660,898)	(129,334,937)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class A share transactions	8,120,651	5,167,611
<b>Class B</b>		
Proceeds from shares sold	4,902,233	4,372,633
Reinvestment of distributions	2,609,130	3,407,812
Payments for shares redeemed	(4,961,428)	(6,383,154)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Class B share transactions	2,549,935	1,397,291
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>50,923,791</b>	<b>38,363,807</b>
Net assets at beginning of period	424,420,860	386,057,053
<b>Net assets at end of period</b>	<b>\$475,344,651</b>	<b>\$ 424,420,860</b>
<b>Other Information</b>		
<b>Class A</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	22,246,452	20,802,116
Shares sold	3,038,247	7,293,317
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	1,466,363	3,475,415
Shares redeemed	(4,169,140)	(9,324,396)
Net increase (decrease) in Class A shares	335,470	1,444,336
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>22,581,922</b>	<b>22,246,452</b>
<b>Class B</b>		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	2,154,282	1,943,200
Shares sold	258,143	340,656
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	137,106	320,584
Shares redeemed	(257,462)	(450,158)
Net increase (decrease) in Class B shares	137,787	211,082
Shares outstanding at end of period	<b>2,292,069</b>	<b>2,154,282</b>

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

# Financial Highlights

## DWS Small Cap Index VIP — Class A

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			
			2019	2018	2017	2016
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$17.39</b>	<b>\$16.97</b>	<b>\$14.97</b>	<b>\$18.29</b>	<b>\$16.78</b>	<b>\$15.18</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.00*	.14	.17	.19	.17	.18
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	3.02	2.03	3.49	(2.06)	2.16	2.76
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>3.02</b>	<b>2.17</b>	<b>3.66</b>	<b>(1.87)</b>	<b>2.33</b>	<b>2.94</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.16)	(.17)	(.18)	(.18)	(.17)	(.17)
Net realized gains	(1.14)	(1.58)	(1.48)	(1.27)	(.65)	(1.17)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(1.30)</b>	<b>(1.75)</b>	<b>(1.66)</b>	<b>(1.45)</b>	<b>(.82)</b>	<b>(1.34)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$19.11</b>	<b>\$17.39</b>	<b>\$16.97</b>	<b>\$14.97</b>	<b>\$18.29</b>	<b>\$16.78</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	17.45**	19.43	25.22	(11.23)	14.33	21.03
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	432	387	353	308	360	343
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.49***	.50	.53	.51	.51	.53
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.39***	.39	.39	.41	.44	.45
Ratio of net investment income (%)	.04***	.99	1.04	1.03	1.00	1.25
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	20**	23	22	17	15	18

<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.

\* Amount is less than \$.005.

\*\* Not annualized

\*\*\* Annualized

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

## DWS Small Cap Index VIP — Class B

	Six Months Ended 6/30/21 (Unaudited)	2020	Years Ended December 31,			2016
			2019	2018	2017	
<b>Selected Per Share Data</b>						
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$17.39</b>	<b>\$16.97</b>	<b>\$14.97</b>	<b>\$18.28</b>	<b>\$16.77</b>	<b>\$15.17</b>
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	(.02)	.10	.12	.14	.13	.15
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	3.01	2.04	3.49	(2.05)	2.15	2.75
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	<b>2.99</b>	<b>2.14</b>	<b>3.61</b>	<b>(1.91)</b>	<b>2.28</b>	<b>2.90</b>
<i>Less distributions from:</i>						
Net investment income	(.11)	(.14)	(.13)	(.13)	(.12)	(.13)
Net realized gains	(1.14)	(1.58)	(1.48)	(1.27)	(.65)	(1.17)
<b>Total distributions</b>	<b>(1.25)</b>	<b>(1.72)</b>	<b>(1.61)</b>	<b>(1.40)</b>	<b>(.77)</b>	<b>(1.30)</b>
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$19.13</b>	<b>\$17.39</b>	<b>\$16.97</b>	<b>\$14.97</b>	<b>\$18.28</b>	<b>\$16.77</b>
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	17.25*	19.09	24.87	(11.42)	14.03	20.71
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data</b>						
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	44	37	33	28	35	30
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.78**	.79	.81	.80	.78	.78
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%) <sup>c</sup>	.67**	.66	.65	.67	.70	.71
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	(.24)**	.71	.76	.77	.76	.99
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	20*	23	22	17	15	18

<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.

\* Not annualized

\*\* 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 Small Cap 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 two classes of shares to investors: 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 up to 0.25% and up to 0.15%, respectively, of the Class B shares 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 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 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.** Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., serves as securities lending agent for the Fund, 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 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 efforts 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, 2021, 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 (0.01% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2021) 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, 2021, the Fund had securities on loan. 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, 2021

	Overnight and Continuous	<30 days	Between 30 & 90 days	>90 days	Total
<b>Securities Lending Transactions</b>					
Common Stocks	\$ 136,720,579	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 3,120,252	\$ 139,840,831
Rights	44	—	—	—	44
<b>Total Borrowings</b>	<b>\$ 136,720,623</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 3,120,252</b>	<b>\$ 139,840,875</b>

Gross amount of recognized liabilities and non-cash collateral for securities lending transactions: \$ 139,840,875

**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, 2021, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$481,353,473. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$130,342,498. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$158,353,129 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$28,010,631.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2020 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 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, 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 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. 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, 2021, 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.

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 recognized in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

A summary of the open futures contracts as of June 30, 2021, is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the investment in futures contracts purchased had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from approximately \$0 to \$3,889,000, and the investment in futures contracts sold had a total notional value generally indicative of a range from \$0 to \$10,039,000.

The following tables summarize the value of the Fund's derivative instruments held as of June 30, 2021 and the related location in the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities, presented by primary underlying risk exposure:

<b>Liability Derivative</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>
Equity Contracts (a)	\$ (38,882)

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Assets and Liabilities account:

- (a) 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.

Additionally, the amount of unrealized and realized gains and losses on derivative instruments recognized in Fund earnings during the six months ended June 30, 2021 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 (a)	\$ 279,216

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Operations account:

- (a) Net realized gain (loss) from futures

<b>Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>Futures Contracts</b>
Equity Contracts (a)	\$ (104,487)

The above derivative is located in the following Statement of Operations account:

- (a) Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on futures

### C. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended June 30, 2021, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$89,630,227 and \$114,432,167, 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.

Under the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee based on the average daily net assets of the Fund, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly at the annual rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.35%.

For the period from January 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, 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 expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	.39%
Class B	.67%

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

Class A	\$ 206,120
Class B	22,784
	<b>\$ 228,904</b>



**Administration Fee.** Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee (“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, 2021, the Administration Fee was \$222,476, of which \$37,695 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 shares. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Distribution Service Fee was as follows:

<b>Distribution Service Fee</b>	<b>Total Aggregated</b>	<b>Unpaid at June 30, 2021</b>
Class B	\$ 52,020	\$ 8,965

**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, 2021, 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, 2021</b>
Class A	\$ 675	\$ 205
Class B	138	45
	<b>\$ 813</b>	<b>\$ 250</b>

**Other Service Fees.** Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under “Reports to shareholders” aggregated \$3,078, of which \$570 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.

## **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 daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. 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, 2021.

## **F. Ownership of the Fund**

At June 30, 2021, three participating insurance companies were owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class A shares of the Fund, each owning 37%, 16% and 11%, respectively. At June 30, 2021, three participating insurance companies were beneficial owners of record of 10% or more of the total outstanding Class B shares of the Fund, each owning 39%, 18% and 16%, respectively.

## **G. Other — COVID-19 Pandemic**

A novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has caused significant uncertainty, market volatility, decreased economic and other activity, increased government activity, including economic stimulus measures, and supply chain interruptions. The full effects, duration and costs of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to predict, and the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to evolve, including the risk of future increased rates of infection due to low vaccination rates and/or the lack of effectiveness of current vaccines against new variants. The pandemic has affected and may continue to affect certain countries, industries, economic sectors, companies and investment products more than others, may exacerbate existing economic, political, or social tensions and may increase the probability of an economic recession or depression. The Fund and its investments may be adversely affected by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic may result in the Fund and its service providers experiencing operational difficulties in coordinating a remote workforce and implementing their business continuity plans, among others. 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.

## 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021).

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, 2021

<b>Actual Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,174.50	\$ 1,172.50
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 2.10	\$ 3.61

<b>Hypothetical 5% Fund Return</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Beginning Account Value 1/1/21	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Account Value 6/30/21	\$ 1,022.86	\$ 1,021.47
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 1.96	\$ 3.36

\* 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 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

<b>Annualized Expense Ratios</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
DWS Small Cap Index VIP	.39%	.67%

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 2021, 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, 2019 through November 30, 2020 (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 that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

## 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 Small Cap 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 2020.

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 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”).
- 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 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.

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. The Board also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA’s approach to addressing such risks. 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, 2019, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 2nd quartile, 1st 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).

**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 (4th quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2019). The Board noted that, effective March 1, 2020, the fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement was reduced to 0.097%. 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, 2019, 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. 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 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.

The Board also considered that on September 24, 2020, the SEC granted a temporary order permitting DIMA and its affiliates to continue providing investment advisory and underwriting services to the DWS Funds notwithstanding a consent order entered into by Deutsche Bank AG on June 17, 2020 (the "Consent Order"). The Board noted that the temporary order was granted effective as of the date of the Consent Order. The Board also noted various representations by DIMA to the Board relating to the Consent Order, including that the conduct giving rise to the Consent Order (unintentional conduct that resulted from a system outage that prevented Deutsche Bank AG from reporting data in accordance with applicable CFTC requirements for five days in April 2016) did not involve any DWS Fund or services DIMA and its affiliates provide to the DWS Funds, that DIMA and its personnel had no involvement in the alleged conduct giving rise to the Consent Order, and that the DWS Funds would not bear any financial impact or costs relating to the Consent Order.

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.



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## Invesco V.I. Equity and Income Fund



The Fund provides a complete list of its portfolio holdings four times each fiscal year, at the end of each fiscal quarter. For the second and fourth quarters, the list appears, respectively, in the Fund's semiannual and annual reports to shareholders. For the first and third quarters, the Fund files the list 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/corporate/about-us/esg](http://invesco.com/corporate/about-us/esg). 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, 12/31/20 to 6/30/21, excluding variable product issuer charges. If variable product issuer charges were included, returns would be lower.

Series I Shares	13.33%
Series II Shares	13.19
Russell 1000 Value Index <sup>▼</sup> (Broad Market Index)	17.05
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Government/Credit Index <sup>▼</sup> (Style-Specific Index)	-1.96
Lipper VUF Mixed-Asset Target Allocation Growth Funds Index <sup>■</sup> (Peer Group Index)	9.39

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 6/30/21

### Series I Shares

Inception (6/1/10)	10.25%
10 Years	9.46
5 Years	11.23
1 Year	37.30

### Series II Shares

Inception (4/30/03)	8.43%
10 Years	9.20
5 Years	10.94
1 Year	36.92

Effective June 1, 2010, Class II shares of the predecessor fund, Universal Institutional Funds Equity and Income Portfolio, advised by Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc. were reorganized into Series II shares of Invesco Van Kampen V.I. Equity and Income Fund (renamed Invesco V.I. Equity and Income Fund on April 29, 2013). Returns shown above, prior to June 1, 2010, for Series II shares are those of the Class II shares of the predecessor fund. Share class returns will differ from the predecessor fund because of different 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. Equity and Income 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

In compliance with Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Liquidity Rule"), 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 22-24, 2021, 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 January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 (the "Program Reporting Period"). The Report discussed notable events affecting liquidity over the Program Reporting Period, including the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the Fund and the overall market. The Report noted that there were no material changes to the Program during 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, 2021

(Unaudited)

	Shares	Value
<b>Common Stocks &amp; Other Equity Interests-63.63%</b>		
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense-3.53%</b>		
General Dynamics Corp.	63,051	\$ 11,869,981
Raytheon Technologies Corp.	244,030	20,818,200
Textron, Inc.	226,399	15,569,459
		48,257,640
<b>Apparel Retail-1.08%</b>		
TJX Cos., Inc. (The)	218,852	14,755,002
<b>Automobile Manufacturers-2.38%</b>		
General Motors Co. <sup>(b)</sup>	551,062	32,606,339
<b>Building Products-1.66%</b>		
Johnson Controls International PLC	330,967	22,714,265
<b>Cable &amp; Satellite-1.71%</b>		
Charter Communications, Inc., Class A <sup>(b)</sup>	16,770	12,098,717
Comcast Corp., Class A	197,452	11,258,713
		23,357,430
<b>Commodity Chemicals-0.56%</b>		
Dow, Inc.	120,128	7,601,700
<b>Construction &amp; Engineering-0.62%</b>		
Quanta Services, Inc.	94,055	8,518,561
<b>Consumer Finance-0.98%</b>		
American Express Co.	81,582	13,479,794
<b>Data Processing &amp; Outsourced Services-0.54%</b>		
Fiserv, Inc. <sup>(b)</sup>	68,689	7,342,167
<b>Distillers &amp; Vintners-0.40%</b>		
Diageo PLC (United Kingdom)	113,206	5,425,228
<b>Diversified Banks-4.69%</b>		
Bank of America Corp.	805,404	33,206,807
Wells Fargo & Co.	682,871	30,927,227
		64,134,034
<b>Electric Utilities-1.60%</b>		
Duke Energy Corp.	67,396	6,653,333
Exelon Corp.	170,136	7,538,726
FirstEnergy Corp.	205,643	7,651,976
		21,844,035
<b>Electrical Components &amp; Equipment-0.61%</b>		
Emerson Electric Co.	87,212	8,393,283
<b>Electronic Components-0.62%</b>		
Corning, Inc.	208,634	8,533,131
<b>Electronic Manufacturing Services-0.60%</b>		
TE Connectivity Ltd.	60,285	8,151,135
<b>Fertilizers &amp; Agricultural Chemicals-0.94%</b>		
Corteva, Inc.	289,728	12,849,437

	Shares	Value
<b>Food Distributors-1.49%</b>		
Sysco Corp.	142,541	\$ 11,082,563
US Foods Holding Corp. <sup>(b)</sup>	243,307	9,333,256
		20,415,819
<b>Gold-0.49%</b>		
Barrick Gold Corp. (Canada)	323,984	6,699,989
<b>Health Care Distributors-0.80%</b>		
McKesson Corp.	56,931	10,887,484
<b>Health Care Equipment-1.42%</b>		
Medtronic PLC	101,619	12,613,966
Zimmer Biomet Holdings, Inc.	42,840	6,889,529
		19,503,495
<b>Health Care Facilities-0.43%</b>		
Universal Health Services, Inc., Class B	40,688	5,957,944
<b>Health Care Services-1.62%</b>		
Cigna Corp.	52,995	12,563,525
CVS Health Corp.	115,926	9,672,865
		22,236,390
<b>Health Care Supplies-0.14%</b>		
Alcon, Inc. (Switzerland)	26,738	1,872,912
<b>Home Improvement Retail-0.56%</b>		
Kingfisher PLC (United Kingdom)	1,521,781	7,677,872
<b>Hotels, Resorts &amp; Cruise Lines-0.88%</b>		
Booking Holdings, Inc. <sup>(b)</sup>	5,530	12,100,138
<b>Human Resource &amp; Employment Services-0.39%</b>		
Adecco Group AG (Switzerland)	77,890	5,294,145
<b>Industrial Machinery-0.07%</b>		
Parker-Hannifin Corp.	3,003	922,251
<b>Insurance Brokers-0.50%</b>		
Willis Towers Watson PLC	29,505	6,786,740
<b>Integrated Oil &amp; Gas-0.91%</b>		
Chevron Corp.	119,445	12,510,669
<b>Investment Banking &amp; Brokerage-4.28%</b>		
Charles Schwab Corp. (The)	163,715	11,920,089
Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (The)	64,826	24,603,412
Morgan Stanley	240,130	22,017,520
		58,541,021
<b>IT Consulting &amp; Other Services-1.51%</b>		
Cognizant Technology Solutions Corp., Class A	298,685	20,686,923
<b>Managed Health Care-0.76%</b>		
Anthem, Inc.	27,244	10,401,759
<b>Movies &amp; Entertainment-2.03%</b>		
Netflix, Inc. <sup>(b)</sup>	19,586	10,345,521

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value
<b>Movies &amp; Entertainment-(continued)</b>		
Walt Disney Co. (The) <sup>(b)</sup>	99,233	\$ 17,442,184
		27,787,705
<b>Multi-line Insurance-1.51%</b>		
American International Group, Inc.	432,817	20,602,089
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Exploration &amp; Production-3.09%</b>		
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. (Canada)	222,080	8,061,956
ConocoPhillips	234,291	14,268,322
Devon Energy Corp.	366,601	10,701,083
Pioneer Natural Resources Co.	57,158	9,289,318
		42,320,679
<b>Other Diversified Financial Services-0.64%</b>		
Voya Financial, Inc.	141,754	8,717,871
<b>Pharmaceuticals-3.87%</b>		
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	192,108	12,836,657
GlaxoSmithKline PLC (United Kingdom)	368,448	7,238,039
Johnson & Johnson	41,647	6,860,927
Merck & Co., Inc.	98,115	7,630,403
Pfizer, Inc.	161,916	6,340,631
Sanofi (France)	115,384	12,090,589
		52,997,246
<b>Railroads-1.34%</b>		
CSX Corp.	570,687	18,307,639
<b>Real Estate Services-1.51%</b>		
CBRE Group, Inc., Class A <sup>(b)</sup>	241,163	20,674,904
<b>Regional Banks-3.93%</b>		
Citizens Financial Group, Inc.	440,364	20,199,497
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (The)	91,352	17,426,308
Truist Financial Corp.	291,001	16,150,555
		53,776,360
<b>Semiconductors-3.40%</b>		
Intel Corp.	289,334	16,243,211
Micron Technology, Inc. <sup>(b)</sup>	88,762	7,542,995
NXP Semiconductors N.V. (China)	56,051	11,530,812
QUALCOMM, Inc.	78,548	11,226,865
		46,543,883
<b>Specialty Chemicals-0.51%</b>		
Axalta Coating Systems Ltd. <sup>(b)</sup>	229,038	6,983,369
<b>Systems Software-1.00%</b>		
Oracle Corp.	176,303	13,723,425
<b>Tobacco-1.57%</b>		
Philip Morris International, Inc.	216,744	21,481,498
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services-0.46%</b>		
Vodafone Group PLC (United Kingdom)	3,711,662	6,242,749
Total Common Stocks & Other Equity Interests (Cost \$548,410,275)		870,618,149

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>U.S. Dollar Denominated Bonds &amp; Notes-20.25%</b>		
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense-0.34%</b>		
Boeing Co. (The), 5.81%, 05/01/2050	\$ 1,625,000	\$ 2,191,867
General Dynamics Corp., 3.88%, 07/15/2021	1,735,000	1,736,445
Precision Castparts Corp., 2.50%, 01/15/2023	333,000	342,335
Raytheon Technologies Corp., 4.45%, 11/16/2038	308,000	373,766
		4,644,413
<b>Agricultural &amp; Farm Machinery-0.09%</b>		
Deere & Co., 2.60%, 06/08/2022	1,161,000	1,180,406
<b>Agricultural Products-0.02%</b>		
Ingredion, Inc., 6.63%, 04/15/2037	232,000	323,251
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics-0.06%</b>		
FedEx Corp., 4.90%, 01/15/2034	402,000	502,420
United Parcel Service, Inc., 3.40%, 11/15/2046	240,000	270,208
		772,628
<b>Airlines-0.31%</b>		
American Airlines Pass-Through Trust, Series 2014-1, Class A, 3.70%, 04/01/2028	283,164	288,469
Continental Airlines Pass-Through Trust, Series 2012-1, Class A, 4.15%, 04/11/2024	281,906	299,861
JetBlue Airways Corp., Conv., 0.50%, 04/01/2026 <sup>(c)</sup>	1,732,000	1,734,598
Spirit Airlines, Inc., Conv., 1.00%, 05/15/2026	1,073,000	1,028,041
United Airlines Pass-Through Trust, Series 2014-2, Class A, 3.75%, 09/03/2026	363,867	385,392
Series 2018-1, Class AA, 3.50%, 03/01/2030	452,332	474,625
		4,210,986
<b>Alternative Carriers-0.20%</b>		
Liberty Latin America Ltd. (Chile), Conv., 2.00%, 07/15/2024	2,743,000	2,807,686
<b>Application Software-0.38%</b>		
salesforce.com, inc., 2.70%, 07/15/2041	1,413,000	1,424,209
Workday, Inc., Conv., 0.25%, 10/01/2022	2,248,000	3,727,409
		5,151,618
<b>Asset Management &amp; Custody Banks-0.30%</b>		
Apollo Management Holdings L.P., 4.00%, 05/30/2024 <sup>(c)</sup>	2,755,000	3,001,724
Brookfield Asset Management, Inc. (Canada), 4.00%, 01/15/2025	445,000	487,174
Carlyle Holdings Finance LLC, 3.88%, 02/01/2023 <sup>(c)</sup>	103,000	108,082
KKR Group Finance Co. III LLC, 5.13%, 06/01/2044 <sup>(c)</sup>	372,000	485,844
		4,082,824

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	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Automobile Manufacturers-0.26%</b>		
General Motors Co., 6.60%, 04/01/2036	\$ 377,000	\$ 518,142
General Motors Financial Co., Inc., 5.25%, 03/01/2026	480,000	554,662
Toyota Motor Credit Corp., 2.60%, 01/11/2022	2,460,000	2,490,825
		3,563,629

#### Biotechnology-0.57%

AbbVie, Inc., 4.50%, 05/14/2035	694,000	837,002
4.05%, 11/21/2039	1,322,000	1,537,551
4.85%, 06/15/2044	264,000	336,622
Gilead Sciences, Inc., 4.40%, 12/01/2021	473,000	476,191
3.25%, 09/01/2022	2,070,000	2,129,588
Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc., Conv., 2.25%, 05/15/2024	1,875,000	2,525,437
		7,842,391

#### Brewers-0.24%

Anheuser-Busch Cos. LLC/Anheuser- Busch InBev Worldwide, Inc. (Belgium), 4.70%, 02/01/2036	959,000	1,178,038
4.90%, 02/01/2046	538,000	682,167
Heineken N.V. (Netherlands), 3.50%, 01/29/2028 <sup>(c)</sup>	945,000	1,045,295
Molson Coors Beverage Co., 4.20%, 07/15/2046	377,000	421,013
		3,326,513

#### Cable & Satellite-1.62%

BofA Finance LLC, Conv., 0.13%, 09/01/2022	2,213,000	2,688,795
Cable One, Inc., Conv., 0.00%, 03/15/2026 <sup>(c)(d)</sup>	2,747,000	2,757,988
1.13%, 03/15/2028 <sup>(c)</sup>	1,311,000	1,339,863
Charter Communications Operating LLC/Charter Communications Operating Capital Corp., 4.46%, 07/23/2022	1,029,000	1,065,449
3.85%, 04/01/2061	1,067,000	1,049,849
Comcast Corp., 4.15%, 10/15/2028	935,000	1,083,047
6.45%, 03/15/2037	278,000	404,063
3.90%, 03/01/2038	756,000	871,203
Cox Communications, Inc., 2.95%, 10/01/2050 <sup>(c)</sup>	202,000	191,808
DISH Network Corp., Conv., 3.38%, 08/15/2026	7,604,000	7,778,892
Liberty Broadband Corp., Conv., 1.25%, 10/05/2023 <sup>(c)(e)</sup>	2,645,000	2,675,417
NBCUniversal Media LLC, 5.95%, 04/01/2041	197,000	284,312
		22,190,686

#### Commodity Chemicals-0.03%

LYB Finance Co. B.V. (Netherlands), 8.10%, 03/15/2027 <sup>(c)</sup>	339,000	452,019
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	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Communications Equipment-0.54%</b>		
Cisco Systems, Inc., 1.85%, 09/20/2021	\$ 1,605,000	\$ 1,608,736
Finisar Corp., Conv., 0.50%, 12/15/2021 <sup>(e)</sup>	1,052,000	1,047,448
Viavi Solutions, Inc., Conv., 1.75%, 06/01/2023	1,556,000	2,097,021
1.00%, 03/01/2024	1,874,000	2,648,196
		7,401,401

#### Computer & Electronics Retail-0.05%

Dell International LLC/EMC Corp., 5.45%, 06/15/2023	613,000	665,196
8.35%, 07/15/2046	14,000	22,934
		688,130

#### Construction Machinery & Heavy Trucks-0.06%

Caterpillar Financial Services Corp., 1.70%, 08/09/2021	785,000	786,318
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#### Consumer Finance-0.26%

American Express Co., 3.63%, 12/05/2024	324,000	354,423
Capital One Financial Corp., 3.20%, 01/30/2023	958,000	997,711
Discover Bank, 3.35%, 02/06/2023	1,500,000	1,563,184
Synchrony Financial, 3.95%, 12/01/2027	556,000	620,275
		3,535,593

#### Data Processing & Outsourced Services-0.11%

Fiserv, Inc., 3.80%, 10/01/2023	1,412,000	1,511,773
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#### Diversified Banks-1.23%

ANZ New Zealand (Int'l) Ltd. (New Zealand), 2.88%, 01/25/2022 <sup>(c)</sup>	350,000	355,297
Bank of America Corp., 3.25%, 10/21/2027	525,000	569,936
BBVA Bancomer S.A. (Mexico), 4.38%, 04/10/2024 <sup>(c)</sup>	700,000	762,240
Citigroup, Inc., 4.00%, 08/05/2024	60,000	65,376
3.67%, 07/24/2028 <sup>(f)</sup>	511,000	564,096
6.68%, 09/13/2043	741,000	1,141,135
5.30%, 05/06/2044	228,000	308,502
4.75%, 05/18/2046	356,000	453,903
HSBC Holdings PLC (United Kingdom), 2.63%, 11/07/2025 <sup>(f)</sup>	1,775,000	1,863,900
JPMorgan Chase & Co., 3.20%, 06/15/2026	394,000	429,181
3.51%, 01/23/2029 <sup>(f)</sup>	1,058,000	1,166,967
4.26%, 02/22/2048 <sup>(f)</sup>	489,000	594,651
3.90%, 01/23/2049 <sup>(f)</sup>	1,058,000	1,233,486
Series V, 3.46% (3 mo. USD LIBOR + 3.32%) <sup>(g)(h)</sup>	732,000	734,745
Mizuho Financial Group Cayman 3 Ltd. (Japan), 4.60%, 03/27/2024 <sup>(c)</sup>	200,000	218,284
National Australia Bank Ltd. (Australia), 1.88%, 07/12/2021 <sup>(i)</sup>	945,000	945,497

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Diversified Banks-(continued)</b>		
SMBC Aviation Capital Finance DAC (Ireland), 2.65%, 07/15/2021 <sup>(c)</sup>	\$ 315,000	\$ 315,237
Societe Generale S.A. (France), 5.00%, 01/17/2024 <sup>(c)</sup>	735,000	800,240
U.S. Bancorp, Series W, 3.10%, 04/27/2026	2,097,000	2,282,824
Wells Fargo & Co., 3.55%, 09/29/2025	626,000	688,328
4.10%, 06/03/2026	505,000	567,639
4.65%, 11/04/2044	647,000	799,617
		16,861,081

#### Diversified Capital Markets-0.34%

Credit Suisse AG (Switzerland), 6.50%, 08/08/2023 <sup>(c)</sup>	686,000	759,436
Conv., 0.50%, 06/24/2024 <sup>(c)</sup>	3,965,000	3,872,616
		4,632,052

#### Diversified Metals & Mining-0.02%

Rio Tinto Finance USA Ltd. (Australia), 7.13%, 07/15/2028	182,000	246,652
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#### Drug Retail-0.13%

CVS Pass-Through Trust, 6.04%, 12/10/2028	545,977	639,649
Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc., 3.30%, 11/18/2021	580,000	583,606
4.50%, 11/18/2034	428,000	499,305
		1,722,560

#### Electric Utilities-0.46%

Electricite de France S.A. (France), 4.88%, 01/22/2044 <sup>(c)</sup>	846,000	1,068,262
Georgia Power Co., Series B, 3.70%, 01/30/2050	350,000	380,896
NextEra Energy Capital Holdings, Inc., 0.65%, 03/01/2023	2,415,000	2,425,444
3.55%, 05/01/2027	530,000	586,105
Ohio Power Co., Series M, 5.38%, 10/01/2021	182,000	184,271
PPL Electric Utilities Corp., 6.25%, 05/15/2039	46,000	67,229
Xcel Energy, Inc., 0.50%, 10/15/2023	566,000	566,223
3.50%, 12/01/2049	964,000	1,044,795
		6,323,225

#### Food Retail-0.23%

Nestle Holdings, Inc., 3.10%, 09/24/2021 <sup>(c)</sup>	3,190,000	3,203,729
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#### General Merchandise Stores-0.03%

Dollar General Corp., 3.25%, 04/15/2023	353,000	368,492
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#### Health Care Equipment-0.37%

Becton, Dickinson and Co., 4.88%, 05/15/2044	428,000	508,437
DexCom, Inc., Conv., 0.75%, 12/01/2023	611,000	1,589,364
Integra LifeSciences Holdings Corp., Conv., 0.50%, 08/15/2025	1,984,000	2,200,058
Medtronic, Inc., 4.38%, 03/15/2035	249,000	310,174

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Health Care Equipment-(continued)</b>		
Tandem Diabetes Care, Inc., Conv., 1.50%, 05/01/2025 <sup>(c)</sup>	\$ 348,000	\$ 397,172
		5,005,205

#### Health Care Services-0.08%

Cigna Corp., 4.80%, 08/15/2038	307,000	382,787
CVS Health Corp., 3.38%, 08/12/2024	361,000	388,212
Laboratory Corp. of America Holdings, 4.70%, 02/01/2045	263,000	316,224
		1,087,223

#### Health Care Technology-0.28%

Teladoc Health, Inc., Conv., 1.25%, 06/01/2027	3,430,000	3,856,692
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#### Home Improvement Retail-0.15%

Home Depot, Inc. (The), 2.63%, 06/01/2022	2,010,000	2,051,371
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#### Hotel & Resort REITs-0.01%

Service Properties Trust, 5.00%, 08/15/2022	182,000	184,275
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#### Hotels, Resorts & Cruise Lines-0.16%

Booking Holdings, Inc., Conv., 0.90%, 09/15/2021	1,470,000	1,600,095
0.75%, 05/01/2025	396,000	561,924
		2,162,019

#### Industrial Conglomerates-0.12%

Honeywell International, Inc., 0.38% (3 mo. USD LIBOR + 0.23%), 08/19/2022 <sup>(h)</sup>	607,000	607,207
0.48%, 08/19/2022	1,055,000	1,055,352
		1,662,559

#### Insurance Brokers-0.02%

Willis North America, Inc., 3.60%, 05/15/2024	233,000	250,453
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#### Integrated Oil & Gas-0.29%

BP Capital Markets America, Inc., 2.94%, 06/04/2051	991,000	951,185
Cenovus Energy, Inc. (Canada), 3.95%, 04/15/2022	274,000	278,938
Chevron Corp., 2.50%, 03/03/2022	1,345,000	1,362,986
Chevron USA, Inc., 5.25%, 11/15/2043	756,000	1,029,122
Suncor Energy, Inc. (Canada), 3.60%, 12/01/2024	322,000	348,053
		3,970,284

#### Integrated Telecommunication Services-0.42%

AT&T, Inc., 3.00%, 06/30/2022	502,000	513,384
4.30%, 02/15/2030	318,000	367,843
4.50%, 05/15/2035	446,000	524,194
3.50%, 09/15/2053 <sup>(c)</sup>	447,000	449,766
3.55%, 09/15/2055 <sup>(c)</sup>	157,000	157,755
3.80%, 12/01/2057 <sup>(c)</sup>	255,000	266,163

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Integrated Telecommunication Services-(continued)</b>		
Telefonica Emisiones S.A. (Spain), 4.67%, 03/06/2038	\$ 750,000	\$ 884,726
5.21%, 03/08/2047	700,000	875,575
Verizon Communications, Inc., 4.40%, 11/01/2034	417,000	497,323
4.81%, 03/15/2039	459,000	582,261
3.40%, 03/22/2041	561,000	594,176
		5,713,166
<b>Interactive Home Entertainment-0.09%</b>		
Zynga, Inc., Conv., 0.00%, 12/15/2026 <sup>(c)(d)</sup>	1,140,000	1,221,225
<b>Interactive Media &amp; Services-0.02%</b>		
TripAdvisor, Inc., Conv., 0.25%, 04/01/2026 <sup>(c)</sup>	338,000	318,565
<b>Internet &amp; Direct Marketing Retail-0.92%</b>		
Amazon.com, Inc., 4.80%, 12/05/2034	9,000	11,621
2.88%, 05/12/2041	2,996,000	3,094,912
Match Group Financeco 3, Inc., Conv., 2.00%, 01/15/2030 <sup>(c)</sup>	3,305,000	6,731,954
Trip.com Group Ltd. (China), Conv., 1.25%, 09/15/2022	2,834,000	2,701,931
		12,540,418
<b>Internet Services &amp; Infrastructure-0.29%</b>		
Shopify, Inc. (Canada), Conv., 0.13%, 11/01/2025	3,055,000	3,992,885
<b>Investment Banking &amp; Brokerage-0.65%</b>		
Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (The), 5.25%, 07/27/2021	364,000	365,270
4.25%, 10/21/2025	529,000	591,773
GS Finance Corp., Series 0001, Conv., 0.25%, 07/08/2024	6,118,000	7,172,743
Morgan Stanley, 4.00%, 07/23/2025	654,000	727,974
		8,857,760
<b>IT Consulting &amp; Other Services-0.11%</b>		
International Business Machines Corp., 2.88%, 11/09/2022	1,421,000	1,471,044
<b>Life &amp; Health Insurance-0.51%</b>		
American Equity Investment Life Holding Co., 5.00%, 06/15/2027	853,000	965,791
Athene Global Funding, 4.00%, 01/25/2022 <sup>(c)</sup>	1,155,000	1,179,171
2.75%, 06/25/2024 <sup>(c)</sup>	260,000	272,809
Delaware Life Global Funding, Series 21-1, 2.66%, 06/29/2026 <sup>(c)</sup>	2,184,000	2,186,140
Guardian Life Global Funding, 2.90%, 05/06/2024 <sup>(c)</sup>	689,000	731,070
Jackson National Life Global Funding, 2.10%, 10/25/2021 <sup>(c)</sup>	489,000	491,874
3.25%, 01/30/2024 <sup>(c)</sup>	453,000	482,761
Nationwide Financial Services, Inc., 5.30%, 11/18/2044 <sup>(c)</sup>	440,000	554,935

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Life &amp; Health Insurance-(continued)</b>		
Prudential Financial, Inc., 3.91%, 12/07/2047	\$ 141,000	\$ 164,199
		7,028,750
<b>Managed Health Care-0.05%</b>		
UnitedHealth Group, Inc., 3.50%, 08/15/2039	559,000	625,612
<b>Movies &amp; Entertainment-0.91%</b>		
Liberty Media Corp., Conv., 1.38%, 10/15/2023	5,671,000	7,563,631
Liberty Media Corp.-Liberty Formula One, Conv., 1.00%, 01/30/2023	540,000	736,493
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc., Conv., 2.50%, 03/15/2023	2,015,000	2,823,619
Walt Disney Co. (The), 3.00%, 09/15/2022	1,350,000	1,393,993
		12,517,736
<b>Multi-line Insurance-0.13%</b>		
American International Group, Inc., 4.38%, 01/15/2055	696,000	846,772
Liberty Mutual Group, Inc., 3.95%, 05/15/2060 <sup>(c)</sup>	887,000	976,589
		1,823,361
<b>Multi-Utilities-0.10%</b>		
NiSource, Inc., 4.38%, 05/15/2047	571,000	685,552
Sempra Energy, 3.80%, 02/01/2038	559,000	622,238
		1,307,790
<b>Office REITs-0.05%</b>		
Office Properties Income Trust, 4.00%, 07/15/2022	689,000	711,758
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Exploration &amp; Production-0.07%</b>		
Cameron LNG LLC, 3.70%, 01/15/2039 <sup>(c)</sup>	622,000	694,693
ConocoPhillips, 4.15%, 11/15/2034	230,000	267,876
		962,569
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Storage &amp; Transportation-0.66%</b>		
Energy Transfer L.P., 4.20%, 09/15/2023	1,724,000	1,845,383
4.90%, 03/15/2035	344,000	398,899
5.30%, 04/01/2044	587,000	678,968
5.00%, 05/15/2050	724,000	838,429
Enterprise Products Operating LLC, 6.45%, 09/01/2040	23,000	32,956
4.25%, 02/15/2048	696,000	798,479
Kinder Morgan, Inc., 5.30%, 12/01/2034	407,000	503,595
MPLX L.P., 4.50%, 07/15/2023	1,721,000	1,841,377
4.50%, 04/15/2038	810,000	930,648
Plains All American Pipeline L.P./PAA Finance Corp., 3.65%, 06/01/2022	323,000	329,730
Spectra Energy Partners L.P., 4.50%, 03/15/2045	488,000	573,554

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.



	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Storage &amp; Transportation-(continued)</b>		
Texas Eastern Transmission L.P., 7.00%, 07/15/2032	\$ 169,000	\$ 234,620
		9,006,638
<b>Other Diversified Financial Services-0.99%</b>		
Convertible Trust - Energy, Series 2019-1, 0.33%, 09/19/2024	5,856,000	6,353,760
Convertible Trust - Media, Series 2019, Class 1, 0.25%, 12/04/2024	5,872,000	7,263,664
		13,617,424
<b>Packaged Foods &amp; Meats-0.00%</b>		
Mead Johnson Nutrition Co. (United Kingdom), 4.13%, 11/15/2025	63,000	70,903
<b>Paper Packaging-0.10%</b>		
International Paper Co., 6.00%, 11/15/2041	223,000	317,429
Packaging Corp. of America, 4.50%, 11/01/2023	1,037,000	1,121,146
		1,438,575
<b>Pharmaceuticals-0.95%</b>		
AstraZeneca PLC (United Kingdom), 2.38%, 06/12/2022	2,905,000	2,959,273
Bayer US Finance II LLC (Germany), 4.38%, 12/15/2028 <sup>(c)</sup>	985,000	1,129,580
Bayer US Finance LLC (Germany), 3.00%, 10/08/2021 <sup>(c)</sup>	790,000	795,664
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., 4.13%, 06/15/2039	621,000	751,032
GlaxoSmithKline Capital, Inc. (United Kingdom), 6.38%, 05/15/2038	64,000	96,032
Jazz Investments I Ltd., Conv., 2.00%, 06/15/2026	1,556,000	2,077,260
Pacira BioSciences, Inc., Conv., 2.38%, 04/01/2022	212,000	232,007
	875,000	963,594
Pfizer, Inc., 3.00%, 09/15/2021	1,855,000	1,865,869
	590,000	595,338
Supernus Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Conv., 0.63%, 04/01/2023	1,182,000	1,167,964
Zoetis, Inc., 4.70%, 02/01/2043	333,000	429,408
		13,063,021
<b>Property &amp; Casualty Insurance-0.19%</b>		
Allstate Corp. (The), 3.28%, 12/15/2026	302,000	333,589
Markel Corp., 5.00%, 03/30/2043	351,000	426,835
	497,000	645,865
Travelers Cos., Inc. (The), 4.60%, 08/01/2043	605,000	797,686
W.R. Berkley Corp., 4.63%, 03/15/2022	382,000	393,259
		2,597,234
<b>Railroads-0.24%</b>		
CSX Corp., 5.50%, 04/15/2041	346,000	471,507

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Railroads-(continued)</b>		
Norfolk Southern Corp., 3.40%, 11/01/2049	\$ 461,000	\$ 489,162
Union Pacific Corp., 3.65%, 02/15/2024	92,000	98,711
	1,018,000	1,081,518
	426,000	493,495
	519,000	592,532
		3,226,925
<b>Real Estate Services-0.21%</b>		
Redfin Corp., Conv., 0.00%, 10/15/2025 <sup>(c)(d)</sup>	2,593,000	2,921,015
<b>Regional Banks-0.06%</b>		
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (The), 3.45%, 04/23/2029	689,000	770,776
<b>Reinsurance-0.07%</b>		
PartnerRe Finance B LLC, 3.70%, 07/02/2029	500,000	556,207
Reinsurance Group of America, Inc., 4.70%, 09/15/2023	352,000	382,820
		939,027
<b>Renewable Electricity-0.06%</b>		
Oglethorpe Power Corp., 4.55%, 06/01/2044	679,000	780,870
<b>Restaurants-0.06%</b>		
Starbucks Corp., 3.55%, 08/15/2029	705,000	788,595
<b>Retail REITs-0.08%</b>		
Regency Centers L.P., 2.95%, 09/15/2029	750,000	790,646
	256,000	311,606
		1,102,252
<b>Semiconductors-1.12%</b>		
Broadcom, Inc., 3.47%, 04/15/2034 <sup>(c)</sup>	640,000	677,619
Cree, Inc., Conv., 0.88%, 09/01/2023	1,401,000	2,339,758
	984,000	2,140,692
Marvell Technology, Inc., 2.45%, 04/15/2028 <sup>(c)</sup>	1,210,000	1,234,484
Microchip Technology, Inc., Conv., 0.13%, 11/15/2024	3,865,000	4,367,450
Micron Technology, Inc., 4.66%, 02/15/2030	680,000	791,673
NVIDIA Corp., 2.20%, 09/16/2021	740,000	741,818
NXP B.V./NXP Funding LLC (China), 3.88%, 09/01/2022 <sup>(c)</sup>	1,885,000	1,955,208
	676,000	789,265
Texas Instruments, Inc., 2.63%, 05/15/2024	215,000	226,788
		15,264,755
<b>Soft Drinks-0.10%</b>		
PepsiCo, Inc., 3.00%, 08/25/2021	1,335,000	1,340,591

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Specialized REITs-0.33%</b>		
American Tower Corp., 1.60%, 04/15/2026	\$ 852,000	\$ 861,579
Crown Castle International Corp., 2.50%, 07/15/2031	1,413,000	1,424,905
4.75%, 05/15/2047	46,000	56,252
EPR Properties, 4.75%, 12/15/2026	1,556,000	1,688,765
LifeStorage L.P., 3.50%, 07/01/2026	404,000	442,233
		4,473,734
<b>Specialty Chemicals-0.01%</b>		
Sherwin-Williams Co. (The), 4.50%, 06/01/2047	159,000	199,235
<b>Systems Software-0.36%</b>		
FireEye, Inc., Series B, Conv., 1.63%, 06/01/2022 <sup>(e)</sup>	1,795,000	1,787,252
Series A, Conv., 1.00%, 06/01/2025 <sup>(e)</sup>	1,642,000	1,623,373
Microsoft Corp., 3.50%, 02/12/2035	404,000	469,727
Oracle Corp., 3.60%, 04/01/2040	965,000	1,019,439
		4,899,791
<b>Technology Distributors-0.05%</b>		
Avnet, Inc., 4.63%, 04/15/2026	671,000	755,403
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals-0.25%</b>		
Apple, Inc., 2.15%, 02/09/2022	691,000	699,330
3.35%, 02/09/2027	315,000	350,119
Western Digital Corp., Conv., 1.50%, 02/01/2024	2,149,000	2,306,146
		3,355,595
<b>Tobacco-0.23%</b>		
Altria Group, Inc., 5.80%, 02/14/2039	1,124,000	1,390,473
Philip Morris International, Inc., 3.60%, 11/15/2023	369,000	397,539
4.88%, 11/15/2043	1,102,000	1,380,469
		3,168,481
<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors-0.10%</b>		
Air Lease Corp., 3.00%, 09/15/2023	63,000	65,881
4.25%, 09/15/2024	427,000	465,941
Aircastle Ltd., 4.40%, 09/25/2023	771,000	825,965
		1,357,787
<b>Trucking-0.13%</b>		
Aviation Capital Group LLC, 2.88%, 01/20/2022 <sup>(c)</sup>	1,015,000	1,025,447
4.88%, 10/01/2025 <sup>(c)</sup>	709,000	787,975
		1,813,422
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services-0.22%</b>		
America Movil S.A.B. de C.V. (Mexico), 4.38%, 07/16/2042	600,000	722,179

	Principal Amount	Value
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services-(continued)</b>		
Rogers Communications, Inc. (Canada), 4.50%, 03/15/2043	\$ 533,000	\$ 625,289
4.30%, 02/15/2048	1,394,000	1,612,539
		2,960,007
Total U.S. Dollar Denominated Bonds & Notes (Cost \$245,890,706)		277,064,832
<b>U.S. Treasury Securities-11.25%</b>		
<b>U.S. Treasury Bills-0.00%</b>		
0.04%, 07/15/2021 <sup>(j)(k)</sup>	10,000	10,000
<b>U.S. Treasury Bonds-1.21%</b>		
4.50%, 02/15/2036	2,636,800	3,620,656
4.50%, 08/15/2039	36,400	51,332
4.38%, 05/15/2040	72,800	101,758
2.25%, 05/15/2041	2,983,800	3,105,483
1.88%, 02/15/2051 <sup>(i)</sup>	10,209,500	9,746,882
		16,626,111
<b>U.S. Treasury Notes-10.04%</b>		
0.13%, 06/30/2023	24,664,300	24,606,011
0.25%, 06/15/2024	24,618,500	24,469,443
0.88%, 06/30/2026	54,595,800	54,572,341
1.25%, 06/30/2028	21,222,100	21,256,917
1.63%, 05/15/2031 <sup>(i)</sup>	12,261,800	12,451,475
		137,356,187
Total U.S. Treasury Securities (Cost \$152,832,363)		153,992,298
	Shares	
<b>Preferred Stocks-0.56%</b>		
<b>Asset Management &amp; Custody Banks-0.19%</b>		
AMG Capital Trust II, 5.15%, Conv. Pfd.	44,432	2,593,940
<b>Diversified Banks-0.02%</b>		
Wells Fargo & Co., 5.85%, Series Q, Pfd. <sup>(i)</sup>	10,911	300,598
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Storage &amp; Transportation-0.35%</b>		
El Paso Energy Capital Trust I, 4.75%, Conv. Pfd.	95,499	4,798,825
Total Preferred Stocks (Cost \$5,960,701)		7,693,363
	Principal Amount	
<b>U.S. Government Sponsored Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities-0.07%</b>		
<b>Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. (FHLMC)-0.07%</b>		
6.75%, 03/15/2031	\$ 682,000	1,003,031
5.50%, 02/01/2037	5	6
		1,003,037
<b>Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA)-0.00%</b>		
9.50%, 04/01/2030	522	576
Total U.S. Government Sponsored Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities (Cost \$842,906)		1,003,613
	Shares	
<b>Money Market Funds-4.59%</b>		
Invesco Government & Agency Portfolio, Institutional Class, 0.03% <sup>(l)(m)</sup>	23,862,861	23,862,861
Invesco Liquid Assets Portfolio, Institutional Class, 0.01% <sup>(l)(m)</sup>	11,634,506	11,639,160

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value
<b>Money Market Funds-(continued)</b>		
Invesco Treasury Portfolio, Institutional Class, 0.01% <sup>(l)(m)</sup>	27,271,841	\$ 27,271,841
Total Money Market Funds (Cost \$62,767,638)		62,773,862
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES</b> (excluding investments purchased with cash collateral from securities on loan)-100.35% (Cost \$1,016,704,589)		
		1,373,146,117

#### Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities on Loan

##### Money Market Funds-1.68%

Invesco Private Government Fund, 0.02% <sup>(l)(m)(n)</sup>	6,873,385	6,873,385
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#### 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) 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, 2021 was \$54,540,472, which represented 3.99% of the Fund's Net Assets.
- (d) Zero coupon bond issued at a discount.
- (e) Security has an irrevocable call by the issuer or mandatory put by the holder. Maturity date reflects such call or put.
- (f) Security issued at a fixed rate for a specific period of time, after which it will convert to a variable rate.
- (g) Perpetual bond with no specified maturity date.
- (h) Interest or dividend rate is redetermined periodically. Rate shown is the rate in effect on June 30, 2021.
- (i) All or a portion of this security was out on loan at June 30, 2021.
- (j) All or a portion of the value was pledged as collateral to cover margin requirements for open futures contracts. See Note 1L.
- (k) Security traded on a discount basis. The interest rate shown represents the discount rate at the time of purchase by the Fund.
- (l) 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, 2021.

	Value December 31, 2020	Purchases at Cost	Proceeds from Sales	Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)	Realized Gain	Value June 30, 2021	Dividend Income
<b>Investments in Affiliated Money Market Funds:</b>							
Invesco Government & Agency Portfolio, Institutional Class	\$22,007,337	\$ 56,576,426	\$ (54,720,902)	\$ -	\$ -	\$23,862,861	\$ 3,155
Invesco Liquid Assets Portfolio, Institutional Class	11,695,851	38,883,035	(38,940,896)	(611)	1,781	11,639,160	1,114
Invesco Treasury Portfolio, Institutional Class	25,151,242	64,658,772	(62,538,173)	-	-	27,271,841	1,267
<b>Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities on Loan:</b>							
Invesco Private Government Fund	-	75,139,087	(68,265,702)	-	-	6,873,385	148*
Invesco Private Prime Fund	-	133,224,522	(117,186,624)	-	-	16,037,898	2,326*
Total	\$58,854,430	\$368,481,842	\$(341,652,297)	\$(611)	\$1,781	\$85,685,145	\$ 8,010

\* Represents the income earned on the investment of cash collateral, which is included in securities lending income on the Statement of Operations. Does not include rebates and fees paid to lending agent or premiums received from borrowers, if any.

<sup>(m)</sup> The rate shown is the 7-day SEC standardized yield as of June 30, 2021.

<sup>(n)</sup> The security has been segregated to satisfy the commitment to return the cash collateral received in securities lending transactions upon the borrower's return of the securities loaned. See Note 1L.

	Shares	Value
<b>Money Market Funds-(continued)</b>		
Invesco Private Prime Fund, 0.12% <sup>(l)(m)(n)</sup>	16,031,486	\$ 16,037,898
Total Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities on Loan (Cost \$22,911,283)		22,911,283
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES-102.03%</b> (Cost \$1,039,615,872)		
		1,396,057,400
<b>OTHER ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES-(2.03)%</b>		
		(27,713,335)
<b>NET ASSETS-100.00%</b>		
		\$1,368,344,065

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

## Open Futures Contracts

Short Futures Contracts	Number of Contracts	Expiration Month	Notional Value	Value	Unrealized Appreciation
<b>Interest Rate Risk</b>					
U.S. Treasury 5 Year Notes	9	September-2021	\$(1,110,867)	\$2,513	\$2,513

## Open Forward Foreign Currency Contracts

Settlement Date	Counterparty	Contract to				Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
		Deliver	Receive			
<b>Currency Risk</b>						
07/30/2021	Bank of New York Mellon (The)	EUR	7,634,382	USD	9,084,411	\$ 26,693
07/30/2021	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	CHF	6,292,742	USD	6,842,911	36,728
07/30/2021	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	GBP	14,087,424	USD	19,560,664	71,876
07/30/2021	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	133,573	CHF	123,542	50
Subtotal-Appreciation						135,347

<b>Currency Risk</b>						
07/30/2021	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	CAD	7,476,878	USD	6,031,086	(511)
07/30/2021	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	GBP	375,197	USD	517,881	(1,173)
07/30/2021	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	92,733	CAD	114,926	(22)
07/30/2021	State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	1,242,156	CHF	1,139,348	(9,846)
Subtotal-Depreciation						(11,552)
Total Forward Foreign Currency Contracts						\$123,795

### Abbreviations:

CAD - Canadian Dollar  
 CHF - Swiss Franc  
 EUR - Euro  
 GBP - British Pound Sterling  
 USD - U.S. Dollar

## Portfolio Composition

*By security type, based on Net Assets  
 as of June 30, 2021*

Common Stocks & Other Equity Interests	63.63%
U.S. Dollar Denominated Bonds & Notes	20.25
U.S. Treasury Securities	11.25
Security Types Each Less Than 1% of Portfolio	0.63
Money Market Funds Plus Other Assets Less Liabilities	4.24

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements which are an integral part of the financial statements.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

June 30, 2021

(Unaudited)

## Assets:

Investments in securities, at value (Cost \$953,936,951)*	\$1,310,372,255
Investments in affiliated money market funds, at value (Cost \$85,678,921)	85,685,145
Other investments:	
Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts outstanding	135,347
Foreign currencies, at value (Cost \$747)	749
Receivable for:	
Investments sold	4,485,499
Fund shares sold	202,208
Dividends	1,297,343
Interest	1,808,423
Investment for trustee deferred compensation and retirement plans	225,849
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>1,404,212,818</b>

## Liabilities:

Other investments:	
Variation margin payable - futures contracts	580
Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts outstanding	11,552
Payable for:	
Investments purchased	10,582,044
Fund shares reacquired	679,904
Collateral upon return of securities loaned	22,911,283
Accrued fees to affiliates	1,240,073
Accrued other operating expenses	196,134
Trustee deferred compensation and retirement plans	247,183
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>35,868,753</b>
<b>Net assets applicable to shares outstanding</b>	<b>\$1,368,344,065</b>

## Net assets consist of:

Shares of beneficial interest	\$ 902,630,772
Distributable earnings	465,713,293
	<b>\$1,368,344,065</b>

## Net Assets:

Series I	\$ 75,992,437
Series II	\$1,292,351,628

## Shares outstanding, no par value, with an unlimited number of shares authorized:

Series I	3,739,490
Series II	64,064,640
Series I:	
Net asset value per share	\$ 20.32
Series II:	
Net asset value per share	\$ 20.17

\* At June 30, 2021, securities with an aggregate value of \$22,560,054 were on loan to brokers.

# Statement of Operations

For the six months ended June 30, 2021

(Unaudited)

## Investment income:

Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$146,055)	\$ 9,019,112
Interest	3,119,151
Dividends from affiliated money market funds (includes securities lending income of \$36,713)	42,249
<b>Total investment income</b>	<b>12,180,512</b>

## Expenses:

Advisory fees	2,505,818
Administrative services fees	1,090,146
Custodian fees	13,766
Distribution fees - Series II	1,588,518
Transfer agent fees	17,426
Trustees' and officers' fees and benefits	13,368
Reports to shareholders	3,302
Professional services fees	25,876
Other	14,451
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>5,272,671</b>
Less: Fees waived	(10,023)
<b>Net expenses</b>	<b>5,262,648</b>
<b>Net investment income</b>	<b>6,917,864</b>

## Realized and unrealized gain (loss) from:

Net realized gain (loss) from:	
Unaffiliated investment securities	83,477,501
Affiliated investment securities	1,781
Foreign currencies	28,918
Forward foreign currency contracts	(421,477)
Futures contracts	11,275
	<b>83,097,998</b>
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of:	
Unaffiliated investment securities	72,725,889
Affiliated investment securities	(611)
Foreign currencies	(20,300)
Forward foreign currency contracts	602,948
Futures contracts	5,502
	<b>73,313,428</b>
<b>Net realized and unrealized gain</b>	<b>156,411,426</b>
<b>Net increase in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$163,329,290</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, 2021 and the year ended December 31, 2020

(Unaudited)

	June 30, 2021	December 31, 2020
<b>Operations:</b>		
Net investment income	\$ 6,917,864	\$ 17,914,424
Net realized gain	83,097,998	9,273,219
Change in net unrealized appreciation	73,313,428	67,118,598
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	163,329,290	94,306,241
<b>Distributions to shareholders from distributable earnings:</b>		
Series I	-	(2,664,901)
Series II	-	(74,585,577)
Total distributions from distributable earnings	-	(77,250,478)
<b>Share transactions-net:</b>		
Series I	26,926,987	(8,088,300)
Series II	(89,393,404)	(27,486,339)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from share transactions	(62,466,417)	(35,574,639)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets	100,862,873	(18,518,876)
<b>Net assets:</b>		
Beginning of period	1,267,481,192	1,286,000,068
End of period	\$1,368,344,065	\$1,267,481,192

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 06/30/21	\$17.93	\$0.12	\$ 2.27	\$ 2.39	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$20.32	13.33%	\$ 75,992	0.56% <sup>(d)</sup>	0.56% <sup>(d)</sup>	1.28% <sup>(d)</sup>	73%
Year ended 12/31/20	17.52	0.30	1.30	1.60	(0.42)	(0.77)	(1.19)	17.93	9.95	43,099	0.56	0.57	1.84	96
Year ended 12/31/19	16.12	0.36	2.82	3.18	(0.47)	(1.31)	(1.78)	17.52	20.37	50,731	0.54	0.55	2.02	150
Year ended 12/31/18	19.04	0.35	(2.00)	(1.65)	(0.43)	(0.84)	(1.27)	16.12	(9.50)	165,924	0.54	0.55	1.91	150
Year ended 12/31/17	17.76	0.35 <sup>(e)</sup>	1.58	1.93	(0.31)	(0.34)	(0.65)	19.04	11.03	184,768	0.55	0.56	1.93 <sup>(e)</sup>	119
Year ended 12/31/16	16.23	0.29	2.10	2.39	(0.32)	(0.54)	(0.86)	17.76	15.12	157,774	0.60	0.61	1.78	101
<b>Series II</b>														
Six months ended 06/30/21	17.82	0.10	2.25	2.35	-	-	-	20.17	13.19	1,292,352	0.81 <sup>(d)</sup>	0.81 <sup>(d)</sup>	1.03 <sup>(d)</sup>	73
Year ended 12/31/20	17.42	0.26	1.28	1.54	(0.37)	(0.77)	(1.14)	17.82	9.65	1,224,382	0.81	0.82	1.59	96
Year ended 12/31/19	16.04	0.31	2.80	3.11	(0.42)	(1.31)	(1.73)	17.42	20.01	1,235,269	0.79	0.80	1.77	150
Year ended 12/31/18	18.95	0.31	(2.00)	(1.69)	(0.38)	(0.84)	(1.22)	16.04	(9.73)	1,041,911	0.79	0.80	1.66	150
Year ended 12/31/17	17.68	0.31 <sup>(e)</sup>	1.57	1.88	(0.27)	(0.34)	(0.61)	18.95	10.78	1,385,490	0.80	0.81	1.68 <sup>(e)</sup>	119
Year ended 12/31/16	16.16	0.25	2.09	2.34	(0.28)	(0.54)	(0.82)	17.68	14.84	1,314,323	0.85	0.86	1.53	101

<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. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the portfolio turnover calculation excludes the value of securities purchased of \$22,225,472 in connection with the acquisition of Invesco V.I. Managed Volatility Fund into the Fund.

<sup>(d)</sup> Ratios are annualized and based on average daily net assets (000's omitted) of \$55,273 and \$1,281,346 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 \$0.30 and 1.64% and \$0.26 and 1.39% 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, 2021

(Unaudited)

## NOTE 1—Significant Accounting Policies

Invesco V.I. Equity and Income 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 objectives are both capital appreciation and current income.

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 and includes coupon interest and amortization of premium and accretion of discount on debt securities as applicable. 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, if any, are declared and paid monthly. Distributions from net realized capital gain, if any, are generally declared and paid annually and recorded on the ex-dividend date. The Fund may elect to treat a portion of the proceeds from redemptions as distributions for federal income tax purposes.

**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. Securities Lending** - The Fund may lend portfolio securities having a market value up to one-third of the Fund's total assets. Such loans are secured by collateral equal to no less than the market value of the loaned securities determined daily by the securities lending provider. Such collateral will be cash or debt securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or any of its sponsored agencies. Cash collateral received in connection with these loans is invested in short-term money market instruments or affiliated money market funds and is shown as such on the Schedule of Investments. The Fund bears the risk of loss with respect to the investment of collateral. It is the Fund's policy to obtain additional collateral from or return excess collateral to the borrower by the end of the next business day, following the valuation date of the securities loaned. Therefore, the value of the collateral held may be temporarily less than the value of the securities on loan. When loaning securities, the Fund retains certain benefits of owning the securities, including the economic equivalent of dividends or interest generated by the security. Lending securities entails a risk of loss to the Fund if, and to the extent that, the market value of the securities loaned were to increase and the borrower did not increase the collateral accordingly, and the borrower failed to return the securities. The securities loaned are subject to termination at the option of the borrower or the Fund. Upon termination, the borrower will return to the Fund the securities loaned and the Fund will return the collateral. Upon the failure of the borrower to return the securities, collateral may be liquidated and the securities may be purchased on the open market to replace the loaned securities. The Fund could experience delays and costs in gaining access to the collateral and the securities may lose value during the delay which could result in potential losses to the Fund. Some of these losses may be indemnified by the lending agent. The Fund bears the risk of any deficiency in the amount of the collateral available for return to the borrower due to any loss on the collateral invested. Dividends received on cash collateral investments for securities lending transactions, which are net of compensation to counterparties, are included in *Dividends from affiliated money market funds* on the Statement of Operations. The aggregate value of securities out on loan, if any, is shown as a footnote on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

**J. 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.

**K. 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.

**L. 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.

**M. COVID-19 Risk** - The COVID-19 strain of coronavirus has resulted in instances of market closures and dislocations, extreme volatility, liquidity constraints and increased trading costs. Efforts to contain its spread have resulted in travel restrictions, disruptions of healthcare systems, business operations and supply chains, layoffs, lower consumer demand, and defaults, among other significant economic impacts that have disrupted global economic activity across many industries. Such economic impacts may exacerbate other pre-existing political, social and economic risks locally or globally.

The ongoing effects of COVID-19 are unpredictable and may result in significant and prolonged effects on the Fund’s performance.

**N. Collateral** – To the extent the Fund has designated or segregated a security as collateral and that security is subsequently sold, it is the Fund’s practice to replace such collateral no later than the next business day. This practice does not apply to securities pledged as collateral for securities lending transactions.

## 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 based on the annual rate of the Fund’s average daily net assets as follows:

Average Daily Net Assets	Rate
First \$150 million	0.500%
Next \$100 million	0.450%
Next \$100 million	0.400%
Over \$350 million	0.350%

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the effective advisory fee rate incurred by the Fund was 0.38%.

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. (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, 2022, 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 1.50% and Series II shares to 1.75% of the Fund’s 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, 2022. 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, 2023, 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 (excluding investments of cash collateral from securities lending) in such affiliated money market funds.

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Adviser waived advisory fees of \$10,023.

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, 2021, Invesco was paid \$95,941 for accounting and fund administrative services and was reimbursed \$994,205 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. IIS may make payments to intermediaries that provide omnibus account services, sub-accounting services and/or networking services. All fees payable by IIS to intermediaries that provide omnibus account services or sub-accounting services are charged back to the Fund, subject to certain limitations approved by the Trust’s Board of Trustees. For the six months ended June 30, 2021, 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, 2021, expenses incurred under the Plan are detailed in the Statement of Operations as *Distribution fees*.

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Fund incurred \$5,336 in brokerage commissions with Invesco Capital Markets, Inc., an affiliate of the Adviser and IDI, for portfolio transactions executed on behalf of the Fund.

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, 2021. 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	\$824,776,615	\$ 45,841,534	\$-	\$ 870,618,149
U.S. Dollar Denominated Bonds & Notes	-	277,064,832	-	277,064,832
U.S. Treasury Securities	-	153,992,298	-	153,992,298
Preferred Stocks	7,693,363	-	-	7,693,363
U.S. Government Sponsored Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	-	1,003,613	-	1,003,613
Money Market Funds	62,773,862	22,911,283	-	85,685,145
<b>Total Investments in Securities</b>	<b>895,243,840</b>	<b>500,813,560</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,396,057,400</b>
<b>Other Investments - Assets*</b>				
Futures Contracts	2,513	-	-	2,513
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	-	135,347	-	135,347
	2,513	135,347	-	137,860
<b>Other Investments - Liabilities*</b>				
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	-	(11,552)	-	(11,552)
<b>Total Other Investments</b>	<b>2,513</b>	<b>123,795</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>126,308</b>
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>\$895,246,353</b>	<b>\$500,937,355</b>	<b>\$-</b>	<b>\$1,396,183,708</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, 2021:

Derivative Assets	Value		
	Currency Risk	Interest Rate Risk	Total
Unrealized appreciation on futures contracts – Exchange-Traded <sup>(a)</sup>	\$ -	\$ 2,513	\$ 2,513
Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts outstanding	135,347	-	135,347
Total Derivative Assets	135,347	2,513	137,860
Derivatives not subject to master netting agreements	-	(2,513)	(2,513)
Total Derivative Assets subject to master netting agreements	\$135,347	\$ -	\$135,347

Derivative Liabilities	Value		
	Currency Risk	Interest Rate Risk	Total
Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts outstanding	\$ (11,552)	\$ -	\$ (11,552)
Derivatives not subject to master netting agreements	-	-	-
Total Derivative Liabilities subject to master netting agreements	\$ (11,552)	\$ -	\$ (11,552)

<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, 2021.

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)	\$ 26,693	\$ -	\$ 26,693	\$-	\$-	\$ 26,693
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	108,654	(11,552)	97,102	-	-	97,102
Total	\$135,347	\$(11,552)	\$123,795	\$-	\$-	\$123,795

### Effect of Derivative Investments for the six months ended June 30, 2021

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	Interest Rate Risk	Total
Realized Gain (Loss):			
Forward foreign currency contracts	\$(421,477)	\$ -	\$(421,477)
Futures contracts	-	11,275	11,275
Change in Net Unrealized Appreciation:			
Forward foreign currency contracts	602,948	-	602,948
Futures contracts	-	5,502	5,502
Total	\$ 181,471	\$16,777	\$ 198,248

The table below summarizes the average notional value of derivatives held during the period.

	Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	Futures Contracts
Average notional value	\$45,816,703	\$1,137,671

### NOTE 5—Security Transactions with Affiliated Funds

The Fund is permitted to purchase or sell securities from or to certain other Invesco Funds under specified conditions outlined in procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Trust. The procedures have been designed to ensure that any purchase or sale of securities by the Fund from or to another fund or portfolio that is or could be considered 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 of the 1940 Act. Further, as defined under the procedures, each transaction is effected at the current market price. Pursuant to these procedures, for the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Fund engaged in securities purchases of \$1,880,377.

## NOTE 6—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 7—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 8—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, 2020.

## NOTE 9—Investment Transactions

The aggregate amount of investment securities (other than short-term securities, U.S. Government obligations and money market funds, if any) purchased and sold by the Fund during the six months ended June 30, 2021 was \$170,267,567 and \$348,567,534, 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	\$344,250,839
Aggregate unrealized (depreciation) of investments	(3,153,424)
Net unrealized appreciation of investments	\$341,097,415

Cost of investments for tax purposes is \$1,055,086,293.

## NOTE 10—Share Information

### Summary of Share Activity

	Six months ended June 30, 2021 <sup>(a)</sup>		Year ended December 31, 2020	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
<b>Sold:</b>				
Series I	187,558	\$ 3,762,169	192,505	\$ 3,212,832
Series II	703,652	13,780,097	8,497,726	137,573,138
<b>Issued as reinvestment of dividends:</b>				
Series I	-	-	166,556	2,664,901
Series II	-	-	4,685,024	74,585,577
<b>Issued in connection with acquisitions:<sup>(b)</sup></b>				
Series I	1,511,358	30,408,542	-	-
Series II	55,570	1,110,840	-	-
<b>Reacquired:</b>				
Series I	(363,409)	(7,243,724)	(851,279)	(13,966,033)
Series II	(5,388,746)	(104,284,341)	(15,407,946)	(239,645,054)
Net increase (decrease) in share activity	(3,294,017)	\$ (62,466,417)	(2,717,414)	\$ (35,574,639)

<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 72% 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.

(b) After the close of business on April 30, 2021, the Fund acquired all the net assets of Invesco V.I. Managed Volatility Fund (the "Target Fund") pursuant to a plan of reorganization approved by the Board of Trustees of the Fund on December 3, 2020 and by the shareholders of the Target Fund on April 5, 2021. The reorganization was executed in order to reduce overlap and increase efficiencies in the Adviser's product line. The acquisition was accomplished by a tax-free exchange of 1,566,928 shares of the Fund for 2,556,075 shares outstanding of the Target Fund as of the close of business on April 30, 2021. Shares of the Target Fund were exchanged for the like class of shares of the Fund, based on the relative net asset value of the Target Fund to the net asset value of the Fund on the close of business, April 30, 2021. The Target Fund's net assets as of the close of business on April 30, 2021 of \$31,519,382, including \$8,543,643 of unrealized appreciation (depreciation), were combined with those of the Fund. The net assets of the Fund immediately before the acquisition were \$1,356,523,614 and \$1,388,042,996 immediately after the acquisition.

The pro forma results of operations for the six months ended June 30, 2021 assuming the reorganization had been completed on January 1, 2021, the beginning of the semi-annual reporting period are as follows:

Net investment income	\$ 6,912,393
Net realized/unrealized gains	158,787,176
Change in net assets resulting from operations	<u>\$165,699,569</u>

As the combined investment portfolios have been managed as a single integrated portfolio since the acquisition was completed, it is not practicable to separate the amounts of revenue and earnings of the Target Fund that has been included in the Fund's Statement of Operations since May 1, 2021.

# 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, 2021 through June 30, 2021.

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 (01/01/21)	ACTUAL		HYPOTHETICAL (5% annual return before expenses)		Annualized Expense Ratio
		Ending Account Value (06/30/21) <sup>1</sup>	Expenses Paid During Period <sup>2</sup>	Ending Account Value (06/30/21)	Expenses Paid During Period <sup>2</sup>	
Series I	\$1,000.00	\$1,133.30	\$2.96	\$1,022.02	\$2.81	0.56%
Series II	1,000.00	1,131.90	4.28	1,020.78	4.06	0.81

<sup>1</sup> The actual ending account value is based on the actual total return of the Fund for the period January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021, 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 181/365 to reflect the most recent fiscal half year.

# Approval of Investment Advisory and Sub-Advisory Contracts

At meetings held on June 10, 2021, 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. Equity and Income 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, 2021. 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 has established an Investments Committee, which in turn has established Sub-Committees that 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 has established additional standing and ad hoc committees that meet regularly throughout the year to review matters within their purview. The Board took into account evaluations and reports that it received from its committees and sub-committees, as well as the information provided to the Board and its committees and sub-committees 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 and expense data regarding the Invesco Funds prepared by 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 and as part of meetings convened on April 27, 2021 and June 10, 2021, the independent Trustees also discussed 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 and sub-advisory contracts, 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. The information received and considered by the Board was current as of various dates prior to the Board's approval on June 10, 2021.

## 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 and oversight, credit analysis, and research capabilities. The Board considered information regarding Invesco Advisers' programs for and resources devoted to risk management, including management of investment, enterprise, operational, liquidity, valuation and compliance risks, and technology used to manage such risks. The Board also received and reviewed information about Invesco Advisers' role as administrator of the Invesco Funds' liquidity risk management program. The Board received a description of Invesco Advisers' business continuity plans and of its approach to data privacy and cybersecurity, including related testing. The Board considered how the cybersecurity and business continuity plans of Invesco Advisers and its key service providers operated in the increased remote working environment resulting from the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") pandemic. 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 observed that Invesco Advisers has been able to effectively manage, operate and oversee the Invesco Funds through the challenging COVID-19 pandemic period. The Board reviewed and considered the benefits to shareholders of investing in a Fund that is

part of the family of funds under the umbrella of Invesco Ltd., Invesco Advisers' parent company, and noted Invesco Ltd.'s depth and experience in running an investment management business, as well as its commitment of financial and other resources to such business. 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 to the Fund 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, 2020 to the performance of funds in the Broadridge performance universe and against the Russell 1000<sup>®</sup> Value Index (Index). The Board noted that performance of Series I shares of the Fund was in the fourth 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 above the performance of the Index for the one year period, reasonably comparable to the performance of the Index for the three year period, and below the performance of the Index for the five year period. The Board noted that the Fund's stock selection in certain sectors, as well as exposure to issuers operating in industries that were significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic detracted from Fund performance. 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, which did not change its 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 is not able to provide information on a fund by fund basis as to what is included. The Board also reviewed the methodology used by Broadridge in calculating 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 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 its affiliates to other client accounts that are similarly managed. Invesco Advisers reviewed with the Board differences in the scope of services it provides to the Invesco Funds relative to that provided by Invesco Advisers and its affiliates 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. Invesco Advisers also advised the Board that many of the similarly managed client accounts have all-inclusive fee structures, which are not easily un-bundled.

The Board also compared the Fund's effective advisory fee rate (defined for this purpose as 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, 2020.

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 and the Invesco Funds, and the extent to which such economies of scale are shared with the Fund and the Invesco Funds. The Board considered that the Fund benefits from economies of scale through contractual breakpoints in the Fund's advisory fee schedule, which generally operate to reduce the Fund's expense ratio as it grows in size.

The Board requested and received additional information from Invesco Advisers regarding the levels of the Fund's breakpoints in light of current assets. The Board noted that the Fund also shares in economies of scale through Invesco Advisers' ability to negotiate lower fee arrangements with third party service providers. The Board noted that the Fund may also benefit from economies of scale through initial fee setting, fee waivers and expense reimbursements, as well as Invesco Advisers' investment 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 that such methodology had recently been reviewed and enhanced. 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 most Funds individually. 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 noted that Invesco Advisers provided information demonstrating that Invesco Advisers is financially sound and has the resources necessary to perform its obligations under the investment advisory agreement, and provided representations indicating that the Affiliated Sub-Advisers are financially sound and have the resources necessary to perform their obligations under the 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 received comparative information regarding fees charged for these services, including information provided by Broadridge and other independent sources. The Board reviewed the performance of Invesco Advisers and its affiliates in providing these services and the organizational structure employed to provide these services. The Board noted that these services are provided to the Fund pursuant to written contracts that are reviewed and subject to approval on an annual basis by the Board based on its determination 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 from Invesco Advisers periodic reports that include a representation to the effect 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. The Board considered information regarding the returns of the affiliated money market funds relative to comparable overnight investments, as well as the fees paid by the affiliated money market funds to Invesco Advisers and its affiliates. In this regard, the Board noted that Invesco Advisers receives advisory fees from these affiliated money market funds attributable to the Fund's investments. The Board also noted that Invesco Advisers has contractually agreed to waive through varying periods 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 advisory fees payable to Invesco Advisers from the Fund's investment of cash collateral from any securities lending arrangements in the affiliated money market funds are for services that are not duplicative of services provided by Invesco Advisers to the Fund.

The Board also received information about commissions that an affiliated broker may receive for executing certain trades for the Fund. Invesco Advisers and the Affiliated Sub-Advisers advised the Board of the benefits to the Fund of executing trades through the affiliated broker and that such trades were 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

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Investment strategy behind your portfolio
- Portfolio performance, characteristics and holdings

**Janus Henderson**  
———— INVESTORS ————

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### PORTFOLIO SNAPSHOT

Forty Fund is a concentrated large-cap growth fund, leveraging Janus Henderson's three decades of experience in high-conviction investing. By investing in our best wide-moat ideas, the Fund seeks to add excess return over the long term. Given its concentrated nature, the Fund may exhibit moderately higher volatility than its benchmark.



Doug Rao  
co-portfolio manager

Nick Schommer  
co-portfolio manager

**Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio (unaudited)**  
**Portfolio At A Glance**  
**June 30, 2021**

**5 Top Contributors - Holdings**

	<b>Average Weight</b>	<b>Relative Contribution</b>
Blackstone Group Inc	2.90%	1.03%
ASML Holding NV	2.73%	0.66%
Snap Inc	3.24%	0.66%
Apple Inc	4.43%	0.62%
NVIDIA Corp	2.48%	0.33%

**5 Top Detractors - Holdings**

	<b>Average Weight</b>	<b>Relative Contribution</b>
Mastercard Inc	6.00%	-0.52%
CoStar Group Inc	1.99%	-0.47%
Uber Technologies Inc	1.45%	-0.46%
Alphabet Inc - Class C	3.25%	-0.40%
Booking Holdings Inc	2.72%	-0.40%

**5 Top Contributors - Sectors\***

	<b>Relative Contribution</b>	<b>Portfolio Average Weight</b>	<b>Russell 1000 Growth Index Average Weight</b>
Information Technology	1.42%	35.54%	44.60%
Financials	1.05%	3.16%	1.90%
Consumer Discretionary	0.32%	15.66%	16.54%
Health Care	0.31%	13.62%	13.51%
Consumer Staples	0.12%	2.00%	4.32%

**5 Top Detractors - Sectors\***

	<b>Relative Contribution</b>	<b>Portfolio Average Weight</b>	<b>Russell 1000 Growth Index Average Weight</b>
Industrials	-0.91%	5.66%	4.67%
Other**	-0.22%	1.49%	0.00%
Energy	-0.02%	0.00%	0.10%
Real Estate	-0.01%	2.04%	1.69%
Utilities	0.00%	0.00%	0.02%

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, 2021

#### 5 Largest Equity Holdings - (% of Net Assets)

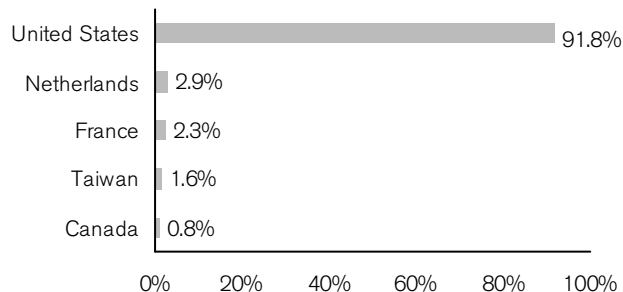
Microsoft Corp	
Software	8.4%
Amazon.com Inc	
Internet & Direct Marketing Retail	8.2%
Facebook Inc	
Interactive Media & Services	6.4%
Mastercard Inc	
Information Technology Services	5.7%
Apple Inc	
Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals	3.9%
	<u>32.6%</u>

#### Asset Allocation - (% of Net Assets)

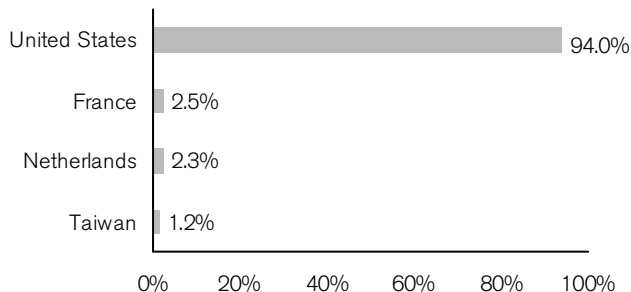
Common Stocks	98.5%
Investment Companies	1.5%
Private Investment in Public Equity (PIPES)	0.6%
Investments Purchased with Cash	
Collateral from Securities Lending	0.2%
Warrants	0.0%
Other	(0.8)%
	<u>100.0%</u>

#### Top Country Allocations - Long Positions - (% of Investment Securities)

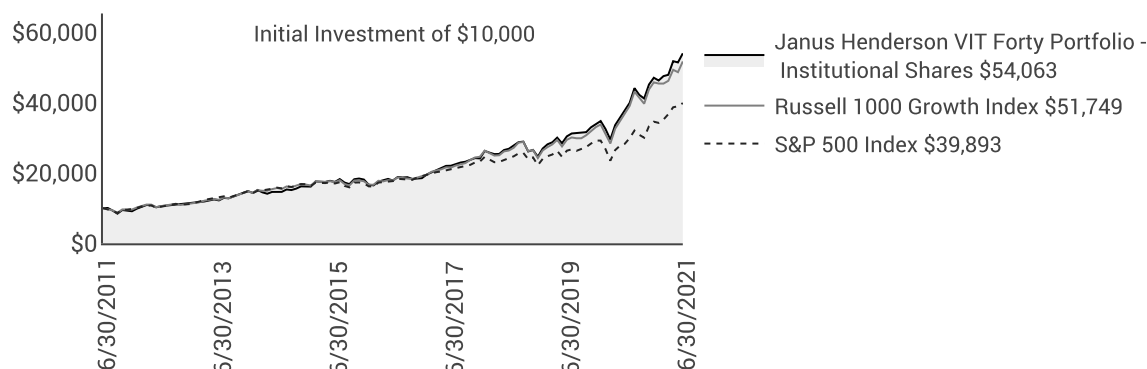
As of June 30, 2021



As of December 31, 2020



# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio (unaudited) Performance



	Average Annual Total Return - for the periods ended June 30, 2021					Prospectus Expense Ratios
	Fiscal Year-to-Date	One Year	Five Year	Ten Year	Since Inception*	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>†</sup>
Institutional Shares	14.76%	44.33%	24.78%	18.38%	13.42%	0.76%
Service Shares	14.61%	43.97%	24.48%	18.09%	13.11%	1.01%
Russell 1000 Growth Index	12.99%	42.50%	23.66%	17.87%	9.85%	
S&P 500 Index	15.25%	40.79%	17.65%	14.84%	9.24%	
Morningstar Quartile - Institutional Shares	-	1st	1st	1st	1st	
Morningstar Ranking - based on total returns for Large Growth Funds	-	267/1,259	211/1,150	145/1,012	12/515	

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 foreign and emerging markets, fixed income securities, high-yield and high-risk securities, undervalued, overlooked and smaller capitalization companies, real estate related securities including Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), non-diversification, portfolio turnover, derivatives, short sales, initial public offerings (IPOs) and potential conflicts of interest. Each product has different risks. Please see the prospectus for more information about risks, holdings and other details.

High absolute short-term performance is not typical and may not be achieved in the future. Such results should not be the sole basis for evaluating material facts in making an investment decision.

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 important disclosures on the next page.

## **Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio (unaudited) Performance**

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information for index definitions.

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)			
	Beginning Account Value (1/1/21)	Ending Account Value (6/30/21)	Expenses Paid During Period (1/1/21 - 6/30/21)†	Beginning Account Value (1/1/21)	Ending Account Value (6/30/21)	Expenses Paid During Period (1/1/21 - 6/30/21)†	Net Annualized Expense Ratio (1/1/21 - 6/30/21)
Institutional							
Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,147.60	\$4.10	\$1,000.00	\$1,020.98	\$3.86	0.77%
Service Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,146.10	\$5.37	\$1,000.00	\$1,019.79	\$5.06	1.01%

† Expenses Paid During Period are equal to the Net Annualized Expense Ratio multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 181/365 (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, 2021

	<i>Shares or Principal Amounts</i>	<i>Value</i>
Common Stocks– 98.5%		
Aerospace & Defense – 1.7%		
L3Harris Technologies Inc	93,519	\$20,214,132
Biotechnology – 1.1%		
Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc*	64,670	13,039,412
Capital Markets – 3.1%		
Blackstone Group Inc	376,677	36,590,404
Chemicals – 2.2%		
Sherwin-Williams Co	97,032	26,436,368
Diversified Financial Services – 0.3%		
Altimeter Growth Corp - Class A*:#	284,205	3,325,198
Entertainment – 3.0%		
Netflix Inc*	46,933	24,790,480
Walt Disney Co*	65,620	11,534,027
		36,324,507
Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) – 2.1%		
American Tower Corp	94,791	25,606,841
Health Care Equipment & Supplies – 11.8%		
Align Technology Inc*	45,709	27,928,199
Boston Scientific Corp*	822,355	35,163,900
DanaHER Corp	139,362	37,399,186
DexCom Inc*	66,501	28,395,927
Edwards Lifesciences Corp*	125,970	13,046,713
		141,933,925
Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure – 0.9%		
Caesars Entertainment Inc*	106,944	11,095,440
Household Products – 1.8%		
Procter & Gamble Co	157,909	21,306,661
Information Technology Services – 8.4%		
Mastercard Inc	187,412	68,422,247
Shopify Inc*	7,082	10,346,660
Twilio Inc*	56,118	22,119,471
		100,888,378
Interactive Media & Services – 14.9%		
Alphabet Inc - Class C*	16,836	42,196,403
Facebook Inc*	219,722	76,399,537
Match Group Inc*	107,516	17,336,955
Snap Inc*	618,449	42,141,115
		178,074,010
Internet & Direct Marketing Retail – 11.2%		
Amazon.com Inc*	28,685	98,680,990
Booking Holdings Inc*	13,052	28,558,951
Farfetch Ltd - Class A*	143,744	7,238,948
		134,478,889
Pharmaceuticals – 0.9%		
Elanco Animal Health Inc*	316,672	10,985,352
Professional Services – 1.9%		
CoStar Group Inc*	267,500	22,154,350
Road & Rail – 0.5%		
Uber Technologies Inc*	121,951	6,112,184
Semiconductor & Semiconductor Equipment – 10.6%		
ASML Holding NV	50,830	35,115,397
NVIDIA Corp	49,906	39,929,791
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd (ADR)	158,012	18,986,722
Texas Instruments Inc	174,170	33,492,891
		127,524,801
Software – 12.9%		
Adobe Inc*	73,795	43,217,304
Microsoft Corp	369,831	100,187,218
Workday Inc*	49,025	11,704,228
		155,108,750

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, 2021**

	<i>Shares or Principal Amounts</i>	<i>Value</i>
Common Stocks– (continued)		
Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals – 3.9%		
Apple Inc	342,983	\$46,974,952
Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods – 3.4%		
LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE	35,465	27,806,040
NIKE Inc	80,075	12,370,787
		40,176,827
Wireless Telecommunication Services – 1.9%		
T-Mobile US Inc*	160,388	23,228,994
<b>Total Common Stocks (cost \$560,747,037)</b>		<b>1,181,580,375</b>
Private Investment in Public Equity (PIPES)– 0.6%		
Diversified Financial Services – 0.6%		
Altimeter Growth Corp* <sup>§</sup> (cost \$5,715,450)	571,545	6,687,076
Warrants– 0%		
Diversified Financial Services – 0%		
Altimeter Growth Corp, expires 9/30/25* (cost \$181,685)	56,841	181,323
Investment Companies– 1.5%		
Money Markets – 1.5%		
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 0.0636% <sup>∞,£</sup> (cost \$18,059,697)	18,057,891	18,059,697
Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending– 0.2%		
Investment Companies – 0.2%		
Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, 0.0011% <sup>∞,£</sup>	2,046,269	2,046,269
Time Deposits – 0%		
Royal Bank of Canada, 0.0500%, 7/1/21	\$511,567	511,567
<b>Total Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending (cost \$2,557,836)</b>		<b>2,557,836</b>
<b>Total Investments (total cost \$587,261,705) – 100.8%</b>		<b>1,209,066,307</b>
Liabilities, net of Cash, Receivables and Other Assets – (0.8)%		(9,275,192)
<b>Net Assets – 100%</b>		<b>\$1,199,791,115</b>

**Summary of Investments by Country - (Long Positions) (unaudited)**

<i>Country</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>% of Investment Securities</i>
United States	\$1,109,572,540	91.8%
Netherlands	35,115,397	2.9
France	27,806,040	2.3
Taiwan	18,986,722	1.6
Canada	10,346,660	0.8
United Kingdom	7,238,948	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,209,066,307</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, 2021**

**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 6/30/21</i>
Investment Companies - 1.5%							
Money Markets - 1.5%							
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 0.0636%	\$	5,007	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 18,059,697
Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending - 0.2%							
Investment Companies - 0.2%							
Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, 0.0011%		55,612 <sup>A</sup>		-		-	2,046,269
<b>Total Affiliated Investments - 1.7%</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>60,619</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$ 20,105,966</b>

	<i>Value at 12/31/20</i>	<i>Purchases</i>	<i>Sales Proceeds</i>	<i>Value at 6/30/21</i>
Investment Companies - 1.5%				
Money Markets - 1.5%				
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 0.0636%	22,532,880	93,320,488	(97,793,671)	18,059,697
Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending - 0.2%				
Investment Companies - 0.2%				
Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, 0.0011%	-	7,414,150	(5,367,881)	2,046,269

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.
ADR	American Depositary Receipt
LLC	Limited Liability Company

\* Non-income producing security.

°° Rate shown is the 7-day yield as of June 30, 2021.

# Loaned security; a portion of the security is on loan at June 30, 2021.

£ 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.

§ Schedule of Restricted Securities (as of June 30, 2021)

	<i>Acquisition Date</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Value as a % of Net Assets</i>
Altimeter Growth Corp	4/14/21	\$ 5,715,450	\$ 6,687,076	0.6%

The Portfolio has registration rights for certain restricted securities held as of June 30, 2021. The issuer incurs all registration costs.

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, 2021. 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>	\$ 1,181,580,375	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Private Investment in Public Equity (PIPES)</i>	-	6,687,076	-
<i>Warrants</i>	181,323	-	-
<i>Investment Companies</i>	-	18,059,697	-
<i>Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending</i>	-	2,557,836	-
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,181,761,698</b>	<b>\$ 27,304,609</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities (unaudited)

### June 30, 2021

Assets:	
Unaffiliated investments, at value (cost \$567,155,739) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1,188,960,341
Affiliated investments, at value (cost \$20,105,966)	20,105,966
Non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation	29,223
Receivables:	
Portfolio shares sold	274,941
Dividends	238,407
Foreign tax reclaims	26,796
Dividends from affiliates	816
Other assets	60,597
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,209,697,087</b>
Liabilities:	
Due to custodian	34
Foreign cash due to custodian	104
Collateral for securities loaned (Note 2)	2,557,836
Payables:	
Investments purchased	5,715,450
Advisory fees	687,745
Portfolio shares repurchased	620,827
12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees	138,278
Transfer agent fees and expenses	50,411
Non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation fees	29,223
Professional fees	22,412
Non-interested Trustees' fees and expenses	4,210
Affiliated portfolio administration fees payable	2,375
Custodian fees	1,287
Accrued expenses and other payables	75,780
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>9,905,972</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,199,791,115</b>
Net Assets Consist of:	
Capital (par value and paid-in surplus)	\$ 513,447,150
Total distributable earnings (loss)	686,343,965
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,199,791,115</b>
Net Assets - Institutional Shares	\$ 503,030,336
Shares Outstanding, \$0.001 Par Value (unlimited shares authorized)	8,724,165
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>	<b>\$ 57.66</b>
Net Assets - Service Shares	\$ 696,760,779
Shares Outstanding, \$0.001 Par Value (unlimited shares authorized)	13,157,922
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>	<b>\$ 52.95</b>

(1) Includes \$2,504,548 of securities on loan. See Note 2 in Notes to Financial Statements.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**  
**Statement of Operations (unaudited)**  
**For the period ended June 30, 2021**

Investment Income:		
Dividends	\$	2,906,237
Affiliated securities lending income, net		55,612
Dividends from affiliates		5,007
Unaffiliated securities lending income, net		72
Foreign tax withheld		(71,313)
<b>Total Investment Income</b>		<b>2,895,615</b>
Expenses:		
Advisory fees		3,861,243
12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees:		
Service Shares		792,846
Transfer agent administrative fees and expenses:		
Institutional Shares		114,732
Service Shares		158,569
Other transfer agent fees and expenses:		
Institutional Shares		11,450
Service Shares		6,565
Professional fees		21,422
Shareholder reports expense		18,415
Affiliated portfolio administration fees		17,039
Registration fees		9,803
Non-interested Trustees' fees and expenses		7,944
Custodian fees		3,888
Other expenses		45,565
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>5,069,481</b>
<b>Net Investment Income/(Loss)</b>		<b>(2,173,866)</b>
Net Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments:		
Investments and foreign currency transactions		69,874,100
<b>Total Net Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments</b>		<b>69,874,100</b>
Change in Unrealized Net Appreciation/Depreciation:		
Investments, foreign currency translations and non-interested Trustees' deferred compensation		88,138,160
<b>Total Change in Unrealized Net Appreciation/Depreciation</b>		<b>88,138,160</b>
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>155,838,394</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	<i>Period ended</i>	
	<i>June 30, 2021</i>	<i>Year ended</i>
	<i>(unaudited)</i>	<i>December 31, 2020</i>
Operations:		
Net investment income/(loss)	\$ (2,173,866)	\$ (1,577,379)
Net realized gain/(loss) on investments	69,874,100	142,555,684
Change in unrealized net appreciation/depreciation	88,138,160	177,594,441
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>155,838,394</b>	<b>318,572,746</b>
Dividends and Distributions to Shareholders:		
Institutional Shares	(57,583,957)	(28,629,140)
Service Shares	(86,533,730)	(43,209,494)
<b>Net Decrease from Dividends and Distributions to Shareholders</b>	<b>(144,117,687)</b>	<b>(71,838,634)</b>
Capital Share Transactions:		
Institutional Shares	32,636,865	(4,352,608)
Service Shares	58,824,456	(32,885,634)
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) from Capital Share Transactions</b>	<b>91,461,321</b>	<b>(37,238,242)</b>
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>103,182,028</b>	<b>209,495,870</b>
Net Assets:		
Beginning of period	1,096,609,087	887,113,217
<b>End of period</b>	<b>\$ 1,199,791,115</b>	<b>\$ 1,096,609,087</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, 2021 (unaudited) and the year ended

December 31	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$57.00	\$44.38	\$35.20	\$39.76	\$32.19	\$36.37
Income/(Loss) from Investment Operations:						
Net investment income/(loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.07)	(0.01)	0.09	0.07	0.02	0.05
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss)	8.22	16.29	12.55	1.31	9.58	0.58
Total from Investment Operations	8.15	16.28	12.64	1.38	9.60	0.63
Less Dividends and Distributions:						
Dividends (from net investment income)	—	(0.14)	(0.06)	—	—	—
Distributions (from capital gains)	(7.49)	(3.52)	(3.40)	(5.94)	(2.03)	(4.81)
Total Dividends and Distributions	(7.49)	(3.66)	(3.46)	(5.94)	(2.03)	(4.81)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$57.66	\$57.00	\$44.38	\$35.20	\$39.76	\$32.19
Total Return*	14.76%	39.40%	37.16%	1.98%	30.31%	2.20%
Net Assets, End of Period (in thousands)	\$503,030	\$462,216	\$362,001	\$292,132	\$309,258	\$257,009
Average Net Assets for the Period (in thousands)	\$470,362	\$389,419	\$337,416	\$327,962	\$297,125	\$273,374
Ratios to Average Net Assets**:						
Ratio of Gross Expenses	0.77%	0.76%	0.77%	0.71%	0.82%	0.72%
Ratio of Net Expenses (After Waivers and Expense Offsets)	0.77%	0.76%	0.77%	0.71%	0.82%	0.72%
Ratio of Net Investment Income/(Loss)	(0.25)%	(0.02)%	0.23%	0.17%	0.05%	0.15%
Portfolio Turnover Rate	14%	41%	35%	41%	39%	53%

### Service Shares

For a share outstanding during the period ended June 30, 2021 (unaudited) and the year ended

December 31	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$52.96	\$41.53	\$33.15	\$37.84	\$30.79	\$35.08
Income/(Loss) from Investment Operations:						
Net investment income/(loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.13)	(0.12)	(0.01)	(0.03)	(0.07)	(0.03)
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss)	7.61	15.15	11.80	1.28	9.15	0.55
Total from Investment Operations	7.48	15.03	11.79	1.25	9.08	0.52
Less Dividends and Distributions:						
Dividends (from net investment income)	—	(0.08)	(0.01)	—	—	—
Distributions (from capital gains)	(7.49)	(3.52)	(3.40)	(5.94)	(2.03)	(4.81)
Total Dividends and Distributions	(7.49)	(3.60)	(3.41)	(5.94)	(2.03)	(4.81)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$52.95	\$52.96	\$41.53	\$33.15	\$37.84	\$30.79
Total Return*	14.61%	39.03%	36.85%	1.72%	29.99%	1.94%
Net Assets, End of Period (in thousands)	\$696,761	\$634,393	\$525,112	\$427,321	\$466,969	\$430,510
Average Net Assets for the Period (in thousands)	\$650,014	\$548,645	\$495,465	\$487,559	\$457,168	\$464,943
Ratios to Average Net Assets**:						
Ratio of Gross Expenses	1.01%	1.01%	1.02%	0.96%	1.06%	0.97%
Ratio of Net Expenses (After Waivers and Expense Offsets)	1.01%	1.01%	1.02%	0.96%	1.06%	0.97%
Ratio of Net Investment Income/(Loss)	(0.49)%	(0.27)%	(0.02)%	(0.08)%	(0.19)%	(0.09)%
Portfolio Turnover Rate	14%	41%	35%	41%	39%	53%

\* 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 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, 2021 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 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. Extremely low or negative interest rates may become more prevalent or may not work as intended. As there is little precedent for this situation, the impact on various markets that interest rate or other significant policy changes may have is unknown. 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, including those which may be attributable to global climate change, such as earthquakes, fires, floods, hurricanes, tsunamis and weather-related phenomena generally, have been and can 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 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.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

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 Management LLC ("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. 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.

A number of countries in the European Union (the "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. These difficulties may continue, worsen, or spread further within the EU. 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," which immediately led to significant market volatility around the world, as well as political, economic and legal uncertainty. The United Kingdom formally left the EU on January 31, 2020 and entered into an eleven-month transition period, which expired on December 31, 2020. The negative impact on not only the United Kingdom and European economies could be significant, potentially resulting in increased volatility and illiquidity and lower economic growth for companies that rely significantly on the United Kingdom and/or Europe for their business activities and revenues. Any further exits from the EU, or an increase in the belief that such exits are likely or possible, would likely cause additional market disruption globally and introduce new legal and regulatory uncertainties.

### 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.

### 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.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

### Offsetting of Financial Assets and Derivative Assets

Counterparty	Gross Amounts of Recognized		Offsetting Asset		Collateral		Net Amount	
	Assets		or Liability <sup>(a)</sup>		Pledged <sup>(b)</sup>			
JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association	\$	2,504,548	\$	—	\$	(2,504,548)	\$	—

(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.

### 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, 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.

### Restricted Security Transactions

Restricted securities held by the Portfolio may not be sold except in exempt transactions or in a public offering registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The risk of investing in such securities is generally greater than the risk of investing in the securities of widely held, publicly traded companies. Lack of a secondary market and resale restrictions may result in the inability of the Portfolio to sell a security at a fair price and may substantially delay the sale of the security. In addition, these securities may exhibit greater price volatility than securities for which secondary markets exist.

### 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. 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.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

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, or in time deposits. An investment in Janus Henderson Cash 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, 2021, securities lending transactions accounted for as secured borrowings with an overnight and continuous contractual maturity are \$2,504,548. Gross amounts of recognized liabilities for securities lending (collateral received) as of June 30, 2021 is \$2,557,836, resulting in the net amount due to the counterparty of \$53,288.

### 3. Investment Advisory Agreements and Other Transactions with Affiliates

The Portfolio pays Janus Capital an investment advisory fee rate that may adjust up or down based on the Portfolio's performance relative to its benchmark index.

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 (the "Base Fee Rate"), plus or minus (2) a performance-fee adjustment (the "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 advisory fee rate is calculated daily and paid monthly.

The investment performance of the Portfolio's Service Shares for the performance measurement period is used to calculate the Performance Adjustment. The Portfolio's Base Fee Rate prior to any performance adjustment (expressed as an annual rate) is 0.64%, and the Portfolio's benchmark index used in the calculation is the Russell 1000<sup>®</sup> Growth Index.

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 Base Fee Rate is subject to an upward or downward Performance Adjustment for every full 0.50% increment by which the Portfolio outperforms or underperforms its benchmark index, up to the Portfolio's full performance rate of  $\pm 8.50\%$ . Because the Performance Adjustment is tied to a Portfolio's relative performance compared to its benchmark index (and not its absolute performance), the Performance Adjustment could increase Janus Capital's fee even if the Portfolio's Shares lose value during the performance measurement period and could decrease Janus Capital's fee even if the Portfolio's Shares increase in value during the performance measurement period. For purposes of computing the Base Fee Rate and the Performance Adjustment, net assets are averaged over different periods (average daily net assets during the previous month for the Base Fee Rate, versus average daily net assets during the performance measurement period for the Performance Adjustment). Performance

## Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

### Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

of the Portfolio is calculated net of expenses whereas the Portfolio's benchmark index does not have any fees or expenses. Reinvestment of dividends and distributions is included in calculating both the performance of a Portfolio and the Portfolio's benchmark index.

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, 2021, 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 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 \$16,571 was paid to the Chief Compliance Officer and certain compliance staff by the Trust during the period ended June 30, 2021. 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

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

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, 2021 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, 2021 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 \$308,300 were paid by the Trust to the Trustees under the Deferred Plan during the period ended June 30, 2021.

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, 2021 can be found in the "Schedules of Affiliated Investments" located in the Schedule of Investments.

#### 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, 2021 are noted below. The primary differences between book and tax appreciation or depreciation of investments are wash sale loss deferrals, investments in partnerships, and investments in passive foreign investment companies.

<i>Federal Tax Cost</i>	<i>Unrealized Appreciation</i>	<i>Unrealized (Depreciation)</i>	<i>Net Tax Appreciation/ (Depreciation)</i>
\$ 590,265,603	\$621,038,920	\$ (2,238,216)	\$ 618,800,704



# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

### 5. Capital Share Transactions

	Period ended June 30, 2021		Year ended December 31, 2020	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
<b>Institutional Shares:</b>				
Shares sold	279,373	\$16,493,323	1,037,980	\$ 48,778,741
Reinvested dividends and distributions	1,032,896	57,583,957	667,502	28,629,140
Shares repurchased	(697,412)	(41,440,415)	(1,752,621)	(81,760,489)
Net Increase/(Decrease)	614,857	\$32,636,865	(47,139)	\$ (4,352,608)
<b>Service Shares:</b>				
Shares sold	557,156	\$30,491,175	1,055,239	\$ 47,177,425
Reinvested dividends and distributions	1,689,782	86,533,730	1,082,945	43,209,494
Shares repurchased	(1,067,736)	(58,200,449)	(2,804,441)	(123,272,553)
Net Increase/(Decrease)	1,179,202	\$58,824,456	(666,257)	\$(32,885,634)

### 6. Purchases and Sales of Investment Securities

For the period ended June 30, 2021, 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>
\$154,504,950	\$ 194,022,784	\$ -	\$ -

### 7. Subsequent Event

Management has evaluated whether any events or transactions occurred subsequent to June 30, 2021 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 files its complete portfolio holdings (schedule of investments) with the SEC 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 shareholders. The Portfolio's Form N-PORT filings and annual and semiannual reports: (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 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 9, 2020, 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, 2021 through February 1, 2022, 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.

### **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

## **Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**

### **Additional Information (unaudited)**

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, 2020, approximately 75% of the Janus Henderson Funds were in the top two quartiles of performance versus Broadridge peers, and for the 12 months ended September 30, 2020, approximately 62% of the Janus Henderson Funds were in the top two quartiles of performance versus Broadridge peers.

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, 2020 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2020.
- For Janus Henderson Enterprise Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2020 and the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2020. The Trustees noted the reasons for the Fund's underperformance and the steps Janus Capital had taken or was taking to improve performance.
- For Janus Henderson Flexible Bond Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the third Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2020 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2020. The Trustees noted the reasons for the Fund's underperformance and the steps Janus Capital had taken or was taking to improve performance, and that the performance trend was improving.

# 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, 2020 and the second Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2020.
- For Janus Henderson Global Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the third Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2020 and the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2020. 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.
- For Janus Henderson Global Technology and Innovation Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the first Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2020 and the second Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2020.
- For Janus Henderson Mid Cap Value Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the third Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2020 and the third Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2020. 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 and Perkins had taken or were taking to improve performance.
- For Janus Henderson Overseas Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2020 and the third Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2020. 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.
- 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, 2020 and the third Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2020. 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.
- For Janus Henderson U.S. Low Volatility Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's performance was in the second Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended May 31, 2020 and the third Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended May 31, 2020.

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 fees and any administration fees 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 comparable mutual funds; (2) the total expenses, on average, were 10% under the average total expenses of the respective Broadridge Expense Group peers; and (3) the management fees for the Janus Henderson Funds, on average, were 9% under the average management fees for the respective Broadridge Expense Group. The Trustees also considered the total expenses for

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Additional Information (unaudited)

each share class of each Janus Henderson Fund compared to the average total expenses for its Broadridge Expense Group 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 operate in markets very distinct relative to retail funds; 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) 9 of 10 Janus Henderson Funds have lower management fees than similar funds subadvised by Janus Capital; and (5) 5 of 8 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 2019, 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 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, 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 Technology and Innovation Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the Fund's total expenses were below the peer group 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 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 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 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 exists 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 fixed base rate as a percentage of net assets, without any breakpoints or performance fees, their independent fee consultant concluded that 73% of these Janus Henderson Funds' 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 of those 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

## **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 significant investments made by Janus Capital and its affiliates related to services provided to the Funds and 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 economies of scale 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 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**

The 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

## **Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**

### **Additional Information (unaudited)**

could not meet redemption requests without significant dilution of remaining investors' interest in the fund. The LRMP 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 of the Portfolio (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 Risk Working Group").

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, 2021, the Program Administrator provided the Program Administrator Report to the Trustees which covered the operation of the LRMP from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 (the "Reporting Period").

The Program Administrator Report discussed the operation and effectiveness of the LRMP during the Reporting Period. It noted that the Portfolio was able to meet redemptions during the normal course of business during the Reporting Period, and discussed the additional actions that the Liquidity Risk Working Group took during the period of market volatility in the spring of 2020 to monitor the Portfolio's liquidity. The Program Administrator Report also stated that the Portfolio did not exceed the 15% limit on illiquid assets during the Reporting Period, that the Portfolio held primarily highly liquid assets, and was considered to be a primarily highly liquid fund 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.

There can be no assurance that the LRMP will achieve its objectives in the future. Please refer to your Portfolio's prospectus for more information regarding the risks to which an investment in the Portfolio may be subject.



# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)

### 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. 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. 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.

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.

# Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio

## Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)

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 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

## **Janus Henderson VIT Forty Portfolio**

### **Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)**

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**  
— 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, 2021

PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)



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 Shareholder,

We hope that you and your family are remaining 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, 2021. On the subsequent pages, you will find specific details regarding investment results and a discussion of the factors that most affected performance during the reporting period.

### For the six-month reporting period ended June 30, 2021

The global economy was severely impacted by the repercussions related to the COVID-19 pandemic ("COVID-19"). Looking back, fourth quarter 2020 U.S. annualized gross domestic product ("GDP") growth was 4.3%. The economy gained momentum during the first quarter of 2021 as GDP growth in the U.S. was 6.3%. Finally, the Commerce Department's initial estimate for second quarter annualized GDP growth — released after the reporting period ended — was 6.5%.

Despite improving economic data and inflationary concerns, the Federal Reserve (the "Fed") maintained its accommodative monetary policy. This included keeping the federal funds rate at an all-time low of a range between 0.00% and 0.25%, as well as continuing to purchase at least \$80 billion a month of Treasury securities and \$40 billion a month of agency mortgage-backed securities. However, at its June 2021 meeting, the Fed pushed forward its forecast for the first rate hikes. The central bank now expects two interest rate increases by the end of 2023, compared to 2024 in its March 2021 update. In addition, while Fed Chair Jerome Powell said it would begin discussing a scaling back of bond purchases, he maintained his view on inflation, saying, "As these transitory supply effects abate, inflation is expected to drop back toward our longer-run goal." He also said that any discussion of raising rates was "highly premature."

Economies outside the U.S. also continued to be impacted by COVID-19. In its April 2021 World Economic Outlook Update, the International Monetary Fund ("IMF") said it expects U.S. GDP growth to be 6.4% in 2021, compared to a 3.5% contraction in 2020. Elsewhere, the IMF expects 2021 GDP growth in the eurozone, U.K. and Japan will be 4.4%, 5.3% and 3.3%, respectively. For comparison purposes, the GDP of these economies was projected to be -6.6%, -9.9% and -4.8%, respectively, in 2020.

Central banks outside the U.S. also maintained their aggressive actions to support their economies. The European Central Bank (the "ECB") kept rates at an all-time low. It also continued to purchase bonds and, in June 2021, vowed to increase its purchases at a significantly higher pace than earlier in the year. Finally, in July 2021, after the reporting period ended, the ECB announced its first strategy review since 2003, which included a 2% inflation target over the medium term, versus its previous target for inflation that was below but close to 2%. Elsewhere, the Bank of England held its key lending rate at a record low of 0.10% and continued its bond buying program. In June 2021, the central bank said it did not expect to raise rates until there was clear evidence that significant progress was being made in eliminating spare capacity and achieving its 2% inflation target. Finally, the Bank of Japan maintained its short-term interest rate at -0.10%, while increasing the target for its holdings of corporate bonds. In June 2021, it extended the September deadline for its COVID-19-relief program by at least six months.

Both short- and long-term U.S. Treasury yields moved higher, albeit from very low levels, during the reporting period. The yield on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note was 1.45% at the end of the reporting period, versus 0.93% on December 31, 2020. 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 -2.02%. Meanwhile, the Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Credit Index (USD Hedged), a widely used index of global investment grade credit bonds, returned -1.04%. Riskier fixed income asset classes, including high yield corporate bonds and emerging market debt, produced mixed returns. The ICE BofAML Developed Markets High Yield Constrained Index (USD Hedged), a widely used index of below-investment-grade bonds, returned 3.65%, whereas

emerging market external debt, as represented by the JPMorgan Emerging Markets Bond Index (EMBI) Global (USD Hedged), returned -1.00%. Emerging market local bonds, as represented by the JPMorgan Government Bond Index-Emerging Markets Global Diversified Index (Unhedged), returned -3.38%.

Despite periods of volatility, global equities produced strong results. All told, U.S. equities, as represented by the S&P 500 Index, returned 15.25%, fueled, in our view, by accommodative monetary and fiscal policy and improved investor sentiment after positive COVID-19 vaccine news. Global equities, as represented by the MSCI World Index, returned 13.05%, whereas emerging market equities, as measured by the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, returned 7.45%. Meanwhile, Japanese equities, as represented by the Nikkei 225 Index (in JPY), returned 5.74% and European equities, as represented by the MSCI Europe Index, returned 15.35%.

Commodity prices were volatile but generally produced positive results. When the reporting period began, Brent crude oil was approximately \$51 a barrel, but ended the reporting period at roughly \$75 a barrel. We believe oil prices rallied as producers reduced their output and then demand increased as global growth improved. Elsewhere, copper prices moved sharply higher, whereas gold prices declined.

Finally, there were also periods of volatility in the foreign exchange markets, in our view due to fluctuating economic growth, trade conflicts and changing central bank monetary policies, along with several geopolitical events. The U.S. dollar strengthened against several other major currencies. For example, the U.S. dollar returned 2.93% and 7.07% versus the euro and Japanese yen, respectively. However, the U.S. dollar returned -1.18% versus the British pound.

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 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 and Other 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' enforcement of restrictions on U.S. investments in certain issuers and tariffs on goods from other countries, each 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 ultimately phase out the use of LIBOR. 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). Any potential effects of the transition away from LIBOR on the Portfolio or on certain instruments in which the Portfolio invests can be difficult to ascertain, and they may vary depending on a variety of factors. The transition may also 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. Any such effects of the transition away from LIBOR, as well as other unforeseen effects, could result in losses to the Portfolio.

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 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.

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) 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

## Important Information About the PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

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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.

The SEC adopted a rule that allows 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 elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge by contacting their insurance company. Any election to receive reports in paper will apply to all portfolio companies available under the investor's contract at the insurance company.

In August 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.

In October 2020, the SEC adopted a rule related to the use of derivatives, short sales, reverse repurchase agreements and certain other transactions by registered investment companies that recinds and withdraws the guidance of the SEC and its staff regarding asset segregation and cover transactions. Subject to certain exceptions, and after an eighteen-month transition period, the rule requires portfolios to trade derivatives and other transactions that create future payment or delivery obligations (except reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions) subject to a value-at-risk leverage limit, certain derivatives risk management program and reporting requirements. These requirements may limit the ability of the Portfolio to use derivatives and reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions as part of its investment strategies and may increase the cost of the Portfolio's investments and cost of doing business, which could adversely affect investors.

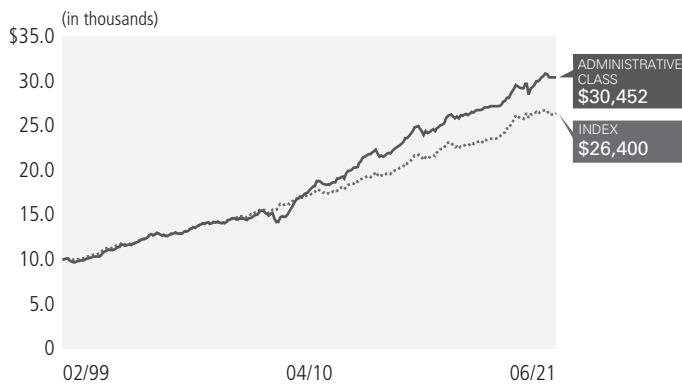
In October 2020, the SEC adopted a rule regarding the ability of a fund to invest in other funds. The rule allows a fund to acquire shares of another fund in excess of certain limitations currently imposed by the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") without obtaining individual exemptive relief from the SEC, subject to certain conditions. The rule also included the rescission of certain exemptive relief from the SEC and guidance from the SEC staff for funds to invest in other funds. The impact that these changes may have on the Portfolio is uncertain.

In December 2020, the SEC adopted a rule addressing fair valuation of fund investments. The new rule sets forth requirements for good faith determinations of fair value as well as for the performance of fair value determinations, including related oversight and reporting obligations. The new rule also defines "readily available market quotations" for

purposes of the definition of "value" under the Act, and the SEC noted that this definition will apply in all contexts under the Act. The SEC adopted an eighteen-month transition period beginning from the effective date for both the new rule and the associated new recordkeeping requirements. The impact of the new rule on the Portfolio is uncertain at this time.

# PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)

## Cumulative Returns Through June 30, 2021



\$10,000 invested at the end of the month when the Portfolio's Administrative Class commenced operations.

## Geographic Breakdown as of June 30, 2021<sup>†§</sup>

United States	29.4%
China	12.8%
United Kingdom	11.1%
Japan	10.3%
Short-Term Instruments <sup>†</sup>	5.0%
Cayman Islands	4.1%
Denmark	3.1%
Spain	2.9%
France	2.5%
Germany	2.4%
Italy	2.2%
Israel	1.7%
Qatar	1.6%
South Korea	1.6%
Switzerland	1.4%
Ireland	1.3%
Netherlands	1.0%
Other	5.6%

<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:

- » Positions in non-Agency mortgage-backed securities ("MBS") contributed to relative performance, as spreads tightened.
- » Overweight exposure to financials within corporate credit contributed to relative performance, as spreads tightened.
- » Underweight exposure to duration in the eurozone contributed to relative performance, as yields rose.
- » Overweight exposure to duration in Australia detracted from relative performance, as yields rose.
- » Underweight exposure to non-financial corporate credit detracted from performance, as spreads tightened.
- » Overweight exposure to duration in Peru detracted from relative performance, as yields rose.

## Average Annual Total Return for the period ended June 30, 2021

	6 Months <sup>*</sup>	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years	Inception <sup>≈</sup>
PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) Institutional Class	(1.28)%	2.99%	3.50%	5.17%	5.46%
PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) Administrative Class	(1.36)%	2.84%	3.34%	5.02%	5.09%
PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) Advisor Class	(1.40)%	2.74%	3.24%	—	4.07%
Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate ex-USD (USD Hedged) Index <sup>‡</sup>	(1.56)%	0.05%	2.80%	4.12%	4.44% ♦

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.

<sup>\*</sup> Cumulative return.

<sup>≈</sup> For class inception dates please refer to the Important Information.

♦ 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 0.79% for Institutional Class shares, 0.94% for Administrative Class shares, and 1.04% 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021 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 (01/01/21)	Ending Account Value (06/30/21)	Expenses Paid During Period*	Beginning Account Value (01/01/21)	Ending Account Value (06/30/21)	Expenses Paid During Period*	
Institutional Class	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 987.20	\$ 3.68	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,020.68	\$ 3.74	0.76%
Administrative Class	1,000.00	986.40	4.41	1,000.00	1,019.95	4.48	0.91
Advisor Class	1,000.00	986.00	4.89	1,000.00	1,019.46	4.97	1.01

\* 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 178/365 (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)

	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	Total
Selected Per Share Data for the Year or Period Ended <sup>^</sup> :							
<b>Institutional Class</b>							
01/01/2021 - 06/30/2021+	\$ 11.24	\$ 0.08	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.14)	\$ (0.13)	\$ (0.10)	\$ (0.23)
12/31/2020	11.32	0.17	0.45	0.62	(0.70)	0.00	(0.70)
12/31/2019	10.84	0.22	0.55	0.77	(0.21)	(0.08)	(0.29)
12/31/2018	10.79	0.20	0.05	0.25	(0.16)	(0.04)	(0.20)
12/31/2017	11.02	0.15	0.17	0.32	(0.55)	0.00	(0.55)
12/31/2016	10.54	0.16	0.54	0.70	(0.18)	(0.04)	(0.22)
<b>Administrative Class</b>							
01/01/2021 - 06/30/2021+	11.24	0.07	(0.22)	(0.15)	(0.12)	(0.10)	(0.22)
12/31/2020	11.32	0.16	0.44	0.60	(0.68)	0.00	(0.68)
12/31/2019	10.84	0.21	0.55	0.76	(0.20)	(0.08)	(0.28)
12/31/2018	10.79	0.18	0.05	0.23	(0.14)	(0.04)	(0.18)
12/31/2017	11.02	0.13	0.17	0.30	(0.53)	0.00	(0.53)
12/31/2016	10.54	0.14	0.54	0.68	(0.16)	(0.04)	(0.20)
<b>Advisor Class</b>							
01/01/2021 - 06/30/2021+	11.24	0.07	(0.22)	(0.15)	(0.12)	(0.10)	(0.22)
12/31/2020	11.32	0.15	0.44	0.59	(0.67)	0.00	(0.67)
12/31/2019	10.84	0.19	0.56	0.75	(0.19)	(0.08)	(0.27)
12/31/2018	10.79	0.17	0.05	0.22	(0.13)	(0.04)	(0.17)
12/31/2017	11.02	0.12	0.17	0.29	(0.52)	0.00	(0.52)
12/31/2016	10.54	0.13	0.54	0.67	(0.15)	(0.04)	(0.19)

<sup>^</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than \$0.01 or 0.01%.

+ Unaudited

\* Annualized, except for organization expense, if any.

<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 common 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
\$ 10.87	(1.28)%	\$ 87,273	0.76%*	0.76%*	0.75%*	0.75%*	1.48%*	193%
11.24	5.72	84,623	0.79	0.79	0.75	0.75	1.52	512
11.32	7.17	9,105	0.86	0.86	0.75	0.75	1.98	272
10.84	2.27	7,483	0.81	0.81	0.75	0.75	1.85	185
10.79	2.92	6,705	0.78	0.78	0.75	0.75	1.37	158
11.02	6.63	5,045	0.78	0.78	0.75	0.75	1.46	330
10.87	(1.36)	77,845	0.91*	0.91*	0.90*	0.90*	1.33*	193
11.24	5.56	78,210	0.94	0.94	0.90	0.90	1.44	512
11.32	7.01	79,540	1.01	1.01	0.90	0.90	1.83	272
10.84	2.12	78,640	0.96	0.96	0.90	0.90	1.70	185
10.79	2.76	76,989	0.93	0.93	0.90	0.90	1.21	158
11.02	6.48	64,537	0.93	0.93	0.90	0.90	1.31	330
10.87	(1.40)	499,799	1.01*	1.01*	1.00*	1.00*	1.24*	193
11.24	5.45	488,470	1.04	1.04	1.00	1.00	1.34	512
11.32	6.90	477,388	1.11	1.11	1.00	1.00	1.73	272
10.84	2.02	444,881	1.06	1.06	1.00	1.00	1.59	185
10.79	2.66	431,545	1.03	1.03	1.00	1.00	1.11	158
11.02	6.37	341,567	1.03	1.03	1.00	1.00	1.21	330

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

(Amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>, except per share amounts)

<b>Assets:</b>	
<i>Investments, at value</i>	
Investments in securities	\$ 720,011
Investments in Affiliates	27,335
<i>Financial Derivative Instruments</i>	
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	843
Over the counter	7,771
Cash	2,060
Deposits with counterparty	8,467
Foreign currency, at value	4,789
Receivable for investments sold	14,309
Receivable for TBA investments sold	175,451
Receivable for Portfolio shares sold	639
Interest and/or dividends receivable	4,042
Dividends receivable from Affiliates	3
Other assets	3
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>965,723</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
<i>Borrowings &amp; Other Financing Transactions</i>	
Payable for reverse repurchase agreements	\$ 29,809
Payable for short sales	58,681
<i>Financial Derivative Instruments</i>	
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	637
Over the counter	2,077
Payable for investments purchased	23,668
Payable for investments in Affiliates purchased	3
Payable for TBA investments purchased	179,652
Deposits from counterparty	5,583
Payable for Portfolio shares redeemed	175
Accrued investment advisory fees	135
Accrued supervisory and administrative fees	270
Accrued distribution fees	102
Accrued servicing fees	9
Other liabilities	5
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>300,806</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 664,917</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of:</b>	
Paid in capital	\$ 662,374
Distributable earnings (accumulated loss)	2,543
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 664,917</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>	
Institutional Class	\$ 87,273
Administrative Class	77,845
Advisor Class	499,799
<b>Shares Issued and Outstanding:</b>	
Institutional Class	8,026
Administrative Class	7,159
Advisor Class	45,967
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share Outstanding<sup>(a)</sup>:</b>	
Institutional Class	\$ 10.87
Administrative Class	10.87
Advisor Class	10.87
Cost of investments in securities	\$ 697,945
Cost of investments in Affiliates	\$ 27,332
Cost of foreign currency held	\$ 4,844
Proceeds received on short sales	\$ 58,541
Cost or premiums of financial derivative instruments, net	\$ (1,334)

<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 International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged)

Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)  
(Amounts in thousands<sup>1</sup>)

<b>Investment Income:</b>	
Interest, net of foreign taxes*	\$ 7,297
Dividends	6
Dividends from Investments in Affiliates	6
Total Income	7,309
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Investment advisory fees	814
Supervisory and administrative fees	1,628
Servicing fees - Administrative Class	55
Distribution and/or servicing fees - Advisor Class	600
Trustee fees	9
Interest expense	25
Miscellaneous expense	1
Total Expenses	3,132
<b>Net Investment Income (Loss)</b>	4,177
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss):</b>	
Investments in securities	4,582
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared financial derivative instruments	(2,756)
Over the counter financial derivative instruments	(1,382)
Short sales	710
Foreign currency	(569)
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss)</b>	585
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation):</b>	
Investments in securities	(26,284)
Investments in Affiliates	(1)
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared financial derivative instruments	865
Over the counter financial derivative instruments	10,559
Short sales	(4)
Foreign currency assets and liabilities	1,121
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	(13,744)
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	\$ (8,982)
* Foreign tax withholdings	\$ 23

<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, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets from:</b>		
<b>Operations:</b>		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 4,177	\$ 7,867
Net realized gain (loss)	585	(9,123)
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(13,744)	31,040
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>(8,982)</b>	<b>29,784</b>
<b>Distributions to Shareholders:</b>		
From net investment income and/or net realized capital gains		
Institutional Class	(1,787)	(1,179)
Administrative Class	(1,516)	(4,421)
Advisor Class	(9,531)	(26,678)
<b>Total Distributions<sup>(a)</sup></b>	<b>(12,834)</b>	<b>(32,278)</b>
<b>Portfolio Share Transactions:</b>		
Net increase (decrease) resulting from Portfolio share transactions*	35,430	87,764
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>13,614</b>	<b>85,270</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Beginning of period	651,303	566,033
End of period	\$ 664,917	\$ 651,303

<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, 2021 (Unaudited)

(Amounts in thousands\*, except number of shares, contracts, units and ounces, if any)

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES 108.3%</b>		
<b>ARGENTINA 0.0%</b>		
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.0%</b>		
<b>Argentina Government International Bond</b>		
0.125% due 07/09/2030	\$ 230	\$ 83
1.000% due 07/09/2029	5	2
36.104% (BADLARPP + 2.000%) due 04/03/2022 ~	ARS 8,070	47
<b>Autonomous City of Buenos Aires</b>		
39.117% (BADLARPP + 5.000%) due 01/23/2022 ~	70	0
<b>Total Argentina (Cost \$584)</b>		<b>132</b>
<b>AUSTRALIA 0.8%</b>		
<b>ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES 0.0%</b>		
<b>Driver Australia Trust</b>		
0.942% (BBSW1M + 0.930%) due 07/21/2026 ~	AUD 147	110
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>		
<b>Sydney Airport Finance Co. Pty. Ltd.</b>		
3.900% due 03/22/2023	\$ 300	316
<b>NON-AGENCY MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES 0.2%</b>		
<b>Pepper Residential Securities Trust</b>		
1.003% due 03/12/2061 •	420	419
<b>RESIMAC Bastille Trust</b>		
1.010% due 09/05/2057 •	550	552
		971
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.5%</b>		
<b>Australia Government International Bond</b>		
1.000% due 11/21/2031	AUD 1,000	712
1.750% due 06/21/2051	800	530
<b>Northern Territory Treasury Corp.</b>		
2.000% due 04/21/2031	800	600
<b>South Australia Government Financing Authority</b>		
1.750% due 05/24/2032	800	589
<b>Treasury Corp. of Victoria</b>		
4.250% due 12/20/2032	1,200	1,118
		3,549
<b>Total Australia (Cost \$4,757)</b>		<b>4,946</b>
<b>CANADA 0.7%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.3%</b>		
<b>Air Canada Pass-Through Trust</b>		
3.300% due 07/15/2031	\$ 87	89
<b>Fairfax Financial Holdings Ltd.</b>		
2.750% due 03/29/2028	EUR 500	652
<b>HSBC Bank Canada</b>		
3.300% due 11/28/2021	\$ 1,200	1,215
		1,956
<b>NON-AGENCY MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES 0.2%</b>		
<b>Real Estate Asset Liquidity Trust</b>		
2.381% due 02/12/2055 ~	CAD 472	390
2.867% due 02/12/2055 ~	1,000	828
3.072% due 08/12/2053	407	338
		1,556
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.2%</b>		
<b>Canada Government Real Return Bond</b>		
1.500% due 12/01/2044 (g)	485	514

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>Province of Quebec</b>		
3.000% due 09/01/2023	CAD 1,100	\$ 934
		1,448
<b>Total Canada (Cost \$4,577)</b>		<b>4,960</b>
<b>CAYMAN ISLANDS 4.6%</b>		
<b>ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES 4.0%</b>		
<b>American Money Management Corp. CLO Ltd.</b>		
0.000% due 11/10/2030 •(b)	\$ 1,500	1,500
1.166% due 04/14/2029 •	1,600	1,604
<b>Anchorage Capital CLO Ltd.</b>		
1.588% due 10/20/2031 •	1,500	1,502
<b>Carlyle Global Market Strategies CLO Ltd.</b>		
0.000% due 08/14/2030 •(b)	1,700	1,700
<b>Cathedral Lake CLO Ltd.</b>		
1.034% due 07/16/2029 •	1,700	1,700
<b>Dryden Senior Loan Fund</b>		
1.084% due 10/15/2027 •	882	882
<b>Goldentree Loan Management U.S. CLO Ltd.</b>		
1.528% due 01/20/2033 •	1,400	1,404
<b>Jamestown CLO Ltd.</b>		
1.524% due 04/15/2033 •	1,300	1,302
<b>LCM LP</b>		
1.228% due 10/20/2027 •	967	967
<b>Marathon CLO Ltd.</b>		
1.019% due 11/21/2027 •	524	524
<b>Marble Point CLO Ltd.</b>		
1.224% due 10/15/2030 •	900	900
<b>MidOcean Credit CLO</b>		
0.000% due 01/29/2030 •	1,700	1,699
<b>Mountain View CLO LLC</b>		
1.274% due 10/16/2029 •	1,500	1,500
<b>Mountain View CLO Ltd.</b>		
0.984% due 10/15/2026 •	23	23
<b>Palmer Square Loan Funding Ltd.</b>		
0.000% due 07/20/2029 •(b)	1,600	1,600
<b>STWD Ltd.</b>		
1.283% due 04/18/2038 •	1,700	1,703
<b>Symphony CLO Ltd.</b>		
1.136% due 07/14/2026 •	765	766
<b>Tralee CLO Ltd.</b>		
1.298% due 10/20/2028 •	1,281	1,281
<b>Venture CLO Ltd.</b>		
0.000% due 09/07/2030 •	1,300	1,299
1.064% due 04/15/2027 •	254	254
<b>Vibrant CLO Ltd.</b>		
1.228% due 09/15/2030 •	1,700	1,700
<b>WhiteHorse Ltd.</b>		
1.120% due 04/17/2027 •	32	32
<b>Zais CLO Ltd.</b>		
1.334% due 04/15/2028 •	618	619
		26,461
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.5%</b>		
<b>MGM China Holdings Ltd.</b>		
4.750% due 02/01/2027	500	511
<b>QNB Finance Ltd.</b>		
1.176% (US0003M + 1.000%) due 05/02/2022 ~	1,000	1,005
<b>S.A. Global Sukuk Ltd.</b>		
2.694% due 06/17/2031	400	405
<b>Sands China Ltd.</b>		
4.600% due 08/08/2023	300	320
5.125% due 08/08/2025	200	224
5.400% due 08/08/2028	500	581
<b>Tencent Holdings Ltd.</b>		
3.595% due 01/19/2028	200	219
		3,265

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>NON-AGENCY MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES 0.1%</b>		
<b>MF1 Multifamily Housing Mortgage Loan Trust</b>		
0.974% due 07/15/2036 •	\$ 800	\$ 801
<b>Total Cayman Islands (Cost \$30,340)</b>		<b>30,527</b>
<b>CHINA 14.4%</b>		
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 14.4%</b>		
<b>China Development Bank</b>		
2.890% due 06/22/2025	CNY 28,600	4,376
3.050% due 08/25/2026	28,000	4,281
3.180% due 04/05/2026	20,800	3,206
3.390% due 07/10/2027	14,000	2,170
3.430% due 01/14/2027	13,400	2,082
3.680% due 02/26/2026	85,400	13,444
3.740% due 09/10/2025	10,200	1,608
4.040% due 04/10/2027	38,200	6,112
4.150% due 10/26/2025	2,600	417
4.240% due 08/24/2027	67,700	10,954
4.880% due 02/09/2028	31,400	5,273
<b>China Government International Bond</b>		
2.700% due 11/03/2026	12,900	1,971
2.740% due 08/04/2026	43,800	6,722
2.850% due 01/28/2026	6,800	1,051
2.850% due 06/04/2027	17,100	2,620
2.950% due 06/16/2023	2,200	343
3.020% due 10/22/2025	84,600	13,147
3.220% due 12/06/2025	2,200	345
3.280% due 12/03/2027	83,200	13,061
3.290% due 10/18/2023	6,500	1,022
3.820% due 11/02/2027	8,000	1,296
<b>Total China (Cost \$90,247)</b>		<b>95,501</b>
<b>DENMARK 3.4%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 3.4%</b>		
<b>Jyske Realkredit A/S</b>		
1.000% due 10/01/2050	DKK 40,466	6,194
<b>Nordea Kredit Realkreditaktieselskab</b>		
1.000% due 10/01/2050	44,774	6,850
<b>Nykredit Realkredit A/S</b>		
0.000% due 10/01/2022 •	EUR 1,400	1,669
1.000% due 10/01/2050	DKK 41,142	6,265
1.000% due 10/01/2053	12,000	1,824
<b>Total Denmark (Cost \$22,228)</b>		<b>22,802</b>
<b>FRANCE 2.9%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.5%</b>		
<b>BNP Paribas S.A.</b>		
1.675% due 06/30/2027 •	\$ 1,000	1,000
<b>Societe Generale S.A.</b>		
1.488% due 12/14/2026 •	2,400	2,380
		3,380
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 2.4%</b>		
<b>France Government International Bond</b>		
0.500% due 05/25/2072	EUR 1,000	917
0.750% due 05/25/2052	4,650	5,272
2.000% due 05/25/2048 (k)	6,200	9,470
		15,659
<b>Total France (Cost \$17,171)</b>		<b>19,039</b>
<b>GERMANY 2.8%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 2.8%</b>		
<b>Deutsche Bank AG</b>		
1.625% due 01/20/2027	EUR 2,200	2,745
1.750% due 01/17/2028	700	879
2.222% due 09/18/2024 •	\$ 1,800	1,849
2.625% due 12/16/2024	GBP 700	1,012
2.625% due 02/12/2026	EUR 1,500	1,951

# Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
3.300% due 11/16/2022	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,243
3.547% due 09/18/2031 •	1,000	1,066
3.729% due 01/14/2032 •(j)	1,100	1,121
3.961% due 11/26/2025 •	1,400	1,514
4.250% due 10/14/2021	1,800	1,820
<b>IHO Verwaltungs GmbH (3.875% Cash or 4.625% PIK)</b>		
3.875% due 05/15/2027 (c)	EUR 200	245
<b>IHO Verwaltungs GmbH (6.000% Cash or 6.750% PIK)</b>		
6.000% due 05/15/2027 (c)	\$ 900	946
<b>Volkswagen Bank GmbH</b>		
1.250% due 08/01/2022	EUR 800	964
2.500% due 07/31/2026	700	924
<b>Total Germany (Cost \$17,763)</b>		<b>18,279</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	512
<b>State Bank of India</b>		
4.000% due 01/24/2022	200	204
<b>Total India (Cost \$703)</b>		<b>716</b>
<b>IRELAND 1.4%</b>		
<b>ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES 1.3%</b>		
<b>Armada Euro CLO DAC</b>		
0.720% due 07/15/2031 •	EUR 700	828
<b>Aurium CLO DAC</b>		
0.670% due 04/16/2030 •	500	593
<b>Black Diamond CLO Designated Activity Co.</b>		
0.650% due 10/03/2029 •	382	453
<b>BlueMountain Fuji EUR CLO DAC</b>		
0.650% due 07/15/2030 •	1,500	1,783
<b>CVC Cordatus Loan Fund DAC</b>		
0.650% due 10/15/2031 •	800	951
<b>Hayfin Emerald CLO DAC</b>		
1.450% due 02/15/2033 •	1,200	1,426
<b>Man GLG Euro CLO DAC</b>		
0.690% due 12/15/2031 •	1,000	1,188
<b>Toro European CLO DAC</b>		
0.900% due 10/15/2030 •	1,273	1,511
		<u>8,733</u>
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>		
<b>AIB Group PLC</b>		
2.875% due 05/30/2031 •	500	635
4.750% due 10/12/2023	\$ 200	217
		<u>852</u>
<b>Total Ireland (Cost \$9,528)</b>		<b>9,585</b>
<b>ISRAEL 1.9%</b>		
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.9%</b>		
<b>Israel Government International Bond</b>		
0.020% (MAKA5DAY)		
due 11/30/2021 ~	ILS 22,800	6,993
0.750% due 07/31/2022	1,700	525
2.000% due 03/31/2027	4,400	1,457
3.800% due 05/13/2060	\$ 1,300	1,484
4.125% due 01/17/2048	300	362
5.500% due 01/31/2022	ILS 5,200	1,647
<b>Total Israel (Cost \$12,170)</b>		<b>12,468</b>
<b>ITALY 2.5%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 1.3%</b>		
<b>Banca Carige SpA</b>		
0.957% (EURO03M + 1.500%)		
due 05/25/2022 ~	EUR 1,600	1,906
1.161% due 10/25/2021 •	1,600	1,903

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena SpA</b>		
0.875% due 10/08/2027	EUR 1,000	\$ 1,234
2.625% due 04/28/2025	500	603
<b>UniCredit SpA</b>		
2.200% due 07/22/2027 •	350	442
7.500% due 06/03/2026 •(h)(i)	200	282
7.830% due 12/04/2023	\$ 1,200	1,391
9.250% due 06/03/2022 •(h)(i)	EUR 600	763
		<u>8,524</u>
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.2%</b>		
<b>Italy Buoni Poliennali Del Tesoro</b>		
1.500% due 04/30/2045	1,100	1,268
1.750% due 07/01/2024	3,000	3,764
1.850% due 07/01/2025	800	1,020
2.150% due 03/01/2072	1,000	1,161
<b>Italy Government International Bond</b>		
6.000% due 08/04/2028	GBP 400	715
		<u>7,928</u>
<b>Total Italy (Cost \$15,534)</b>		<b>16,452</b>
<b>JAPAN 11.6%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.9%</b>		
<b>Central Nippon Expressway Co. Ltd.</b>		
2.091% due 09/14/2021	\$ 700	702
<b>Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc.</b>		
3.455% due 03/02/2023	600	630
<b>Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.</b>		
1.005% (US0003M + 0.880%)		
due 09/11/2022 ~	700	707
1.125% (US0003M + 1.000%)		
due 09/11/2024 ~	900	913
3.922% due 09/11/2024 •	500	536
<b>Nissan Motor Co. Ltd.</b>		
3.043% due 09/15/2023	200	209
3.522% due 09/17/2025	400	427
4.345% due 09/17/2027	400	440
4.810% due 09/17/2030	400	452
<b>ORIX Corp.</b>		
3.250% due 12/04/2024	200	216
<b>Takeda Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd.</b>		
1.125% due 11/21/2022	EUR 500	604
		<u>5,836</u>
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 10.7%</b>		
<b>Development Bank of Japan, Inc.</b>		
1.750% due 08/28/2024	\$ 1,400	1,447
<b>Japan Bank for International Cooperation</b>		
1.750% due 10/17/2024	500	517
<b>Japan Government International Bond</b>		
0.100% due 03/10/2028 (g)	JPY 454,023	4,193
0.100% due 03/20/2029	2,400,000	21,845
0.100% due 06/20/2029	180,000	1,638
0.100% due 03/20/2030	360,000	3,269
0.300% due 06/20/2046	620,000	5,229
0.500% due 09/20/2046	202,000	1,784
0.500% due 03/20/2049	680,000	5,898
0.700% due 12/20/2048	772,000	7,063
1.200% due 09/20/2035	1,340,000	13,692
1.300% due 06/20/2035	200,000	2,067
<b>Tokyo Metropolitan Government</b>		
0.750% due 07/16/2025	\$ 2,100	2,079
2.500% due 06/08/2022	600	611
		<u>71,332</u>
<b>Total Japan (Cost \$78,877)</b>		<b>77,168</b>
<b>KUWAIT 0.3%</b>		
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.3%</b>		
<b>Kuwait International Government Bond</b>		
3.500% due 03/20/2027	\$ 2,000	2,234
<b>Total Kuwait (Cost \$1,988)</b>		<b>2,234</b>

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>LITHUANIA 0.1%</b>		
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.1%</b>		
<b>Lithuania Government International Bond</b>		
1.100% due 04/26/2027	EUR 600	\$ 760
<b>Total Lithuania (Cost \$702)</b>		<b>760</b>
<b>LUXEMBOURG 0.2%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.2%</b>		
<b>Aroundtown S.A.</b>		
1.625% due 01/31/2028	EUR 700	877
5.375% due 03/21/2029	\$ 200	239
<b>Blackstone Property Partners Europe Holdings SARL</b>		
1.400% due 07/06/2022	EUR 400	480
<b>Total Luxembourg (Cost \$1,471)</b>		<b>1,596</b>
<b>MALAYSIA 0.5%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.2%</b>		
<b>Petronas Capital Ltd.</b>		
3.404% due 04/28/2061	\$ 400	411
3.500% due 04/21/2030	300	329
4.550% due 04/21/2050	200	247
4.800% due 04/21/2060	200	266
		<u>1,253</u>
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 0.3%</b>		
<b>Malaysia Government International Bond</b>		
3.502% due 05/31/2027	MYR 1,700	423
3.906% due 07/15/2026	3,900	993
<b>Malaysia Government Investment Issue</b>		
4.130% due 07/09/2029	700	179
4.369% due 10/31/2028	1,300	339
		<u>1,934</u>
<b>Total Malaysia (Cost \$2,953)</b>		<b>3,187</b>
<b>MULTINATIONAL 0.1%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.1%</b>		
<b>Preferred Term Securities Ltd.</b>		
0.525% (US0003M + 0.400%)		
due 06/23/2035 ~	\$ 787	730
<b>Total Multinational (Cost \$610)</b>		<b>730</b>
<b>NETHERLANDS 1.1%</b>		
<b>ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES 0.6%</b>		
<b>Cairn CLO BV</b>		
0.600% due 04/30/2031	EUR 1,100	1,301
<b>Dryden Euro CLO BV</b>		
0.660% due 04/15/2033 •	900	1,063
<b>Jubilee CLO BV</b>		
0.610% due 04/15/2030 •	800	948
0.650% due 04/15/2031 •	500	593
<b>Penta CLO BV</b>		
0.790% due 08/04/2028 •	265	315
		<u>4,220</u>
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 0.5%</b>		
<b>Enel Finance International NV</b>		
2.650% due 09/10/2024	\$ 1,300	1,368
2.875% due 05/25/2022	1,100	1,124
<b>Mondelez International Holdings Netherlands BV</b>		
2.000% due 10/28/2021	500	502
<b>Vonovia Finance BV</b>		
5.000% due 10/02/2023	100	109
		<u>3,103</u>





# Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>UNITED KINGDOM 12.6%</b>		
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 6.6%</b>		
<b>Annington Funding PLC</b> 1.650% due 07/12/2024	EUR 800	\$ 992
<b>Barclays Bank PLC</b> 7.625% due 11/21/2022 (i)	\$ 3,300	3,600
<b>Barclays PLC</b> 1.586% (US0003M + 1.430%) due 02/15/2023 ~	700	705
3.650% due 03/16/2025	600	651
4.610% due 02/15/2023 •	600	615
4.836% due 05/09/2028	1,000	1,125
5.088% due 06/20/2030 •	1,000	1,167
7.125% due 06/15/2025 •(h)(i)	GBP 500	792
7.250% due 03/15/2023 •(h)(i)	700	1,047
8.000% due 06/15/2024 •(h)(i)	\$ 400	455
<b>Frontier Finance PLC</b> 8.000% due 03/23/2022	GBP 281	399
<b>HSBC Holdings PLC</b> 1.139% (BBSW3M + 1.100%) due 02/16/2024 ~	AUD 2,300	1,740
1.155% (US0003M + 1.000%) due 05/18/2024 ~	\$ 300	304
1.750% due 07/24/2027	GBP 700	980
4.041% due 03/13/2028 •	\$ 400	444
4.583% due 06/19/2029 •	800	925
4.750% due 07/04/2029 •(h)(i)	EUR 200	269
5.875% due 09/28/2026 •(h)(i)	GBP 300	466
6.500% due 03/23/2028 •(h)(i)	\$ 700	804
<b>Lloyds Bank PLC</b> 4.875% due 03/30/2027	GBP 500	850
5.125% due 03/07/2025	700	1,130
<b>Lloyds Banking Group PLC</b> 3.500% due 04/01/2026	EUR 300	400
3.900% due 11/23/2023	AUD 800	642
4.582% due 12/10/2025	\$ 500	562
4.650% due 03/24/2026	800	907
5.125% due 12/27/2024 •(h)(i)	GBP 500	735
7.625% due 06/27/2023 •(h)(i)	1,000	1,517
<b>Marks &amp; Spencer PLC</b> 3.750% due 05/19/2026	500	720
<b>Nationwide Building Society</b> 3.766% due 03/08/2024 •	\$ 1,200	1,261
<b>Natwest Group PLC</b> 0.750% due 11/15/2025 •	EUR 1,200	1,453
1.697% (US0003M + 1.550%) due 06/25/2024 ~	\$ 800	818
3.875% due 09/12/2023	300	321
4.445% due 05/08/2030 •	500	573
4.519% due 06/25/2024 •	1,200	1,289
6.000% due 12/29/2025 •(h)(i)	800	894
8.000% due 08/10/2025 •(h)(i)	500	593
8.625% due 08/15/2021 •(h)(i)	900	909
<b>NatWest Markets PLC</b> 0.625% due 03/02/2022	EUR 300	358
1.000% due 05/28/2024	800	979
<b>Reckitt Benckiser Treasury Services PLC</b> 2.375% due 06/24/2022	\$ 600	612
<b>Rolls-Royce PLC</b> 5.750% due 10/15/2027	GBP 400	607
<b>Santander UK Group Holdings PLC</b> 1.089% due 03/15/2025 •	\$ 300	301
2.875% due 08/05/2021	400	401
4.796% due 11/15/2024 •	2,400	2,625
7.375% due 06/24/2022 •(h)(i)	GBP 200	293
<b>Santander UK PLC</b> 0.600% (SONIO/N + 0.550%) due 02/12/2027 ~	500	702
<b>Standard Chartered PLC</b> 0.991% due 01/12/2025 •	\$ 1,200	1,198
1.456% due 01/14/2027 •	1,200	1,190
<b>Tesco PLC</b> 6.125% due 02/24/2022	GBP 50	72
<b>Tesco Property Finance PLC</b> 5.411% due 07/13/2044	187	340
5.661% due 10/13/2041	98	182

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>Virgin Media Secured Finance PLC</b> 5.000% due 04/15/2027	GBP 500	\$ 720
		43,634
<b>NON-AGENCY MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES 4.9%</b>		
<b>Avon Finance PLC</b> 0.949% due 09/20/2048 •	995	1,381
<b>Business Mortgage Finance PLC</b> 1.086% due 02/15/2041 •	117	161
<b>Durham Mortgages B PLC</b> 0.688% due 03/31/2054 •	788	1,089
<b>Eurohome UK Mortgages PLC</b> 0.231% due 06/15/2044 •	275	374
<b>Eurosail PLC</b> 1.034% due 06/13/2045 •	365	506
<b>Finsbury Square PLC</b> 0.849% due 03/16/2070 •	965	1,339
1.034% due 09/12/2068 •	425	590
<b>Harben Finance PLC</b> 0.881% due 08/20/2056 •	850	1,179
<b>Hawksmoor Mortgage Funding PLC</b> 1.099% due 05/25/2053 •	865	1,202
<b>Hawksmoor Mortgages</b> 1.099% due 05/25/2053 •	1,572	2,186
<b>Lanark Master Issuer PLC</b> 0.902% due 12/22/2069 •	500	692
<b>Mansard Mortgages PLC</b> 0.731% due 12/15/2049 •	112	154
<b>Newgate Funding PLC</b> 0.240% due 12/01/2050 •	240	323
1.081% due 12/15/2050 •	206	283
<b>Precise Mortgage Funding PLC</b> 1.249% due 12/12/2055 •	1,200	1,683
<b>Residential Mortgage Securities PLC</b> 1.031% due 12/20/2046 •	635	880
1.281% due 09/20/2065 •	692	958
1.299% due 06/20/2070 •	881	1,232
<b>Ripon Mortgages PLC</b> 0.881% due 08/20/2056 •	2,806	3,890
<b>RMAC PLC</b> 0.784% due 06/12/2046 •	1,972	2,731
<b>RMAC Securities PLC</b> 0.234% due 06/12/2044 •	368	493
<b>Stratton Mortgage Funding PLC</b> 0.948% due 07/20/2060 •	2,188	3,039
<b>Towd Point Mortgage Funding</b> 0.949% due 07/20/2045 •	1,984	2,754
<b>Towd Point Mortgage Funding PLC</b> 1.111% due 10/20/2051 •	1,099	1,528
<b>Trinity Square PLC</b> 0.000% due 07/15/2059 •	1,200	1,663
		32,310
	SHARES	
<b>PREFERRED SECURITIES 0.0%</b>		
<b>Nationwide Building Society</b> 10.250% ~	960	250
	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 1.1%</b>		
<b>United Kingdom Gilt</b> 0.625% due 10/22/2050	GBP 700	823
1.750% due 01/22/2049	1,300	2,014
3.250% due 01/22/2044	900	1,742
4.250% due 12/07/2040	1,200	2,550
		7,129
<b>Total United Kingdom (Cost \$78,379)</b>		<b>83,323</b>

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>UNITED STATES 33.0%</b>		
<b>ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES 5.5%</b>		
<b>A10 Bridge Asset Financing LLC</b> 2.021% due 08/15/2040	\$ 1,046	\$ 1,052
<b>ACE Securities Corp. Home Equity Loan Trust</b> 0.372% due 07/25/2036 •	1,194	983
<b>Amortizing Residential Collateral Trust</b> 0.792% due 10/25/2031 •	1	1
<b>AMRESCO Residential Securities Corp. Mortgage Loan Trust</b> 1.032% due 06/25/2029 •	1	1
<b>Argent Mortgage Loan Trust</b> 0.332% due 05/25/2035 •	1,312	1,229
<b>Argent Securities, Inc. Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates</b> 0.852% due 02/25/2036 •	1,536	1,406
<b>Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust</b> 0.252% due 12/25/2036 •	473	319
0.612% due 03/25/2036 •	470	456
<b>Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust, Inc.</b> 0.352% due 06/25/2037 •	2,700	2,641
1.082% due 07/25/2035 •	1,200	1,192
<b>Countrywide Asset-Backed Certificates</b> 0.232% due 06/25/2035 •	296	280
0.232% due 06/25/2037 •	393	372
0.232% due 07/25/2037 •	279	265
0.232% due 06/25/2047 ^	303	289
0.232% due 06/25/2047 •	974	911
0.242% due 04/25/2047 ^	157	155
0.352% due 12/25/2036 ^	323	313
0.372% due 03/25/2037 •	1,388	1,419
0.672% due 07/25/2036 •	91	91
4.661% due 08/25/2035 ~	252	244
<b>Countrywide Asset-Backed Certificates Trust</b> 1.442% due 04/25/2035 •	900	903
<b>Credit Suisse First Boston Mortgage Securities Corp.</b> 0.712% due 01/25/2032 •	1	1
<b>First Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust</b> 0.207% due 07/25/2036 •	871	840
<b>GSAMP Trust</b> 0.737% due 11/25/2035 ^	1,319	1,257
<b>Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Trust</b> 0.332% due 04/25/2037 •	501	384
<b>HSI Asset Securitization Corp. Trust</b> 0.352% due 04/25/2037 •	697	458
<b>Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust</b> 0.652% due 10/25/2034 •	12	12
<b>Merrill Lynch Mortgage Investors Trust</b> 0.242% due 08/25/2037 •	1,207	789
<b>Morgan Stanley ABS Capital, Inc. Trust</b> 0.222% due 10/25/2036 •	123	117
<b>Morgan Stanley Home Equity Loan Trust</b> 0.192% due 12/25/2036 •	889	541
0.322% due 04/25/2037 •	752	502
<b>Morgan Stanley Mortgage Loan Trust</b> 5.919% due 09/25/2046 ^b	147	56
<b>Nomura Home Equity Loan, Inc. Home Equity Loan Trust</b> 0.527% due 03/25/2036 •	689	682
<b>NovaStar Mortgage Funding Trust</b> 0.222% due 03/25/2037 •	648	495
<b>Option One Mortgage Loan Trust</b> 0.232% due 01/25/2037 •	373	280
<b>Renaissance Home Equity Loan Trust</b> 2.642% due 12/25/2032 •	186	187
5.294% due 01/25/2037 b	641	310
5.675% due 06/25/2037 ^b	1,053	407
5.731% due 11/25/2036 b	987	534
<b>Residential Asset Mortgage Products Trust</b> 0.532% due 12/25/2035 •	281	263
0.552% due 12/25/2035 •	818	740
<b>Residential Asset Securities Corp. Trust</b> 0.342% due 11/25/2036 ^	2,012	1,954

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>Saxon Asset Securities Trust</b>		
1.842% due 12/25/2037 •	\$ 341	\$ 337
<b>Soundview Home Loan Trust</b>		
0.242% due 06/25/2037 •	73	60
0.592% due 11/25/2036 •	1,400	1,356
<b>Structured Asset Investment Loan Trust</b>		
0.222% due 07/25/2036 •	389	317
0.712% due 01/25/2036 •	955	925
<b>Terwin Mortgage Trust</b>		
1.032% due 11/25/2033 •	17	16
<b>Towd Point Mortgage Trust</b>		
1.092% due 05/25/2058 •	628	634
1.636% due 04/25/2060 ~	1,199	1,211
2.710% due 01/25/2060 ~	1,144	1,177
2.900% due 10/25/2059 ~	3,810	3,949
<b>Toyota Auto Loan Extended Note Trust</b>		
2.560% due 11/25/2031	1,400	1,477
		<u>36,790</u>

**CORPORATE BONDS & NOTES 6.7%**

<b>7-Eleven, Inc.</b>		
0.612% (US0003M + 0.450%) due 08/10/2022 ~	600	600
0.625% due 02/10/2023	1,600	1,601
0.800% due 02/10/2024	200	200
<b>AbbVie, Inc.</b>		
5.000% due 12/15/2021	600	606
<b>American Airlines Pass-Through Trust</b>		
3.000% due 04/15/2030	239	244
<b>American Tower Corp.</b>		
2.950% due 01/15/2025	800	851
<b>AT&amp;T, Inc.</b>		
3.100% due 02/01/2043	300	295
3.300% due 02/01/2052	300	293
<b>Bayer U.S. Finance LLC</b>		
1.129% (US0003M + 1.010%) due 12/15/2023 ~	500	507
3.875% due 12/15/2023	300	321
4.250% due 12/15/2025	300	335
4.375% due 12/15/2028	700	803
<b>Boeing Co.</b>		
1.950% due 02/01/2024	100	102
2.750% due 02/01/2026	1,800	1,881
3.250% due 02/01/2028	400	425
<b>Broadcom, Inc.</b>		
2.450% due 02/15/2031	400	393
2.600% due 02/15/2033	300	294
3.469% due 04/15/2034	300	318
<b>Campbell Soup Co.</b>		
3.650% due 03/15/2023	229	241
<b>CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.</b>		
3.550% due 04/01/2023	200	210
<b>Charles Schwab Corp.</b>		
0.750% due 03/18/2024	200	201
<b>Charter Communications Operating LLC</b>		
3.750% due 02/15/2028	100	110
4.464% due 07/23/2022	1,300	1,346
<b>CVS Health Corp.</b>		
3.700% due 03/09/2023	55	58
<b>D.R. Horton, Inc.</b>		
5.750% due 08/15/2023	1,300	1,426
<b>Dell International LLC</b>		
6.100% due 07/15/2027	1,100	1,349
6.200% due 07/15/2030	200	257
<b>Duke Energy Corp.</b>		
0.775% (US0003M + 0.650%) due 03/11/2022 ~	1,300	1,305
<b>Equitable Holdings, Inc.</b>		
3.900% due 04/20/2023	65	69
<b>ERAC USA Finance LLC</b>		
2.600% due 12/01/2021	1,200	1,209
<b>Fidelity National Information Services, Inc.</b>		
0.750% due 05/21/2023	EUR 300	362
1.700% due 06/30/2022	GBP 200	280

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC</b>		
0.000% due 12/07/2022 •	EUR 200	\$ 236
0.189% due 11/15/2023 •	100	117
1.744% due 07/19/2024	400	482
2.748% due 06/14/2024	GBP 400	562
3.087% due 01/09/2023	\$ 600	613
3.370% due 11/17/2023	600	623
3.375% due 11/13/2025	400	415
3.810% due 01/09/2024	200	210
4.000% due 11/13/2030	200	210
4.375% due 08/06/2023	600	634
4.535% due 03/06/2025	GBP 500	743
<b>GATX Corp.</b>		
0.896% (US0003M + 0.720%) due 11/05/2021 ~	\$ 1,200	1,202
<b>General Motors Financial Co., Inc.</b>		
3.550% due 07/08/2022	700	723
<b>Georgia-Pacific LLC</b>		
3.163% due 11/15/2021	400	402
<b>Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.</b>		
1.625% due 07/27/2026	EUR 800	1,013
<b>Goodman U.S. Finance Three LLC</b>		
3.700% due 03/15/2028	\$ 600	651
<b>Kilroy Realty LP</b>		
3.450% due 12/15/2024	100	107
<b>Morgan Stanley</b>		
0.735% (CDOR03 + 0.300%) due 02/03/2023 ~(j)	CAD 3,300	2,666
<b>MPT Operating Partnership LP</b>		
2.500% due 03/24/2026	GBP 900	1,270
<b>NextEra Energy Capital Holdings, Inc.</b>		
0.867% (US0003M + 0.720%) due 02/25/2022 ~	\$ 800	803
<b>Nissan Motor Acceptance Corp.</b>		
0.836% due 09/28/2022 •	1,000	1,001
<b>Oracle Corp.</b>		
2.875% due 03/25/2031 (j)	2,300	2,394
3.950% due 03/25/2051 (j)	300	328
4.100% due 03/25/2061 (j)	100	111
<b>Organon Finance 1 LLC</b>		
5.125% due 04/30/2031	400	413
<b>Pacific Gas &amp; Electric Co.</b>		
2.100% due 08/01/2027	100	97
2.950% due 03/01/2026	100	102
3.450% due 07/01/2025	100	105
4.000% due 12/01/2046	100	94
4.550% due 07/01/2030	200	214
<b>Penske Truck Leasing Co. LP</b>		
3.950% due 03/10/2025	1,400	1,533
<b>Public Service Enterprise Group, Inc.</b>		
2.000% due 11/15/2021	400	402
<b>SL Green Operating Partnership LP</b>		
3.250% due 10/15/2022	500	515
<b>Southern California Edison Co.</b>		
0.690% (SOFRRATE + 0.640%) due 04/03/2023 ~	500	501
0.880% (SOFRRATE + 0.830%) due 04/01/2024 ~	100	100
1.100% due 04/01/2024	300	302
<b>Spirit AeroSystems, Inc.</b>		
3.950% due 06/15/2023	600	605
<b>Sprint Spectrum Co. LLC</b>		
3.360% due 03/20/2023	38	38
4.738% due 03/20/2025	281	302
<b>Walt Disney Co.</b>		
3.500% due 05/13/2040	100	112
3.600% due 01/13/2051	200	227
<b>West Virginia United Health System Obligated Group</b>		
3.129% due 06/01/2050	800	809
<b>Zimmer Biomet Holdings, Inc.</b>		
3.150% due 04/01/2022	2,100	2,134
		<u>44,613</u>

**LOAN PARTICIPATIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS 0.3%**

<b>Avolon TLB Borrower (U.S.) LLC</b>		
3.250% (LIBOR03M + 2.500%) due 12/01/2027 ~	\$ 1,194	\$ 1,196
<b>CenturyLink, Inc.</b>		
2.354% (LIBOR03M + 2.250%) due 03/15/2027 ~	380	375
<b>Charter Communications Operating LLC</b>		
1.860% (LIBOR03M + 1.750%) due 02/01/2027 ~	570	567
		<u>2,138</u>

**NON-AGENCY MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES 2.4%**

<b>American Home Mortgage Investment Trust</b>		
1.671% due 09/25/2045 •	4	4
<b>Banc of America Mortgage Trust</b>		
2.787% due 02/25/2036 ^~	35	35
<b>Bear Stearns Adjustable Rate Mortgage Trust</b>		
2.485% due 08/25/2033 ~	1	1
<b>Bear Stearns ALT-A Trust</b>		
0.412% due 02/25/2034 •	26	26
3.008% due 09/25/2035 ^~	16	13
3.133% due 11/25/2035 ^~	17	15
3.326% due 03/25/2036 ^~	84	73
3.389% due 08/25/2036 ^~	28	19
<b>Bear Stearns Structured Products, Inc. Trust</b>		
2.986% due 12/26/2046 ^~	17	15
<b>Chase Mortgage Finance Trust</b>		
3.059% due 07/25/2037 ~	32	30
<b>Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust, Inc.</b>		
0.442% due 10/25/2035 •	1,281	806
2.220% due 09/25/2035 •	2	2
<b>Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust, Inc. Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates</b>		
2.351% due 09/25/2035 ^~	126	120
<b>Countrywide Alternative Loan Trust</b>		
0.513% due 03/20/2046 •	42	35
0.652% due 02/25/2037 •	32	28
1.116% due 12/25/2035 •	32	30
1.616% due 11/25/2035 •	7	7
5.250% due 06/25/2035 ^	5	5
<b>Countrywide Home Loan Mortgage Pass-Through Trust</b>		
0.552% due 05/25/2035 •	16	14
0.732% due 03/25/2035 •	27	24
0.752% due 02/25/2035 •	4	4
2.800% due 11/25/2034 ~	3	3
2.992% due 08/25/2034 ^~	4	4
5.500% due 01/25/2035	272	276
<b>Credit Suisse Mortgage Capital Mortgage-Backed Trust</b>		
5.500% due 08/25/2036 ^	990	885
5.863% due 02/25/2037 ^~	163	55
<b>DBUBS Mortgage Trust</b>		
1.200% due 11/10/2046 ~(a)	123	0
<b>Deutsche ALT-A Securities, Inc. Mortgage Loan Trust</b>		
0.842% due 10/25/2047 •	632	594
<b>Extended Stay America Trust</b>		
1.155% due 07/15/2038 •(b)	1,600	1,608
<b>GSR Mortgage Loan Trust</b>		
0.422% due 12/25/2034 •	21	20
2.375% due 04/25/2035 ~	37	39
2.927% due 01/25/2036 ^~	23	23
<b>Homeward Opportunities Fund Trust</b>		
1.657% due 05/25/2065 ~	849	855
<b>IndyMac Mortgage Loan Trust</b>		
0.512% due 05/25/2046 •	328	320
0.572% due 07/25/2035 •	13	12
<b>JP Morgan Mortgage Trust</b>		
2.662% due 02/25/2036 ^~	15	12
2.949% due 07/27/2037 ~	51	51
<b>Manhattan West Mortgage Trust</b>		
2.130% due 09/10/2039	1,400	1,434
<b>Mellon Residential Funding Corp. Mortgage Pass-Through Trust</b>		
0.513% due 12/15/2030 •	3	3

# Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)	SHARES	MARKET VALUE (000S)	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>MFA Trust</b>						
1.381% due 04/25/2065 ~	\$ 1,529	\$ 1,537				
1.947% due 04/25/2065 ~	556	559				
<b>Morgan Stanley Bank of America Merrill Lynch Trust</b>						
1.098% due 12/15/2048 ~(a)	875	9				
<b>Morgan Stanley Mortgage Loan Trust</b>						
2.043% due 06/25/2036 ~	15	16				
<b>New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust</b>						
2.750% due 07/25/2059 ~	1,300	1,356				
2.750% due 11/25/2059 ~	1,099	1,138				
<b>One New York Plaza Trust</b>						
1.023% due 01/15/2026 •	1,600	1,613				
<b>Residential Accredited Loans, Inc. Trust</b>						
0.242% due 02/25/2047 •	24	12				
0.452% due 06/25/2046 •	246	80				
0.512% due 04/25/2046 •	403	159				
1.023% due 10/25/2037 ~	210	202				
6.000% due 06/25/2036	501	481				
<b>Structured Adjustable Rate Mortgage Loan Trust</b>						
2.386% due 04/25/2034 ~	2	2				
<b>Structured Asset Mortgage Investments Trust</b>						
0.312% due 09/25/2047 •	70	64				
0.512% due 05/25/2036 •	7	6				
0.532% due 05/25/2036 •	49	48				
0.552% due 05/25/2045 •	12	12				
0.673% due 07/19/2034 •	1	1				
0.753% due 09/19/2032 •	1	1				
0.793% due 03/19/2034 •	2	2				
1.616% due 08/25/2047 ^•	25	24				
<b>Structured Asset Securities Corp.</b>						
0.372% due 01/25/2036 •	202	190				
<b>Structured Asset Securities Corp. Mortgage Loan Trust</b>						
0.382% due 10/25/2036 •	428	386				
<b>TBW Mortgage-Backed Trust</b>						
6.470% due 09/25/2036 ^b	189	13				
<b>Thornburg Mortgage Securities Trust</b>						
1.494% due 06/25/2047 ^•	19	17				
1.494% due 06/25/2047 •	1	1				
<b>Wachovia Mortgage Loan Trust LLC</b>						
2.510% due 10/20/2035 ^~	34	31				
<b>WaMu Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Trust</b>						
0.712% due 01/25/2045 •	48	48				
1.096% due 06/25/2046 •	23	23				
1.116% due 02/25/2046 •	51	51				
1.593% due 02/27/2034 •	2	2				
2.344% due 03/25/2033 ~	5	5				
2.491% due 12/25/2036 ^~	121	116				
2.725% due 03/25/2035 ~	20	21				
2.846% due 04/25/2035 ~	17	17				
<b>Washington Mutual Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Trust</b>						
1.056% due 07/25/2046 ^•	18	12				
		15,755				
	SHARES					
<b>PREFERRED SECURITIES 0.6%</b>						
<b>AT&amp;T, Inc.</b>						
2.875% due 03/02/2025 •(h)	700,000	847				
<b>Bank of America Corp.</b>						
5.875% due 03/15/2028 •(h)	700,000	802				
<b>Charles Schwab Corp.</b>						
5.375% due 06/01/2025 •(h)	500,000	\$ 554				
<b>Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.</b>						
3.800% due 05/10/2026 •(h)	400,000	408				
<b>Wells Fargo &amp; Co.</b>						
3.900% due 03/15/2026 •(h)	1,500,000	1,554				
		4,165				
	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)					
<b>U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES 12.3%</b>						
<b>Fannie Mae</b>						
0.212% due 03/25/2034 •	\$ 1	1				
0.242% due 08/25/2034 •	1	1				
0.442% due 09/25/2042 •	9	9				
0.492% due 06/25/2036 •	15	15				
1.328% due 10/01/2044 •	7	7				
1.800% due 12/01/2034 •	2	2				
2.096% due 05/25/2035 ~	4	4				
2.581% due 11/01/2034 •	11	12				
3.000% due 03/01/2060	826	895				
3.500% due 01/01/2059	1,557	1,693				
6.000% due 07/25/2044	6	7				
<b>Freddie Mac</b>						
0.460% due 01/15/2038 •	209	209				
0.573% due 12/15/2032 •	3	3				
0.673% due 12/15/2037 •	4	4				
1.316% due 10/25/2044 •	23	23				
1.992% due 01/15/2038 ~(a)	209	13				
2.000% due 03/01/2035 •	4	4				
2.042% due 04/01/2035 •	16	17				
2.536% due 02/01/2029 •	1	1				
<b>Ginnie Mae</b>						
0.907% due 05/20/2066 - 06/20/2066 •	3,101	3,157				
0.957% due 11/20/2066 •	527	538				
2.875% due 04/20/2028 - 06/20/2030 •	1	1				
3.000% due 07/20/2046 - 05/20/2047	50	51				
<b>Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security</b>						
2.500% due 11/01/2050 - 02/01/2051	9,330	9,681				
3.000% due 10/01/2049 - 06/01/2051	2,176	2,324				
3.500% due 10/01/2034 - 07/01/2050	2,114	2,248				
4.000% due 06/01/2050	938	1,001				
<b>Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA</b>						
4.000% due 08/01/2051	55,900	59,577				
		81,498				
<b>U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS 5.2%</b>						
<b>U.S. Treasury Bonds</b>						
1.375% due 11/15/2040 (k)	2,400	2,157				
1.625% due 11/15/2050	900	808				
1.875% due 02/15/2041 (o)	1,600	1,567				
<b>U.S. Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (g)</b>						
0.500% due 01/15/2028 (k)	9,633	10,806				
3.875% due 04/15/2029 (o)	812	1,143				
<b>U.S. Treasury Notes</b>						
0.625% due 05/15/2030 (k)	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,085				
1.625% due 08/15/2029	3,300	3,376				
<b>2.875% due 04/30/2025 (k)(m)(o)</b>						
	10,600	11,499				
		34,441				
<b>Total United States (Cost \$213,552)</b>						<b>219,400</b>
<b>SHORT-TERM INSTRUMENTS 1.5%</b>						
<b>ARGENTINA TREASURY BILLS 0.0%</b>						
38.474% due 07/30/2021 - 09/13/2021 (d)(e)(g)	ARS 27,376	\$ 161				
<b>ISRAEL TREASURY BILLS 1.4%</b>						
(0.018)% due 11/30/2021 - 06/08/2022 (d)(e)	ILS 31,100	9,539				
<b>U.S. TREASURY CASH MANAGEMENT BILLS 0.1%</b>						
0.005% due 09/07/2021 (e)(f)	\$ 319	319				
<b>Total Short-Term Instruments (Cost \$9,990)</b>						<b>10,019</b>
<b>Total Investments in Securities (Cost \$697,945)</b>						<b>720,011</b>
			SHARES			
<b>INVESTMENTS IN AFFILIATES 4.1%</b>						
<b>SHORT-TERM INSTRUMENTS 4.1%</b>						
<b>CENTRAL FUNDS USED FOR CASH MANAGEMENT PURPOSES 4.1%</b>						
PIMCO Short Asset Portfolio	30,075	302				
PIMCO Short-Term Floating NAV Portfolio III	2,741,428	27,033				
<b>Total Short-Term Instruments (Cost \$27,332)</b>						<b>27,335</b>
<b>Total Investments in Affiliates (Cost \$27,332)</b>						<b>27,335</b>
<b>Total Investments 112.4% (Cost \$725,277)</b>						<b>\$ 747,346</b>
<b>Financial Derivative Instruments (l)(n) 0.9% (Cost or Premiums, net \$(1,334))</b>						<b>5,900</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, net (13.3)%</b>						<b>(88,329)</b>
<b>Net Assets 100.0%</b>						<b>\$ 664,917</b>

## 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) 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.
- (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
Deutsche Bank AG	3.729%	01/14/2032	01/11/2021	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,121	0.17%
Morgan Stanley	0.735	02/03/2023	01/30/2020	2,502	2,666	0.40
Oracle Corp.	2.875	03/25/2031	03/22/2021	2,297	2,394	0.36
Oracle Corp.	3.950	03/25/2051	03/22/2021	299	328	0.05
Oracle Corp.	4.100	03/25/2061	03/22/2021	100	111	0.02
				\$ 6,298	\$ 6,620	1.00%

**BORROWINGS AND OTHER FINANCING TRANSACTIONS****REVERSE REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS:**

Counterparty	Borrowing Rate <sup>(1)</sup>	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Amount Borrowed <sup>(1)</sup>	Payable for Reverse Repurchase Agreements
BPS	(0.580)%	05/20/2021	08/19/2021	EUR (7,832)	\$ (9,281)
BRC	(0.570)	05/20/2021	08/19/2021	(7,169)	(8,495)
BSN	0.050	05/13/2021	07/13/2021	\$ (1,011)	(1,011)
CIB	0.040	05/20/2021	07/20/2021	(10,038)	(10,038)
GRE	0.060	05/11/2021	07/12/2021	(984)	(984)
<b>Total Reverse Repurchase Agreements</b>					<b>\$ (29,809)</b>

**SHORT SALES:**

Description	Coupon	Maturity Date	Principal Amount	Proceeds	Payable for Short Sales <sup>(2)</sup>
Canada (0.4)%					
Sovereign Issues (0.4)%					
Canada Government International Bond	2.750%	12/01/2048	CAD 3,100	\$ (2,927)	\$ (3,010)
United States (8.4)%					
U.S. Government Agencies (8.4)%					
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	2.000	08/01/2051	\$ 24,050	(24,180)	(24,238)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	2.500	08/01/2051	13,600	(14,017)	(14,041)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	3.000	08/01/2051	8,600	(8,968)	(8,960)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	3.500	07/01/2036	400	(427)	(427)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	3.500	08/01/2051	7,600	(8,022)	(8,005)
Total United States				(55,614)	(55,671)
<b>Total Short Sales (8.8)%</b>				<b>\$ (58,541)</b>	<b>\$ (58,681)</b>

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

### 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, 2021:

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							
BPS	\$ 0	\$ (9,281)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (9,281)	\$ 9,470	\$ 189
BRC	0	(8,495)	0	0	(8,495)	8,505	10
BSN	0	(1,011)	0	0	(1,011)	1,028	17
CIB	0	(10,038)	0	0	(10,038)	10,122	84
GRE	0	(984)	0	0	(984)	976	(8)
Master Securities Forward Transaction Agreement							
TDM	0	0	0	(3,010)	(3,010)	0	(3,010)
<b>Total Borrowings and Other Financing Transactions</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (29,809)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (3,010)</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	\$ (17,776)	\$ 0	\$ (17,776)
U.S. Treasury Obligations	0	(12,033)	0	0	(12,033)
<b>Total Borrowings</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (12,033)</b>	<b>\$ (17,776)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (29,809)</b>
<b>Payable for reverse repurchase agreements</b>					<b>\$ (29,809)</b>

(k) Securities with an aggregate market value of \$30,102 have been pledged as collateral under the terms of the above master agreements as of June 30, 2021.

- (1) The average amount of borrowings outstanding during the period ended June 30, 2021 was \$(28,791) at a weighted average interest rate of (0.198%). Average borrowings may include reverse repurchase agreements and sale-buyback transactions, if held during the period.
- (2) Payable for short sales includes \$9 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.

### (l) 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
90-Day Eurodollar March Futures	03/2022	12	\$ 2,994	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Australia Government 3-Year Note September Futures	09/2021	242	21,141	(73)	12	0
Australia Government 10-Year Bond September Futures	09/2021	35	3,706	15	16	0
Euro-BTP Italy Government Bond September Futures	09/2021	239	42,909	658	210	0
Euro-Buxl 30-Year Bond September Futures	09/2021	11	2,651	47	20	(7)
Japan Government 10-Year Bond September Futures	09/2021	12	16,385	27	4	0
U.S. Treasury 5-Year Note September Futures	09/2021	160	19,749	(48)	10	0
U.S. Treasury 10-Year Note September Futures	09/2021	234	31,005	208	55	0
U.S. Treasury 10-Year Ultra Long-Term Bond September Futures	09/2021	128	18,842	353	62	0
U.S. Treasury Ultra Long-Term Bond September Futures	09/2021	9	1,734	75	10	0
United Kingdom Long Gilt September Futures	09/2021	20	3,544	35	4	0
				\$ 1,297	\$ 403	\$ (7)

## SHORT FUTURES CONTRACTS

Description	Expiration Month	# of Contracts	Notional Amount	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Variation Margin	
					Asset	Liability
Euro-Bund 10-Year Bond September Futures	09/2021	189	\$ (38,683)	\$ (220)	\$ 43	\$ (121)
Euro-OAT France Government 10-Year Bond September Futures	09/2021	22	(4,149)	(17)	1	(12)
Euro-Schatz September Futures	09/2021	94	(12,499)	0	0	(1)
U.S. Treasury 30-Year Bond September Futures	09/2021	23	(3,697)	(106)	0	(15)
				\$ (343)	\$ 44	\$ (149)
<b>Total Futures Contracts</b>				<b>\$ 954</b>	<b>\$ 447</b>	<b>\$ (156)</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, 2021 <sup>(3)</sup>	Notional Amount <sup>(4)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Market Value <sup>(5)</sup>	Variation Margin	
									Asset	Liability
Auchan Holding S.A.	1.000%	Quarterly	12/20/2027	1.001%	EUR 1,100	\$ (65)	\$ 65	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (1)
Berkshire Hathaway, Inc.	1.000	Quarterly	12/20/2022	0.123	\$ 700	14	(5)	9	0	0
Shell International Finance BV	1.000	Quarterly	12/20/2026	0.469	EUR 500	18	0	18	0	0
Tesco PLC	1.000	Quarterly	06/20/2022	0.138	800	0	8	8	0	0
Tesco PLC	1.000	Quarterly	06/20/2025	0.502	400	(13)	23	10	0	0
						\$ (46)	\$ 91	\$ 45	\$ 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>(4)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Market Value <sup>(5)</sup>	Variation Margin	
								Asset	Liability
CDX.HY-36 5-Year Index	(5.000)%	Quarterly	06/20/2026	\$ 4,100	\$ (391)	\$ (35)	\$ (426)	\$ 0	\$ (2)
CDX.IG-33 10-Year Index	(1.000)	Quarterly	12/20/2029	1,600	7	(20)	(13)	0	0
CDX.IG-35 5-Year Index	(1.000)	Quarterly	12/20/2025	900	(22)	(1)	(23)	0	0
CDX.IG-35 10-Year Index	(1.000)	Quarterly	12/20/2030	25,100	(155)	(177)	(332)	1	0
CDX.IG-36 10-Year Index	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2031	18,800	(336)	137	(199)	2	0
iTraxx Europe Main 31 10-Year Index	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2029	EUR 9,100	(66)	(151)	(217)	3	0
					\$ (963)	\$ (247)	\$ (1,210)	\$ 6	\$ (2)

CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS ON CREDIT INDICES - SELL PROTECTION<sup>(1)</sup>

Index/Tranches	Fixed Receive Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Notional Amount <sup>(4)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Market Value <sup>(5)</sup>	Variation Margin	
								Asset	Liability
CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	1.000%	Quarterly	06/20/2026	\$ 400	\$ 9	\$ 1	\$ 10	\$ 0	\$ 0

## 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	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.091%	Quarterly	03/18/2022	\$ 132,700	\$ (1)	\$ (47)	\$ (48)	\$ 0	\$ (5)
3-Month USD-LIBOR	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.084%	Quarterly	04/26/2022	30,400	0	1	1	0	(1)
3-Month USD-LIBOR	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.070%	Quarterly	06/12/2022	3,900	0	(1)	(1)	0	0
3-Month USD-LIBOR	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.084%	Quarterly	06/12/2022	5,100	0	(2)	(2)	0	0
3-Month USD-LIBOR	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.085%	Quarterly	06/19/2022	19,800	(1)	(7)	(8)	0	0
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(6)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.073%	Quarterly	04/27/2023	17,000	0	(3)	(3)	0	0
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(6)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.070%	Quarterly	03/07/2024	4,300	0	0	0	0	0
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(6)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.088%	Quarterly	09/06/2024	12,700	1	0	1	0	(1)
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(6)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.105%	Quarterly	09/27/2024	12,700	0	(3)	(3)	0	(1)
3-Month USD-LIBOR <sup>(6)</sup>	01-Month USD-LIBOR + 0.102%	Quarterly	10/04/2024	10,100	0	(1)	(1)	0	(1)
					\$ (1)	\$ (63)	\$ (64)	\$ 0	\$ (9)

Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

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	Variation Margin Liability	
Pay <sup>(6)</sup>	1-Day GBP-SONIO Compounded-OIS	0.250%	Annual	09/15/2023	GBP 6,100	\$ 11	\$ (8)	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ 0	
Pay <sup>(6)</sup>	1-Day GBP-SONIO Compounded-OIS	0.500	Annual	09/15/2026	4,300	9	(8)	1	6	0	
Pay <sup>(6)</sup>	1-Day GBP-SONIO Compounded-OIS	0.750	Annual	09/15/2031	7,100	(29)	52	23	15	0	
Pay <sup>(6)</sup>	1-Day GBP-SONIO Compounded-OIS	0.750	Annual	09/15/2051	400	(11)	0	(11)	0	0	
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.850	Maturity	01/03/2022	BRL 18,500	0	46	46	1	0	
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.859	Maturity	01/03/2022	44,800	0	110	110	2	0	
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.860	Maturity	01/03/2022	23,600	0	59	59	1	0	
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.870	Maturity	01/03/2022	13,000	0	32	32	1	0	
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.871	Maturity	01/03/2022	18,700	0	46	46	1	0	
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.883	Maturity	01/03/2022	15,200	0	36	36	1	0	
Pay	1-Year BRL-CDI	3.300	Maturity	01/03/2022	258,900	(3)	(317)	(320)	0	(13)	
Pay	1-Year BRL-CDI	3.345	Maturity	01/03/2022	5,500	0	(9)	(9)	0	0	
Pay	1-Year BRL-CDI	3.350	Maturity	01/03/2022	117,200	(1)	(198)	(199)	0	(6)	
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	3.360	Maturity	01/03/2022	38,900	(58)	92	34	2	0	
Pay	1-Year BRL-CDI	3.700	Maturity	01/03/2022	60,800	(4)	(81)	(85)	0	(3)	
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.220	Semi-Annual	03/03/2025	CAD 6,000	0	9	9	1	0	
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.500	Semi-Annual	06/17/2025	3,200	(26)	48	22	1	0	
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.000	Semi-Annual	06/16/2026	3,200	(39)	(16)	(55)	1	0	
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	2.500	Semi-Annual	06/19/2029	5,900	173	115	288	8	0	
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.900	Semi-Annual	12/18/2029	8,200	109	(23)	86	15	0	
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.500	Semi-Annual	06/17/2030	11,700	(89)	(127)	(216)	23	0	
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.250	Semi-Annual	06/16/2031	6,500	(325)	41	(284)	7	0	
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	1.750	Semi-Annual	12/16/2046	600	(86)	38	(48)	2	0	
Pay	3-Month CAD-Bank Bill	2.750	Semi-Annual	12/18/2048	3,900	116	234	350	25	0	
Pay	3-Month NZD-BBR	0.528	Semi-Annual	03/17/2024	NZD 400	0	(3)	(3)	0	0	
Pay	3-Month SEK-STIBOR	1.000	Annual	06/19/2029	SEK 13,200	51	(5)	46	2	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	2.500	Semi-Annual	12/18/2021	\$ 15,900	(221)	30	(191)	0	(1)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	0.250	Semi-Annual	03/30/2023	14,965	3	(6)	(3)	0	(2)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	0.250	Semi-Annual	06/16/2023	37,600	33	12	45	0	(2)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.305	Semi-Annual	08/21/2023	6,950	0	(173)	(173)	0	(1)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.298	Semi-Annual	08/25/2024	5,950	0	(120)	(120)	0	(2)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.249	Semi-Annual	08/31/2024	7,050	0	(131)	(131)	0	(2)	
Pay	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.000	Semi-Annual	12/16/2025	8,200	212	(161)	51	3	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	0.400	Semi-Annual	03/30/2026	27,150	248	379	627	0	(13)	
Pay	3-Month USD-LIBOR	0.500	Semi-Annual	06/16/2026	38,710	(824)	(37)	(861)	24	0	
Pay	3-Month USD-LIBOR	0.400	Semi-Annual	01/15/2028	6,800	(54)	(266)	(320)	7	0	
Pay	3-Month USD-LIBOR	0.500	Semi-Annual	06/16/2028	3,000	(164)	18	(146)	4	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	2.250	Semi-Annual	06/20/2028	25,100	1,360	(3,166)	(1,806)	0	(34)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	2.000	Semi-Annual	01/15/2030	9,400	(44)	(554)	(598)	0	(19)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.000	Semi-Annual	12/16/2030	16,400	(183)	783	600	0	(41)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.120	Semi-Annual	02/02/2031	1,500	0	36	36	0	(4)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.160	Semi-Annual	02/02/2031	1,900	0	38	38	0	(5)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	0.750	Semi-Annual	03/30/2031	15,950	128	826	954	0	(41)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	0.750	Semi-Annual	06/16/2031	22,420	2,071	(595)	1,476	0	(60)	
Pay <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.950	Semi-Annual	10/04/2031	780	0	35	35	2	0	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.720	Semi-Annual	10/15/2031	2,700	0	(54)	(54)	0	(8)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.750	Semi-Annual	12/15/2031	1,400	(29)	2	(27)	1	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.250	Semi-Annual	06/09/2041	2,400	42	155	197	0	(15)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.325	Semi-Annual	12/02/2050	1,100	(32)	154	122	0	(6)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.250	Semi-Annual	12/16/2050	1,300	5	154	159	0	(9)	
Pay	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.460	Semi-Annual	02/02/2051	2,000	(23)	(125)	(148)	12	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.150	Semi-Annual	03/30/2051	6,200	194	706	900	0	(42)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.940	Semi-Annual	06/15/2051	1,000	(7)	(30)	(37)	0	(7)	
Pay	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.250	Semi-Annual	06/16/2051	3,900	(847)	335	(512)	21	0	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.935	Semi-Annual	06/22/2051	900	(6)	(26)	(32)	0	(6)	
Receive	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.968	Semi-Annual	06/23/2051	900	(7)	(33)	(40)	0	(6)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.760	Semi-Annual	08/25/2051	850	0	2	2	0	(6)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.950	Semi-Annual	08/31/2051	650	0	(29)	(29)	0	(5)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.990	Semi-Annual	08/31/2051	700	0	(38)	(38)	0	(5)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	2.010	Semi-Annual	09/17/2051	650	0	(33)	(33)	0	(4)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.665	Semi-Annual	10/27/2051	100	0	4	4	0	(1)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	2.000	Semi-Annual	12/15/2051	1,400	(58)	(13)	(71)	0	(10)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	2.090	Semi-Annual	12/23/2051	700	0	(51)	(51)	0	(5)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	3-Month USD-LIBOR	1.620	Semi-Annual	01/27/2052	500	0	21	21	0	(3)	
Pay	3-Month ZAR-JIBAR	7.250	Quarterly	06/20/2023	ZAR 7,600	4	22	26	0	(1)	
Receive	6-Month AUD-BBR-BBSW	1.250	Semi-Annual	06/17/2030	AUD 4,900	(105)	179	74	0	(10)	
Pay	6-Month CHF-LIBOR	(0.500)	Annual	09/16/2025	CHF 18,200	17	(93)	(76)	2	0	
Pay	6-Month CHF-LIBOR	0.050	Annual	03/16/2026	1,400	(24)	61	37	1	0	
Pay	6-Month CZK-PRIBOR	1.913	Annual	01/30/2029	CZK 13,900	0	5	5	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	
Pay <sup>(6)</sup>	6-Month	EUR-EURIBOR	(0.500)%	Annual	09/15/2023	EUR 14,700	\$ (15)	\$ (7)	\$ (22)	\$ 3	\$ 0	
Pay <sup>(6)</sup>	6-Month	EUR-EURIBOR	(0.250)	Annual	09/15/2026	61,200	38	(114)	(76)	44	0	
Pay <sup>(6)</sup>	6-Month	EUR-EURIBOR	0.000	Annual	09/15/2031	52,700	(792)	20	(772)	89	0	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	6-Month	EUR-EURIBOR	0.190	Annual	01/27/2032	1,350	0	(3)	(3)	0	(3)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	6-Month	EUR-EURIBOR	0.205	Annual	01/27/2032	1,700	0	(7)	(7)	0	(3)	
Pay <sup>(6)</sup>	6-Month	EUR-EURIBOR	(0.060)	Annual	11/17/2032	1,800	0	(72)	(72)	3	0	
Receive	6-Month	EUR-EURIBOR	0.450	Annual	12/15/2035	300	(27)	20	(7)	0	(1)	
Receive	6-Month	EUR-EURIBOR	0.000	Annual	03/17/2036	500	23	6	29	0	(1)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	6-Month	EUR-EURIBOR	0.054	Annual	05/27/2050	300	0	47	47	0	(1)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	6-Month	EUR-EURIBOR	0.500	Annual	09/15/2051	2,900	(93)	69	(24)	0	(17)	
Receive <sup>(6)</sup>	6-Month	EUR-EURIBOR	0.064	Annual	11/17/2052	600	0	91	91	0	(2)	
Pay	6-Month	JPY-LIBOR	0.200	Semi-Annual	06/19/2029	JPY 900,000	152	(50)	102	0	(1)	
Pay	6-Month	JPY-LIBOR	0.000	Semi-Annual	03/17/2031	1,790,000	(214)	85	(129)	0	(3)	
Pay	6-Month	JPY-LIBOR	0.400	Semi-Annual	06/19/2039	130,881	(2)	23	21	0	(1)	
Pay	6-Month	JPY-LIBOR	0.500	Semi-Annual	06/19/2049	220,000	41	(34)	7	0	(4)	
Receive	6-Month	NOK-NIBOR	1.500	Annual	03/10/2026	NOK 57,300	2	(38)	(36)	0	(4)	
Pay	6-Month	NOK-NIBOR	1.900	Annual	03/10/2031	30,000	1	90	91	11	0	
Pay	28-Day	MXN-TIIE	4.870	Lunar	07/13/2025	MXN 29,200	5	(89)	(84)	3	0	
Receive		UKRPI	3.397	Maturity	11/15/2030	GBP 850	6	43	49	0	(3)	
Receive		UKRPI	3.445	Maturity	11/15/2030	710	0	34	34	0	(2)	
Receive		UKRPI	3.510	Maturity	11/15/2030	430	0	16	16	0	(1)	
Pay		UKRPI	3.740	Maturity	03/15/2031	1,300	1	(1)	0	6	0	
Pay		UKRPI	3.700	Maturity	04/15/2031	2,100	20	(45)	(25)	10	0	
Pay		UKRPI	3.217	Maturity	11/15/2040	1,450	(24)	(210)	(234)	11	0	
Pay		UKRPI	3.272	Maturity	11/15/2040	500	0	(69)	(69)	4	0	
Pay		UKRPI	3.273	Maturity	11/15/2040	710	0	(98)	(98)	5	0	
Pay		UKRPI	3.340	Maturity	11/15/2040	730	0	(79)	(79)	6	0	
Receive		UKRPI	3.000	Maturity	11/15/2050	600	21	176	197	0	(10)	
Receive		UKRPI	3.051	Maturity	11/15/2050	500	0	144	144	0	(8)	
Receive		UKRPI	3.143	Maturity	11/15/2050	300	0	65	65	0	(5)	
								\$ 630	\$ (1,601)	\$ (971)	\$ 390	\$ (468)
<b>Total Swap Agreements</b>								<b>\$ (371)</b>	<b>\$ (1,819)</b>	<b>\$ (2,190)</b>	<b>\$ 396</b>	<b>\$ (480)</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, 2021:

	Financial Derivative Assets				Financial Derivative Liabilities			
	Market Value	Variation Margin			Market Value	Variation Margin		
		Purchased Options	Asset			Written Options	Liability <sup>(7)</sup>	
			Futures	Swap Agreements			Total	Futures
<b>Total Exchange-Traded or Centrally Cleared</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 447</b>	<b>\$ 396</b>	<b>\$ 843</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (156)</b>	<b>\$ (481)</b>	<b>\$ (637)</b>

(m) Securities with an aggregate market value of \$2,249 and cash of \$8,467 have been pledged as collateral for exchange-traded and centrally cleared financial derivative instruments as of June 30, 2021. 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) 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) Implied credit spreads, represented in absolute terms, utilized in determining the market value of credit default swap agreements on corporate or 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.
- (4) 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.
- (5) 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.



## Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

(6) This instrument has a forward starting effective date. See Note 2, Securities Transactions and Investment Income, in the Notes to Financial Statements for further information.

(7) Unsettled variation margin liability of \$(1) for closed swap agreements is outstanding at period end.

### (n) 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	07/2021	DKK	57,546	\$ 9,158	\$ 0	\$ (19)
	07/2021	MXN	672	34	0	0
	07/2021	NOK	26,708	3,115	13	0
	07/2021	\$	329	EUR 270	0	(9)
	08/2021		20	CZK 410	0	(1)
	08/2021		3,116	NOK 26,708	0	(13)
	08/2021		165	RUB 12,374	3	0
	09/2021	CNY	115,725	\$ 17,992	195	0
	09/2021	\$	5	PLN 20	0	0
	09/2021		326	RUB 23,778	0	(5)
BPS	07/2021	NZD	735	\$ 533	20	0
	09/2021	CNH	21,500	3,309	2	0
	09/2021	MYR	8,269	1,988	1	0
	09/2021	\$	528	KRW 598,562	2	0
	11/2021	ILS	2,471	\$ 754	0	(5)
	11/2021	MXN	2,405	119	0	0
BRC	07/2021	CHF	284	316	9	0
	07/2021	MXN	397	20	0	0
	08/2021	\$	7	MXN 144	0	0
CBK	07/2021	AUD	1,452	\$ 1,123	34	0
	07/2021	DKK	33,584	5,326	0	(29)
	07/2021	PEN	12,652	3,434	143	0
	07/2021	\$	699	DKK 4,395	2	0
	07/2021		3,198	NOK 26,708	0	(96)
	07/2021		122	RUB 9,444	6	0
	08/2021	PEN	1,105	\$ 304	16	0
	08/2021	\$	150	RUB 11,281	3	0
	11/2021	ILS	29,007	\$ 8,869	11	(57)
	11/2021	\$	1,692	MXN 34,513	9	0
	12/2021	PEN	9,069	\$ 2,437	77	0
	02/2022	ILS	9,603	2,969	14	0
	02/2022	PEN	3,283	855	1	0
	03/2022	ILS	10,502	3,192	0	(42)
04/2022		1,100	339	0	0	
06/2022		3,700	1,141	0	(1)	
08/2022		1,725	532	0	(1)	
GLM	07/2021	DKK	11,575	1,895	49	0
	07/2021	GBP	37,316	52,755	1,135	0
	07/2021	\$	3,514	CAD 4,250	0	(85)
	07/2021		394	DKK 2,410	0	(10)
	07/2021		495	EUR 408	0	(11)
	07/2021		1,623	PEN 6,454	56	0
	07/2021		245	RUB 18,932	13	0
	08/2021	PEN	6,454	\$ 1,624	0	(58)
	08/2021	\$	210	RUB 15,759	4	0
	09/2021	HKD	3,683	\$ 475	0	0
	09/2021	\$	414	RUB 30,354	0	(4)
	11/2021		298	PEN 1,118	0	(7)
	01/2022	ILS	3,377	\$ 1,034	0	(5)
	02/2022	CAD	769	637	17	0
HUS	07/2021		859	694	1	0
	07/2021	\$	370	EUR 310	0	(3)
	07/2021		49,099	GBP 35,474	0	(27)
	08/2021	GBP	35,474	\$ 49,103	27	0
	08/2021	\$	338	RUB 25,457	7	0
	09/2021	CNH	486,937	\$ 75,770	860	0
	09/2021	KRW	7,743,971	6,951	100	0
	09/2021	\$	171	RUB 12,519	0	(2)
	10/2021	PEN	601	\$ 160	3	0
	11/2021	ILS	2,533	781	3	0
	12/2021	PEN	1,656	448	17	0

Counterparty	Settlement Month	Currency to be Delivered	Currency to be Received	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	
				Asset	Liability
	01/2022	ILS 2,111	\$ 654	\$ 4	\$ 0
JPM	07/2021	DKK 37,441	5,939	0	(32)
	07/2021	\$ 5,829	DKK 36,317	0	(38)
	10/2021	DKK 36,317	\$ 5,840	38	0
MYI	07/2021	JPY 2,539,692	23,330	470	0
	07/2021	\$ 7,305	DKK 45,438	0	(59)
	07/2021	1,641	GBP 1,182	0	(6)
	07/2021	121	RUB 9,294	5	0
	10/2021	DKK 43,053	\$ 6,926	49	0
RYL	07/2021	\$ 930	GBP 660	0	(17)
SCX	07/2021	EUR 63,858	\$ 78,121	2,401	0
	07/2021	JPY 4,919,080	44,976	698	0
	08/2021	EUR 62,870	74,606	9	0
	08/2021	JPY 7,458,772	67,219	63	0
	08/2021	\$ 10	CZK 206	0	0
	09/2021	1,637	IDR 23,579,813	0	(32)
SOG	07/2021	8,229	DKK 51,240	0	(58)
	07/2021	139	RUB 10,788	8	0
	08/2021	188	14,147	4	0
	10/2021	DKK 51,240	\$ 8,243	58	0
TOR	07/2021	CAD 7,384	6,111	155	0
	08/2021	3,134	2,531	3	0
UAG	07/2021	\$ 399	RUB 30,561	18	0
	09/2021	169	12,369	0	(2)
<b>Total Forward Foreign Currency Contracts</b>				<b>\$ 6,836</b>	<b>\$ (734)</b>

**PURCHASED OPTIONS:****INTEREST RATE SWAPIONS**

Counterparty	Description	Floating Rate Index	Pay/Receive Floating Rate	Exercise Rate	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Cost	Market Value
BOA	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	1.600%	07/15/2021	2,900	\$ 43	\$ 4
	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	1.648	08/06/2021	2,600	38	8
FAR	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	1.950	09/30/2021	3,700	78	9
GLM	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR	Receive	0.400	01/25/2022	8,400	106	56
NGF	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR	Receive	0.400	01/25/2022	7,700	94	52
							\$ 359	\$ 129

**OPTIONS ON SECURITIES**

Counterparty	Description	Strike Price	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Cost	Market Value
BPS	Put - OTC Euro-OAT France Government Bond 0.750% due 05/23/2025	EUR 97.000	05/23/2025	1,100	\$ 83	\$ 164
JPM	Put - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.000% due 07/01/2051	\$ 99.664	07/07/2021	500	3	0
					\$ 86	\$ 164
<b>Total Purchased Options</b>					<b>\$ 445</b>	<b>\$ 293</b>

**WRITTEN OPTIONS:****CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPIONS 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-36 5-Year Index	Sell	101.000%	10/20/2021	300	\$ (1)	\$ (1)
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.750	08/18/2021	1,200	(1)	0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.750	07/21/2021	1,400	(1)	0
BPS	Put - OTC CDX.HY-35 5-Year Index	Sell	100.000	07/21/2021	300	(2)	0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.825	08/18/2021	1,500	(2)	0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	09/15/2021	700	(1)	0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	11/17/2021	1,800	(2)	(2)
BRC	Call - OTC iTraxx Europe 34 5-Year Index	Buy	0.400	07/21/2021	2,600	(1)	(2)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 34 5-Year Index	Sell	0.750	07/21/2021	2,600	(3)	0

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

Counterparty	Description	Buy/Sell Protection	Exercise Rate	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.700%	07/21/2021	1,400	\$ (2)	\$ 0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.750	07/21/2021	1,400	(2)	0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.700	08/18/2021	5,300	(8)	(2)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.750	08/18/2021	3,000	(3)	(1)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	08/18/2021	1,200	(1)	0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.850	08/18/2021	1,400	(2)	0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	09/15/2021	1,800	(2)	(1)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	10/20/2021	2,200	(2)	(2)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.850	10/20/2021	4,900	(5)	(3)
CBK	Put - OTC CDX.HY-36 5-Year Index	Sell	101.000	10/20/2021	300	(1)	(1)
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	08/18/2021	800	(1)	0
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.950	09/15/2021	1,000	(1)	0
DUB	Call - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Buy	0.475	08/18/2021	2,100	(2)	(2)
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	09/15/2021	2,100	(3)	(1)
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.900	09/15/2021	4,300	(4)	(1)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	08/18/2021	1,300	(1)	0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.850	08/18/2021	1,800	(2)	0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	09/15/2021	500	(1)	0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	11/17/2021	2,700	(3)	(3)
FBF	Put - OTC CDX.HY-36 5-Year Index	Sell	104.000	09/15/2021	100	(1)	0
	Put - OTC CDX.HY-36 5-Year Index	Sell	104.000	10/20/2021	500	(3)	(2)
	Call - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Buy	0.475	08/18/2021	900	(1)	(1)
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.750	08/18/2021	1,100	(1)	0
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	08/18/2021	2,100	(2)	0
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.850	09/15/2021	1,000	(1)	0
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.700	10/20/2021	600	(1)	(1)
GST	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.750	07/21/2021	1,400	(1)	0
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.900	07/21/2021	1,700	(2)	0
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	08/18/2021	1,100	(1)	0
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.850	08/18/2021	1,300	(1)	0
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.700	10/20/2021	800	(1)	(1)
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	10/20/2021	2,100	(2)	(1)
	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.850	10/20/2021	1,900	(2)	(1)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 34 5-Year Index	Sell	0.750	07/21/2021	1,300	(2)	0
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.750	07/21/2021	1,400	(1)	0
JPM	Put - OTC CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	Sell	0.800	10/20/2021	1,200	(2)	(1)
	Put - OTC iTraxx Europe 35 5-Year Index	Sell	0.850	10/20/2021	1,500	(2)	(1)
MYC	Put - OTC CDX.HY-36 5-Year Index	Sell	98.000	07/21/2021	200	(1)	0
						\$ (88)	\$ (31)

### FOREIGN CURRENCY OPTIONS

Counterparty	Description	Strike Price	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value
GLM	Call - OTC USD versus CAD	CAD 1.265	02/11/2022	3,298	\$ (32)	\$ (42)

### 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)	\$ 0
	Call - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	1.400	07/15/2021	2,900	(19)	(8)
	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	1.800	07/15/2021	2,900	(24)	(1)
	Call - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	1.448	08/06/2021	2,600	(17)	(19)
	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	1.848	08/06/2021	2,600	(20)	(2)
BPS	Put - OTC 25-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month EUR-EURIBOR	Pay	0.451	05/23/2025	1,100	(83)	(158)
BRC	Call - OTC 1-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month GBP-LIBOR	Receive	0.010	02/07/2022	6,400	(8)	(1)
	Put - OTC 1-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month GBP-LIBOR	Pay	0.010	02/07/2022	6,400	(8)	(17)
DUB	Put - OTC 3-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	2.020	12/21/2021	6,900	(32)	(1)
FAR	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	2.450	09/30/2021	4,800	(35)	(2)
FBF	Put - OTC 3-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	1.399	08/26/2021	16,600	(147)	0
GLM	Call - OTC 1-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month GBP-LIBOR	Receive	0.010	02/07/2022	6,400	(9)	(1)
	Put - OTC 1-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month GBP-LIBOR	Pay	0.010	02/07/2022	6,400	(9)	(17)
	Call - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	1.508	07/13/2021	400	(2)	(3)
	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	1.908	07/13/2021	400	(2)	0
	Put - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	2.320	01/25/2022	3,200	(85)	(41)

Counterparty	Description	Floating Rate Index	Pay/Receive Floating Rate	Exercise Rate	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value
MYC	Put - OTC 3-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	1.448%	08/23/2021	14,100	\$ (126)	\$ 0
	Put - OTC 3-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	2.020	12/21/2021	11,000	(51)	(1)
	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	1.760	07/07/2021	400	(3)	0
	Call - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Receive	1.370	07/15/2021	1,300	(3)	(3)
	Put - OTC 10-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	1.670	07/15/2021	1,300	(3)	(1)
	Put - OTC 30-Year Interest Rate Swap	3-Month USD-LIBOR	Pay	2.320	01/25/2022	3,500	(52)	(45)
RYL	Call - OTC 1-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month GBP-LIBOR	Receive	0.010	02/07/2022	33,400	(43)	(5)
	Put - OTC 1-Year Interest Rate Swap	6-Month GBP-LIBOR	Pay	0.010	02/07/2022	33,400	(43)	(91)
							\$ (902)	\$ (417)

## 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%	1-Month USD-LIBOR	10/07/2022	9,500	\$ (10)	\$ (1)
	Call - OTC 1-Year Interest Rate Floor <sup>(2)</sup>	0.000	1-Month USD-LIBOR	10/08/2022	5,250	(5)	(1)
						\$ (15)	\$ (2)

## OPTIONS ON SECURITIES

Counterparty	Description	Strike Price	Expiration Date	Notional Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	Premiums (Received)	Market Value
FAR	Call - OTC Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA 2.000% due 07/01/2051	\$ 101.422	07/07/2021	1,100	\$ (5)	\$ (1)
<b>Total Written Options</b>					<b>\$ (1,042)</b>	<b>\$ (493)</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, 2021 <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	0.031%	\$ 200	\$ (7)	\$ 5	\$ 0	\$ (2)
BPS	Japan Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2022	0.031	1,700	(61)	44	0	(17)
	South Korea Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.086	3,000	(73)	18	0	(55)
BRC	China Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.115	800	(15)	1	0	(14)
	Japan Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2022	0.031	1,200	(41)	29	0	(12)
	South Korea Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.086	2,000	(51)	14	0	(37)
CBK	Japan Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2022	0.031	1,000	(35)	25	0	(10)
GST	China Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.115	1,600	(31)	3	0	(28)
	Japan Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2022	0.031	1,700	(59)	42	0	(17)
HUS	South Korea Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.086	800	(20)	5	0	(15)
JPM	South Korea Government International Bond	(1.000)	Quarterly	06/20/2023	0.086	200	(5)	1	0	(4)
							\$ (398)	\$ 187	\$ 0	\$ (211)

CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS ON CORPORATE AND SOVEREIGN ISSUES - SELL PROTECTION<sup>(4)</sup>

Counterparty	Reference Entity	Fixed Receive Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Implied Credit Spread at June 30, 2021 <sup>(5)</sup>	Notional Amount <sup>(6)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Swap Agreements, at Value <sup>(7)</sup>	
									Asset	Liability
BRC	Italy Government International Bond	1.000%	Quarterly	06/20/2025	0.601%	\$ 900	\$ (22)	\$ 36	\$ 14	\$ 0
CBK	Italy Government International Bond	1.000	Quarterly	06/20/2025	0.601	600	(15)	25	10	0
MYC	Barclays Bank PLC	1.000	Quarterly	12/20/2021	0.143	EUR 200	2	(1)	1	0
	Emirate of Abu Dhabi Government International Bond	1.000	Quarterly	06/20/2026	0.388	\$ 1,400	39	3	42	0
							\$ 4	\$ 63	\$ 67	\$ 0

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

### CROSS-CURRENCY SWAPS

Counterparty	Receive	Pay	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date <sup>(6)</sup>	Notional Amount of Currency Received	Notional Amount of Currency Delivered	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Swap Agreements, at Value	
									Asset	Liability
AZD	Floating rate equal to 3-Month AUD-LIBOR plus 0.290% 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	01/04/2031	AUD 5,200	\$ 3,918	\$ 25	\$ (57)	\$ 0	\$ (32)
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	4,200	2,898	1	263	264	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	(15)	273	258	0
MYC	Floating rate equal to 3-Month AUD-LIBOR plus 0.298% 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	10/14/2030	1,800	1,293	9	44	53	0
							\$ 20	\$ 523	\$ 575	\$ (32)

### 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	
GST	Receive	iBoxx USD Liquid Investment Grade Index	N/A	0.135% (3-Month USD-LIBOR plus a specified spread)	Maturity	12/20/2021	\$ 15,500	\$ 8	\$ (615)	\$ 0	\$ (607)	
<b>Total Swap Agreements</b>									<b>\$ (366)</b>	<b>\$ 158</b>	<b>\$ 642</b>	<b>\$ (850)</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, 2021:

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			
AZD	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (32)	\$ (32)	\$ (32)	\$ 0	\$ (32)
BOA	211	12	0	223	(47)	(31)	(2)	(80)	143	0	143
BPS	25	164	0	189	(5)	(160)	(72)	(237)	(48)	271	223
BRC	9	0	14	23	0	(29)	(63)	(92)	(69)	0	(69)
CBK	316	0	274	590	(226)	(1)	(10)	(237)	353	(260)	93
DUB	0	0	0	0	0	(8)	0	(8)	(8)	(40)	(48)
FAR	0	9	0	9	0	(3)	0	(3)	6	0	6
FBF	0	0	0	0	0	(4)	0	(4)	(4)	0	(4)
GLM	1,274	56	258	1,588	(180)	(104)	0	(284)	1,304	(1,000)	304
GST	0	0	0	0	0	(3)	(652)	(655)	(655)	584	(71)
HUS	1,022	0	0	1,022	(32)	0	(15)	(47)	975	(950)	25
JPM	38	0	0	38	(70)	(2)	(4)	(76)	(38)	50	12
MYC	0	0	96	96	0	(52)	0	(52)	44	(430)	(386)
MYI	524	0	0	524	(65)	0	0	(65)	459	(290)	169
NGF	0	52	0	52	0	0	0	0	52	0	52
RYL	0	0	0	0	(17)	(96)	0	(113)	(113)	0	(113)
SCX	3,171	0	0	3,171	(32)	0	0	(32)	3,139	(2,360)	779
SOG	70	0	0	70	(58)	0	0	(58)	12	0	12
TOR	158	0	0	158	0	0	0	0	158	0	158
UAG	18	0	0	18	(2)	0	0	(2)	16	0	16
<b>Total Over the Counter</b>	<b>\$ 6,836</b>	<b>\$ 293</b>	<b>\$ 642</b>	<b>\$ 7,771</b>	<b>\$ (734)</b>	<b>\$ (493)</b>	<b>\$ (850)</b>	<b>\$ (2,077)</b>			

**(o) Securities with an aggregate market value of \$905 have been pledged as collateral for financial derivative instruments as governed by International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. master agreements as of June 30, 2021.**

- (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.
- (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 corporate or 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 and Other 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, 2021:

	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	\$ 447	\$ 447
Swap Agreements	0	6	0	0	390	396
	\$ 0	\$ 6	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 837	\$ 843
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,836	\$ 0	\$ 6,836
Purchased Options	0	0	0	0	293	293
Swap Agreements	0	67	0	575	0	642
	\$ 0	\$ 67	\$ 0	\$ 7,411	\$ 293	\$ 7,771
	\$ 0	\$ 73	\$ 0	\$ 7,411	\$ 1,130	\$ 8,614
<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Liabilities</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Futures	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 156	\$ 156
Swap Agreements	0	3	0	0	478	481
	\$ 0	\$ 3	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 634	\$ 637
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 734	\$ 0	\$ 734
Written Options	0	31	0	42	420	493
Swap Agreements	0	211	0	32	607	850
	\$ 0	\$ 242	\$ 0	\$ 808	\$ 1,027	\$ 2,077
	\$ 0	\$ 245	\$ 0	\$ 808	\$ 1,661	\$ 2,714

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO International Bond Portfolio (U.S. Dollar-Hedged) (Cont.)

The effect of Financial Derivative Instruments on the Statement of Operations for the period ended June 30, 2021:

	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	\$ 1	\$ 1
Written Options	0	0	0	0	50	50
Futures	0	0	0	0	(285)	(285)
Swap Agreements	0	(1,187)	0	0	(1,335)	(2,522)
	\$ 0	\$ (1,187)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (1,569)	\$ (2,756)
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (3,063)	\$ 0	\$ (3,063)
Purchased Options	0	0	0	0	300	300
Written Options	0	199	0	148	370	717
Swap Agreements	0	(60)	0	0	724	664
	\$ 0	\$ 139	\$ 0	\$ (2,915)	\$ 1,394	\$ (1,382)
	\$ 0	\$ (1,048)	\$ 0	\$ (2,915)	\$ (175)	\$ (4,138)
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) on Financial Derivative Instruments</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Purchased Options	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (3)	\$ (3)
Futures	0	0	0	0	562	562
Swap Agreements	0	464	0	0	(158)	306
	\$ 0	\$ 464	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 401	\$ 865
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 11,215	\$ 0	\$ 11,215
Purchased Options	0	0	0	0	185	185
Written Options	0	4	0	(26)	(46)	(68)
Swap Agreements	0	81	0	(369)	(485)	(773)
	\$ 0	\$ 85	\$ 0	\$ 10,820	\$ (346)	\$ 10,559
	\$ 0	\$ 549	\$ 0	\$ 10,820	\$ 55	\$ 11,424

### FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The following is a summary of the fair valuations according to the inputs used as of June 30, 2021 in valuing the Portfolio's assets and liabilities:

Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value at 06/30/2021	Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value at 06/30/2021
<b>Investments in Securities, at Value</b>									
Argentina					Ireland				
Sovereign Issues	\$ 0	\$ 132	\$ 0	\$ 132	Asset-Backed Securities	\$ 0	\$ 8,733	\$ 0	\$ 8,733
Australia					Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	852	0	852
Asset-Backed Securities	0	110	0	110	Israel				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	316	0	316	Sovereign Issues	0	12,468	0	12,468
Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	0	971	0	971	Italy				
Sovereign Issues	0	3,549	0	3,549	Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	8,524	0	8,524
Canada					Sovereign Issues	0	7,928	0	7,928
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	1,956	0	1,956	Japan				
Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	0	1,556	0	1,556	Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	5,836	0	5,836
Sovereign Issues	0	1,448	0	1,448	Sovereign Issues	0	71,332	0	71,332
Cayman Islands					Kuwait				
Asset-Backed Securities	0	26,461	0	26,461	Sovereign Issues	0	2,234	0	2,234
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	3,265	0	3,265	Lithuania				
Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	0	801	0	801	Sovereign Issues	0	760	0	760
China					Luxembourg				
Sovereign Issues	0	95,501	0	95,501	Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	1,596	0	1,596
Denmark					Malaysia				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	22,802	0	22,802	Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	1,253	0	1,253
France					Sovereign Issues	0	1,934	0	1,934
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	3,380	0	3,380	Multinational				
Sovereign Issues	0	15,659	0	15,659	Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	730	0	730
Germany					Netherlands				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	18,279	0	18,279	Asset-Backed Securities	0	4,220	0	4,220
India					Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	3,103	0	3,103
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	716	0	716	Preferred Securities	0	252	0	252
					New Zealand				
					Sovereign Issues	0	477	0	477

Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair	Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair
				Value at 06/30/2021					Value at 06/30/2021
Norway					Non-Agency Mortgage-				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	\$ 0	\$ 528	\$ 0	\$ 528	Backed Securities	\$ 0	\$ 15,755	\$ 0	\$ 15,755
Peru					Preferred Securities	0	4,165	0	4,165
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	591	0	591	U.S. Government Agencies	0	81,498	0	81,498
Sovereign Issues	0	6,839	0	6,839	U.S. Treasury Obligations	0	34,441	0	34,441
Qatar					Short-Term Instruments				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	1,595	0	0	1,595	Argentina Treasury Bills	0	161	0	161
Sovereign Issues	0	10,074	0	10,074	Israel Treasury Bills	0	9,539	0	9,539
Romania					U.S. Treasury Cash Management Bills	0	319	0	319
Sovereign Issues	0	1,772	0	1,772		\$ 1,595	\$ 718,416	\$ 0	\$ 720,011
Saudi Arabia					<b>Investments in Affiliates, at Value</b>				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	913	0	913	Short-Term Instruments				
Sovereign Issues	0	3,074	0	3,074	Central Funds Used for Cash				
Singapore					Management Purposes	\$ 27,335	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 27,335
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	2,146	0	2,146					
Slovenia					Total Investments	\$ 28,930	\$ 718,416	\$ 0	\$ 747,346
Sovereign Issues	0	1,595	0	1,595					
South Africa					<b>Short Sales, at Value - Liabilities</b>				
Sovereign Issues	0	532	0	532	Canada				
South Korea					Sovereign Issues	0	(3,010)	0	(3,010)
Sovereign Issues	0	11,601	0	11,601	United States				
Spain					U.S. Government Agencies	0	(55,671)	0	(55,671)
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	1,361	0	1,361		\$ 0	\$ (58,681)	\$ 0	\$ (58,681)
Preferred Securities	0	2,480	0	2,480	<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Assets</b>				
Sovereign Issues	0	18,042	0	18,042	Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	310	533	0	843
Supranational					Over the counter	0	7,771	0	7,771
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	3,511	0	3,511		\$ 310	\$ 8,304	\$ 0	\$ 8,614
Switzerland					<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Liabilities</b>				
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	10,713	0	10,713	Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	(141)	(495)	0	(636)
United Arab Emirates					Over the counter	(2)	(2,075)	0	(2,077)
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	204	0	204		\$ (143)	\$ (2,570)	\$ 0	\$ (2,713)
Sovereign Issues	0	564	0	564	Total Financial Derivative Instruments	\$ 167	\$ 5,734	\$ 0	\$ 5,901
United Kingdom									
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	43,634	0	43,634	Totals	\$ 29,097	\$ 665,469	\$ 0	\$ 694,566
Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	0	32,310	0	32,310					
Preferred Securities	0	250	0	250					
Sovereign Issues	0	7,129	0	7,129					
United States									
Asset-Backed Securities	0	36,790	0	36,790					
Corporate Bonds & Notes	0	44,613	0	44,613					
Loan Participations and Assignments	0	2,138	0	2,138					

There were no significant transfers into or out of Level 3 during the period ended June 30, 2021.



### 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.

Separately, if the Portfolio determines or estimates, as applicable, that a portion of a distribution may be comprised of amounts from sources other than net investment income in accordance with its policies, accounting records (if applicable), 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 determines or estimates, as applicable, 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 determined or estimated, as applicable, 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 but are not limited to, for certain Funds, the treatment of 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. Please visit [www.pimco.com](http://www.pimco.com) for the most recent Section 19 Notice, if applicable, for additional information regarding the estimated composition of distributions. 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 and Regulatory Updates** 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.

In October 2020, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") adopted a rule related to the use of derivatives, short sales, reverse repurchase agreements and certain other transactions by registered investment companies that rescinds and withdraws the guidance of the SEC and its staff regarding asset segregation and cover transactions. Subject to certain exceptions, the rule requires funds to trade derivatives and other transactions that create future payment or delivery obligations (except reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions) subject to a value-at-risk leverage limit, certain derivatives risk management program and reporting requirements. The rule went into effect on February 19, 2021 and funds will have an eighteen-month transition period to comply with the rule and related reporting requirements. At this time, management is evaluating the implications of these changes on the financial statements.

In October 2020, the SEC adopted a rule regarding the ability of a fund to invest in other funds. The rule allows a fund to acquire shares of another fund in excess of certain limitations currently imposed by the Act without obtaining individual exemptive relief from the SEC, subject

to certain conditions. The rule also included the rescission of certain exemptive relief from the SEC and guidance from the SEC staff for funds to invest in other funds. The rule went into effect on January 19, 2021 and funds will have a one-year transition period to comply with the rule and related reporting requirements. At this time, management is evaluating the implications of these changes on the financial statements.

In December 2020, the SEC adopted a rule addressing fair valuation of fund investments. The new rule sets forth requirements for good faith determinations of fair value as well as for the performance of fair value determinations, including related oversight and reporting obligations. The new rule also defines “readily available market quotations” for purposes of the definition of “value” under the Act, and the SEC noted that this definition would apply in all contexts under the Act. The effective date for the rule was March 8, 2021. The SEC adopted an eighteen-month transition period beginning from the effective date for both the new rule and the associated new recordkeeping requirements. At this time, management is evaluating the 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 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 such data reflecting 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, quotes obtained from a quotation reporting system, established market makers or pricing services. Swap agreements are valued on the basis of market-based prices supplied by Pricing Services or quotes obtained from brokers and dealers. 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.

Valuation adjustments may be applied to certain exchange traded futures and options to account for market movement between the exchange settlement and the NYSE close. These securities are valued using quotes obtained from a quotation reporting system, established market makers or pricing services. Financial derivatives using these valuation adjustments are 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 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, 2021 (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

#### Investment in PIMCO Short Asset Portfolio

Market Value 12/31/2020	Purchases at Cost	Proceeds from Sales	Net Realized Gain (Loss)	Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)	Market Value 06/30/2021	Dividend Income <sup>(1)</sup>	Realized Net Capital Gain Distributions <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 300	\$ 2	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 302	\$ 1	\$ 0

#### Investment in PIMCO Short-Term Floating NAV Portfolio III

Market Value 12/31/2020	Purchases at Cost	Proceeds from Sales	Net Realized Gain (Loss)	Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)	Market Value 06/30/2021	Dividend Income <sup>(1)</sup>	Realized Net Capital Gain Distributions <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 8,729	\$ 83,705	\$ (65,400)	\$ 0	\$ (1)	\$ 27,033	\$ 5	\$ 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.

**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, 2021, 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, FNMA and FHLMC started issuing Uniform Mortgage Backed Securities in place of their current offerings of TBA-eligible securities (the "Single Security Initiative"). 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. Recently finalized FINRA rules include mandatory margin requirements for the TBA market that require the Portfolios to post collateral in connection with its TBA transactions. There is no similar requirement applicable to the Portfolios' TBA counterparties. The required collateralization of TBA trades could increase the cost of TBA transactions to the Portfolios and impose added operational complexity.

**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) 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.

**(b) 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.

**(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 Board has authorized the Portfolios to rely on the Temporary Order. With respect to interfund lending, the Temporary Order permitted, 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 provided notice in April 2021 that the Temporary Order would be terminated on April 30, 2021.

During the period ended June 30, 2021, 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. Credit default swaps on credit indices may be used 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 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, and valuation complexity. Changes in the value of a 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. The primary credit risk on derivatives that are exchange-traded or traded through a central clearing counterparty resides with the Portfolio’s clearing broker or the clearinghouse. 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 actual or potential conflicts of interest, 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 and may cause PIMCO to restrict or prohibit participation in certain investments. 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.

**LIBOR Transition Risk** is the risk related to the anticipated discontinuation of the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"). Certain instruments held by a Portfolio rely in some fashion upon LIBOR. Although the transition process away from LIBOR has become increasingly well-defined in advance of the anticipated discontinuation date, there remains uncertainty regarding the nature of any replacement rate, and any potential effects of the transition away from LIBOR on a Portfolio or on certain instruments in which the Portfolio invests can be difficult to ascertain. The transition process may involve, among other things, increased volatility or illiquidity in markets for instruments that currently rely on LIBOR and may result in a reduction in value of certain instruments held by a 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, interest rates, auctions, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation, deflation and other factors relating to the Portfolio's investments or the Investment Manager's operations 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, which reflects changes in market value, is 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. 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 or as required by regulation. Similarly, if required by regulation, the Portfolio may be required to post additional collateral beyond coverage of daily exposure. These amounts, if any, may (or if required by law, will) be segregated with a third-party custodian. To the extent the Portfolio is required by regulation to post additional collateral beyond coverage of daily exposure, it could potentially incur costs, including in procuring eligible assets to meet collateral requirements, associated with such posting. 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%	0.50%	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) salaries and other compensation of any of the Trust's executive officers and employees who are not officers, directors, stockholders, or employees of PIMCO or its subsidiaries or affiliates; (ii) taxes and governmental fees; (iii) brokerage fees and commissions and other portfolio transaction expenses; (iv) the costs of borrowing money, including interest expenses; (v) 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; (vi) extraordinary expense, including costs of litigation and indemnification expenses; (vii) organizational expenses; and (viii) 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, through May 1, 2022, 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 on 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, 2021, 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, 2021, were as follows (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

Purchases	Sales
\$ 5,686	\$ 1,778

<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.

### 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 06/30/2021 (Unaudited)		Year Ended 12/31/2020	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
<b>Receipts for shares sold</b>				
Institutional Class	5,550	\$ 61,651	6,857	\$ 75,955
Administrative Class	1,412	15,665	2,710	30,232
Advisor Class	2,142	23,737	3,520	39,044
<b>Issued as reinvestment of distributions</b>				
Institutional Class	163	1,787	108	1,179
Administrative Class	139	1,516	407	4,421
Advisor Class	872	9,531	2,458	26,678
<b>Cost of shares redeemed</b>				
Institutional Class	(5,217)	(57,660)	(240)	(2,639)
Administrative Class	(1,352)	(15,068)	(3,185)	(35,302)
Advisor Class	(515)	(5,729)	(4,692)	(51,804)
<b>Net increase (decrease) resulting from Portfolio share transactions</b>	<b>3,194</b>	<b>\$ 35,430</b>	<b>7,943</b>	<b>\$ 87,764</b>

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

As of June 30, 2021, one shareholder owned 10% or more of the Portfolio's total outstanding shares comprising 76% 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, 2021, the Portfolio

Purchases and sales of securities (excluding short-term investments) for the period ended June 30, 2021, were as follows (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

U.S. Government/Agency		All Other	
Purchases	Sales	Purchases	Sales
\$ 1,413,543	\$ 1,621,825	\$ 137,012	\$ 126,550

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

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, 2020, 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>
\$ 0	\$ 0

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

As of June 30, 2021, 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>
\$ 665,914	\$ 45,110	\$ (17,901)	\$ 27,209

<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>AZD</b>	Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	<b>FAR</b>	Wells Fargo Bank National Association	<b>MYI</b>	Morgan Stanley & Co. International PLC
<b>BOA</b>	Bank of America N.A.	<b>FBF</b>	Credit Suisse International	<b>NGF</b>	Nomura Global Financial Products, Inc.
<b>BPS</b>	BNP Paribas S.A.	<b>GLM</b>	Goldman Sachs Bank USA	<b>RYL</b>	NatWest Markets Plc
<b>BRC</b>	Barclays Bank PLC	<b>GRE</b>	NatWest Markets Securities Inc.	<b>SCX</b>	Standard Chartered Bank, London
<b>BSN</b>	The Bank of Nova Scotia - Toronto	<b>GST</b>	Goldman Sachs International	<b>SOG</b>	Societe Generale Paris
<b>CBK</b>	Citibank N.A.	<b>HUS</b>	HSBC Bank USA N.A.	<b>TDM</b>	TD Securities (USA) LLC
<b>CIB</b>	Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	<b>JPM</b>	JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A.	<b>TOR</b>	The Toronto-Dominion Bank
<b>DUB</b>	Deutsche Bank AG	<b>MYC</b>	Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC	<b>UAG</b>	UBS AG Stamford

**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>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>BBSW1M</b>	1 Month Bank Bill Swap Rate	<b>EUR003M</b>	3 Month EUR Swap Rate	<b>SONIO/N</b>	Sterling Overnight Interbank Average Rate
<b>BBSW3M</b>	3 Month Bank Bill Swap Rate	<b>LIBOR03M</b>	3 Month USD-LIBOR	<b>UKRPI</b>	United Kingdom Retail Prices Index
<b>CDOR03</b>	3 month CDN Swap Rate	<b>MAKA5DAY</b>	Israel Gilon 5 Day	<b>US0003M</b>	ICE 3-Month USD LIBOR
<b>CDX.HY</b>	Credit Derivatives Index - High Yield	<b>SOFRRATE</b>	Secured Overnight Financing Rate		

**Other Abbreviations:**

<b>ABS</b>	Asset-Backed Security	<b>DAC</b>	Designated Activity Company	<b>OIS</b>	Overnight Index Swap
<b>ALT</b>	Alternate Loan Trust	<b>EURIBOR</b>	Euro Interbank Offered Rate	<b>PIK</b>	Payment-in-Kind
<b>BBR</b>	Bank Bill Rate	<b>JIBAR</b>	Johannesburg Interbank Agreed Rate	<b>PRIBOR</b>	Prague Interbank Offered Rate
<b>BBSW</b>	Bank Bill Swap Reference Rate	<b>LIBOR</b>	London Interbank Offered Rate	<b>STIBOR</b>	Stockholm Interbank Offered Rate
<b>BTP</b>	Buoni del Tesoro Poliennali "Long-term Treasury Bond"	<b>Lunar</b>	Monthly payment based on 28-day periods. One year consists of 13 periods.	<b>TBA</b>	To-Be-Announced
<b>CDI</b>	Brazil Interbank Deposit Rate	<b>NIBOR</b>	Norwegian Interbank Offered Rate	<b>TIIE</b>	Tasa de Interés Interbancaria de Equilibrio "Equilibrium Interbank Interest Rate"
<b>CLO</b>	Collateralized Loan Obligation	<b>OAT</b>	Obligations Assimilables du Trésor		

In compliance with Rule 22e-4 (the "Liquidity Rule") under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended ("1940 Act"), 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") not regulated as a money market fund under 1940 Act Rule 2a-7, 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, Americas Operations, Compliance, Account Management and Portfolio Management, and is advised by members of PIMCO Legal.

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 9-10, 2021, 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, 2019 through December 31, 2020. The Report reviewed the operation of the Program's components during such period, noted the March-April 2020 market conditions and associated monitoring by the Administrator, and stated 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 period ended June 30, 2021.

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## 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**

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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](http://pimco.com/pvit)

**P I M C O**



P I M C O

PIMCO VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST

# Semiannual Report

June 30, 2021

PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio



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 Shareholder,

We hope that you and your family are remaining 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, 2021. On the subsequent pages, you will find specific details regarding investment results and a discussion of the factors that most affected performance during the reporting period.

### For the six-month reporting period ended June 30, 2021

The global economy was severely impacted by the repercussions related to the COVID-19 pandemic ("COVID-19"). Looking back, fourth quarter 2020 U.S. annualized gross domestic product ("GDP") growth was 4.3%. The economy gained momentum during the first quarter of 2021 as GDP growth in the U.S. was 6.3%. Finally, the Commerce Department's initial estimate for second quarter annualized GDP growth — released after the reporting period ended — was 6.5%.

Despite improving economic data and inflationary concerns, the Federal Reserve (the "Fed") maintained its accommodative monetary policy. This included keeping the federal funds rate at an all-time low of a range between 0.00% and 0.25%, as well as continuing to purchase at least \$80 billion a month of Treasury securities and \$40 billion a month of agency mortgage-backed securities. However, at its June 2021 meeting, the Fed pushed forward its forecast for the first rate hikes. The central bank now expects two interest rate increases by the end of 2023, compared to 2024 in its March 2021 update. In addition, while Fed Chair Jerome Powell said it would begin discussing a scaling back of bond purchases, he maintained his view on inflation, saying, "As these transitory supply effects abate, inflation is expected to drop back toward our longer-run goal." He also said that any discussion of raising rates was "highly premature."

Economies outside the U.S. also continued to be impacted by COVID-19. In its April 2021 *World Economic Outlook Update*, the International Monetary Fund ("IMF") said it expects U.S. GDP growth to be 6.4% in 2021, compared to a 3.5% contraction in 2020. Elsewhere, the IMF expects 2021 GDP growth in the eurozone, U.K. and Japan will be 4.4%, 5.3% and 3.3%, respectively. For comparison purposes, the GDP of these economies was projected to be -6.6%, -9.9% and -4.8%, respectively, in 2020.

Central banks outside the U.S. also maintained their aggressive actions to support their economies. The European Central Bank (the "ECB") kept rates at an all-time low. It also continued to purchase bonds and, in June 2021, vowed to increase its purchases at a significantly higher pace than earlier in the year. Finally, in July 2021, after the reporting period ended, the ECB announced its first strategy review since 2003, which included a 2% inflation target over the medium term, versus its previous target for inflation that was below but close to 2%. Elsewhere, the Bank of England held its key lending rate at a record low of 0.10% and continued its bond buying program. In June 2021, the central bank said it did not expect to raise rates until there was clear evidence that significant progress was being made in eliminating spare capacity and achieving its 2% inflation target. Finally, the Bank of Japan maintained its short-term interest rate at -0.10%, while increasing the target for its holdings of corporate bonds. In June 2021, it extended the September deadline for its COVID-19-relief program by at least six months.

Both short- and long-term U.S. Treasury yields moved higher, albeit from very low levels, during the reporting period. The yield on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note was 1.45% at the end of the reporting period, versus 0.93% on December 31, 2020. 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 -2.02%. Meanwhile, the Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Credit Index (USD Hedged), a widely used index of global investment grade credit bonds, returned -1.04%. Riskier fixed income asset classes, including high yield corporate bonds and emerging market debt, produced mixed returns. The ICE BofAML Developed Markets High Yield Constrained Index (USD Hedged), a widely used index of below-investment-grade bonds, returned 3.65%, whereas

emerging market external debt, as represented by the JPMorgan Emerging Markets Bond Index (EMBI) Global (USD Hedged), returned -1.00%. Emerging market local bonds, as represented by the JPMorgan Government Bond Index-Emerging Markets Global Diversified Index (Unhedged), returned -3.38%.

Despite periods of volatility, global equities produced strong results. All told, U.S. equities, as represented by the S&P 500 Index, returned 15.25%, fueled, in our view, by accommodative monetary and fiscal policy and improved investor sentiment after positive COVID-19 vaccine news. Global equities, as represented by the MSCI World Index, returned 13.05%, whereas emerging market equities, as measured by the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, returned 7.45%. Meanwhile, Japanese equities, as represented by the Nikkei 225 Index (in JPY), returned 5.74% and European equities, as represented by the MSCI Europe Index, returned 15.35%.

Commodity prices were volatile but generally produced positive results. When the reporting period began, Brent crude oil was approximately \$51 a barrel, but ended the reporting period at roughly \$75 a barrel. We believe oil prices rallied as producers reduced their output and then demand increased as global growth improved. Elsewhere, copper prices moved sharply higher, whereas gold prices declined.

Finally, there were also periods of volatility in the foreign exchange markets, in our view due to fluctuating economic growth, trade conflicts and changing central bank monetary policies, along with several geopolitical events. The U.S. dollar strengthened against several other major currencies. For example, the U.S. dollar returned 2.93% and 7.07% versus the euro and Japanese yen, respectively. However, the U.S. dollar returned -1.18% versus the British pound.

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 and Other 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' enforcement of restrictions on U.S. investments in certain issuers and tariffs on goods from other countries, each 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 ultimately phase out the use of LIBOR. 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). Any potential effects of the transition away from LIBOR on the Portfolio or on certain instruments in which the Portfolio invests can be difficult to ascertain, and they may vary depending on a variety of factors. The transition may also 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. Any such effects of the transition away from LIBOR, as well as other unforeseen effects, could result in losses to the Portfolio.

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 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.

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 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

## Important Information About the PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio (Cont.)

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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.

The SEC adopted a rule that allows 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 elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge by contacting their insurance company. Any election to receive reports in paper will apply to all portfolio companies available under the investor's contract at the insurance company.

In August 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.

In October 2020, the SEC adopted a rule related to the use of derivatives, short sales, reverse repurchase agreements and certain other transactions by registered investment companies that rescinds and withdraws the guidance of the SEC and its staff regarding asset segregation and cover transactions. Subject to certain exceptions, and after an eighteen-month transition period, the rule requires portfolios to trade derivatives and other transactions that create future payment or delivery obligations (except reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions) subject to a value-at-risk leverage limit, certain derivatives risk management program and reporting requirements. These requirements may limit the ability of the Portfolio to use derivatives and reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions as part of its investment strategies and may increase the cost of the Portfolio's investments and cost of doing business, which could adversely affect investors.

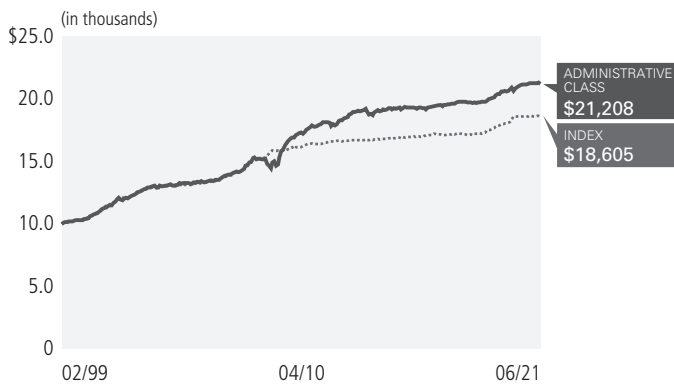
In October 2020, the SEC adopted a rule regarding the ability of a fund to invest in other funds. The rule allows a fund to acquire shares of another fund in excess of certain limitations currently imposed by the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") without obtaining individual exemptive relief from the SEC, subject to certain conditions. The rule also included the rescission of certain exemptive relief from the SEC and guidance from the SEC staff for funds to invest in other funds. The impact that these changes may have on the Portfolio is uncertain.

In December 2020, the SEC adopted a rule addressing fair valuation of fund investments. The new rule sets forth requirements for good faith determinations of fair value as well as for the performance of fair value determinations, including related oversight and reporting obligations. The new rule also defines "readily available market quotations" for

purposes of the definition of "value" under the Act, and the SEC noted that this definition will apply in all contexts under the Act. The SEC adopted an eighteen-month transition period beginning from the effective date for both the new rule and the associated new recordkeeping requirements. The impact of the new rule on the Portfolio is uncertain at this time.

# PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio

## Cumulative Returns Through June 30, 2021



\$10,000 invested at the end of the month when the Portfolio's Administrative Class commenced operations.

## Allocation Breakdown as of June 30, 2021<sup>†§</sup>

Short-Term Instruments <sup>†</sup>	46.6%
Corporate Bonds & Notes	21.6%
U.S. Government Agencies	14.7%
Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	7.4%
Sovereign Issues	4.8%
Asset-Backed Securities	4.3%
Other	0.6%

<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:

- » Holdings of securitized credit contributed to performance, as prices for these securities appreciated.
- » Holdings of investment grade corporate credit contributed to performance, as spreads tightened.
- » Short exposure to U.K. duration contributed to performance, as local interest rates rose.
- » Overweight exposure to Brazilian duration detracted from performance, as local interest rates rose.

## Average Annual Total Return for the period ended June 30, 2021

	6 Months <sup>*</sup>	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years	Inception <sup>¶</sup>
PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio Institutional Class	(0.10)%	0.84%	1.94%	1.75%	3.56%
— PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio Administrative Class	(0.17)%	0.69%	1.78%	1.59%	3.40%
PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio Advisor Class	(0.22)%	0.59%	1.68%	1.49%	2.94%
..... ICE BofAML 1-3 Year U.S. Treasury Index <sup>‡</sup>	(0.08)%	0.07%	1.60%	1.20%	2.80% ♦

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 0.54% for Institutional Class shares, 0.69% for Administrative Class shares, and 0.79% 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, 2021 to June 30, 2021 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 (01/01/21)	Ending Account Value (06/30/21)	Expenses Paid During Period*	Beginning Account Value (01/01/21)	Ending Account Value (06/30/21)	Expenses Paid During Period*	
Institutional Class	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 999.00	\$ 2.44	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,021.95	\$ 2.47	0.50%
Administrative Class	1,000.00	998.30	3.17	1,000.00	1,021.21	3.20	0.65
Advisor Class	1,000.00	997.80	3.65	1,000.00	1,020.73	3.70	0.75

\* 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 178/365 (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>								
01/01/2021 - 06/30/2021+	\$ 10.38	\$ 0.03	\$ (0.04)	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.03)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ (0.03)
12/31/2020	10.20	0.13	0.19	0.32	(0.14)	0.00	0.00	(0.14)
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)
<b>Administrative Class</b>								
01/01/2021 - 06/30/2021+	10.38	0.02	(0.04)	(0.02)	(0.02)	0.00	0.00	(0.02)
12/31/2020	10.20	0.11	0.19	0.30	(0.12)	0.00	0.00	(0.12)
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)
<b>Advisor Class</b>								
01/01/2021 - 06/30/2021+	10.38	0.02	(0.04)	(0.02)	(0.02)	0.00	0.00	(0.02)
12/31/2020	10.20	0.10	0.19	0.29	(0.11)	0.00	0.00	(0.11)
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)

<sup>^</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than \$0.01 or 0.01%.

+ Unaudited

\* Annualized, except for organization expense, if any.

<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 common 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
\$ 10.34	(0.10)%	\$ 17,871	0.50%*	0.50%*	0.50%*	0.50%*	0.62%*	224%
10.38	3.15	11,436	0.54	0.54	0.50	0.50	1.21	427
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
10.34	(0.17)	1,092,005	0.65*	0.65*	0.65*	0.65*	0.47*	224
10.38	2.99	1,130,716	0.69	0.69	0.65	0.65	1.04	427
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
10.34	(0.22)	861,706	0.75*	0.75*	0.75*	0.75*	0.37*	224
10.38	2.89	831,900	0.79	0.79	0.75	0.75	0.95	427
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

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio

June 30, 2021 (Unaudited)

(Amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>, except per share amounts)

<b>Assets:</b>	
<i>Investments, at value</i>	
Investments in securities	\$ 1,638,018
Investments in Affiliates	481,939
<i>Financial Derivative Instruments</i>	
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	313
Over the counter	3,725
Cash	3,398
Deposits with counterparty	4,943
Foreign currency, at value	1,939
Receivable for investments sold	669
Receivable for TBA investments sold	375,786
Receivable for Portfolio shares sold	2,446
Interest and/or dividends receivable	3,377
Dividends receivable from Affiliates	291
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,516,844</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
<i>Borrowings &amp; Other Financing Transactions</i>	
Payable for short sales	\$ 141,345
<i>Financial Derivative Instruments</i>	
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	406
Over the counter	10,017
Payable for investments purchased	18,897
Payable for investments in Affiliates purchased	291
Payable for TBA investments purchased	367,037
Deposits from counterparty	3,900
Payable for Portfolio shares redeemed	2,245
Accrued investment advisory fees	406
Accrued supervisory and administrative fees	406
Accrued distribution fees	177
Accrued servicing fees	135
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>545,262</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,971,582</b>
<b>Net Assets Consist of:</b>	
Paid in capital	\$ 1,988,827
Distributable earnings (accumulated loss)	(17,245)
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,971,582</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>	
Institutional Class	\$ 17,871
Administrative Class	1,092,005
Advisor Class	861,706
<b>Shares Issued and Outstanding:</b>	
Institutional Class	1,727
Administrative Class	105,564
Advisor Class	83,301
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share Outstanding<sup>(a)</sup>:</b>	
Institutional Class	\$ 10.34
Administrative Class	10.34
Advisor Class	10.34
Cost of investments in securities	\$ 1,611,371
Cost of investments in Affiliates	\$ 477,746
Cost of foreign currency held	\$ 1,952
Proceeds received on short sales	\$ 141,755
Cost or premiums of financial derivative instruments, net	\$ 2,289

<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, 2021 (Unaudited)  
(Amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>)

<b>Investment Income:</b>	
Interest	\$ 8,981
Dividends from Investments in Affiliates	1,897
Total Income	10,878
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Investment advisory fees	2,429
Supervisory and administrative fees	2,428
Servicing fees - Administrative Class	818
Distribution and/or servicing fees - Advisor Class	1,049
Trustee fees	28
Interest expense	6
Miscellaneous expense	2
Total Expenses	6,760
<b>Net Investment Income (Loss)</b>	<b>4,118</b>
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss):</b>	
Investments in securities	(5,653)
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared financial derivative instruments	2,994
Over the counter financial derivative instruments	105
Foreign currency	1,220
<b>Net Realized Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>(1,334)</b>
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation):</b>	
Investments in securities	(3,495)
Investments in Affiliates	(114)
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared financial derivative instruments	(5,175)
Over the counter financial derivative instruments	3,136
Foreign currency assets and liabilities	(121)
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>	<b>(5,769)</b>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>\$ (2,985)</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, 2021 (Unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2020
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets from:</b>		
<b>Operations:</b>		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 4,118	\$ 18,610
Net realized gain (loss)	(1,334)	23,816
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(5,769)	9,003
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>(2,985)</b>	<b>51,429</b>
<b>Distributions to Shareholders:</b>		
From net investment income and/or net realized capital gains		
Institutional Class	(41)	(147)
Administrative Class	(2,419)	(12,339)
Advisor Class	(1,442)	(8,527)
<b>Total Distributions<sup>(a)</sup></b>	<b>(3,902)</b>	<b>(21,013)</b>
<b>Portfolio Share Transactions:</b>		
Net increase (decrease) resulting from Portfolio share transactions*	4,417	170,658
<b>Total Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>(2,470)</b>	<b>201,074</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Beginning of period	1,974,052	1,772,978
End of period	\$ 1,971,582	\$ 1,974,052

<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, 2021 (Unaudited)

(Amounts in thousands\*, except number of shares, contracts, units and ounces, if any)

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)		PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)		PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000S)	MARKET VALUE (000S)
<b>INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES 83.1%</b>								
<b>CORPORATE BONDS &amp; NOTES 23.3%</b>								
<b>BANKING &amp; FINANCE 12.3%</b>								
<b>Aviation Capital Group LLC</b>								
0.856% (US0003M + 0.670%) due 07/30/2021 ~	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,101						
<b>Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria S.A.</b>								
0.875% due 09/18/2023	4,700	4,718						
<b>Banco Santander S.A.</b>								
1.308% (US0003M + 1.120%) due 04/12/2023 ~	2,400	2,433						
<b>Bank of America Corp.</b>								
0.810% due 10/24/2024 •	6,900	6,931						
1.133% (US0003M + 0.960%) due 07/23/2024 ~	1,200	1,217						
1.348% (US0003M + 1.160%) due 01/20/2023 ~	200	201						
1.486% due 05/19/2024 •	4,300	4,376						
3.550% due 03/05/2024 •	4,100	4,309						
<b>Barclays PLC</b>								
1.586% (US0003M + 1.430%) due 02/15/2023 ~	3,800	3,828						
2.852% due 05/07/2026 •	5,100	5,391						
<b>Brixmor Operating Partnership LP</b>								
1.226% (US0003M + 1.050%) due 02/01/2022 ~	5,000	5,020						
<b>CC Holdings GS LLC</b>								
3.849% due 04/15/2023	5,300	5,614						
<b>Citigroup, Inc.</b>								
0.776% due 10/30/2024 •	2,000	2,006						
0.871% (US0003M + 0.690%) due 10/27/2022 ~	5,000	5,036						
<b>Cooperatieve Rabobank UA</b>								
1.004% due 09/24/2026 •	5,700	5,632						
<b>Credit Agricole S.A.</b>								
1.907% due 06/16/2026 •	3,900	3,978						
<b>Credit Suisse Group AG</b>								
3.800% due 06/09/2023	4,800	5,089						
<b>Danske Bank A/S</b>								
5.000% due 01/12/2022	4,800	4,912						
<b>Deutsche Bank AG</b>								
3.300% due 11/16/2022	6,600	6,840						
4.250% due 10/14/2021	2,500	2,527						
<b>Federal Realty Investment Trust</b>								
3.950% due 01/15/2024	4,200	4,506						
<b>Ford Credit Canada Co.</b>								
3.465% (CDOR03 + 3.030%) due 01/10/2022 ~(g)	CAD 4,700	3,815						
<b>Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC</b>								
2.979% due 08/03/2022	\$ 1,700	1,728						
3.096% due 05/04/2023	5,400	5,515						
3.810% due 01/09/2024	1,500	1,572						
4.140% due 02/15/2023	5,000	5,187						
5.875% due 08/02/2021	4,000	4,025						
<b>General Motors Financial Co., Inc.</b>								
3.550% due 07/08/2022	4,800	4,955						
4.250% due 05/15/2023	5,400	5,742						
<b>Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.</b>								
0.900% (US0003M + 0.750%) due 02/23/2023 ~	2,400	2,422						
<b>JPMorgan Chase &amp; Co.</b>								
0.563% due 02/16/2025 •	4,300	4,279						
0.697% due 03/16/2024 •	5,000	5,017						
<b>Logicor Financing SARL</b>								
1.500% due 11/14/2022	EUR 5,200	6,280						
<b>Metropolitan Life Global Funding</b>								
0.950% due 07/02/2025	\$ 5,300	5,297						
<b>Mitsubishi HC Capital, Inc.</b>								
3.406% due 02/28/2022	500	508						
<b>Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc.</b>								
0.871% (US0003M + 0.740%) due 03/02/2023 ~	10,200	10,292						
<b>Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.</b>								
1.178% (US0003M + 0.990%) due 07/10/2024 ~	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,652						
1.444% (BBSW3M + 1.400%) due 07/19/2023 ~	AUD 6,700	5,113						
<b>Morgan Stanley</b>								
0.864% due 10/21/2025 •	\$ 2,000	2,000						
3.737% due 04/24/2024 •	900	952						
<b>Nationwide Building Society</b>								
3.622% due 04/26/2023 •	1,600	1,641						
<b>Natwest Group PLC</b>								
2.500% due 03/22/2023	EUR 3,900	4,833						
<b>Nissan Motor Acceptance Corp.</b>								
0.838% (US0003M + 0.650%) due 07/13/2022 ~	\$ 5,900	5,912						
1.050% due 03/08/2024	4,000	3,977						
<b>NTT Finance Corp.</b>								
0.373% due 03/03/2023	5,000	5,003						
<b>SL Green Operating Partnership LP</b>								
1.136% (US0003M + 0.980%) due 08/16/2021 ~	6,000	6,001						
<b>Standard Chartered PLC</b>								
1.319% due 10/14/2023 •	4,800	4,847						
2.744% due 09/10/2022 •	4,800	4,820						
<b>Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.</b>								
1.474% due 07/08/2025	5,300	5,356						
<b>Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank Ltd.</b>								
0.800% due 09/12/2023	4,800	4,831						
<b>UniCredit SpA</b>								
4.086% (US0003M + 3.900%) due 01/14/2022 ~	5,100	5,192						
7.830% due 12/04/2023	10,700	12,404						
<b>Wells Fargo &amp; Co.</b>								
1.654% due 06/02/2024 •	5,200	5,313						
2.509% due 10/27/2023 (g)	CAD 6,200	5,161						
		241,307						
<b>INDUSTRIALS 8.5%</b>								
<b>7-Eleven, Inc.</b>								
0.612% (US0003M + 0.450%) due 08/10/2022 ~	\$ 5,000	5,002						
0.625% due 02/10/2023	5,000	5,003						
<b>Anthem, Inc.</b>								
0.450% due 03/15/2023	6,000	6,007						
<b>BMW Finance NV</b>								
2.250% due 08/12/2022	9,200	9,399						
<b>Boeing Co.</b>								
1.167% due 02/04/2023	5,900	5,925						
1.950% due 02/01/2024	5,000	5,123						
<b>Caesars Resort Collection LLC</b>								
5.250% due 10/15/2025	750	760						
<b>CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.</b>								
0.631% (US0003M + 0.500%) due 03/02/2023 ~	5,000	5,001						
3.550% due 04/01/2023	1,500	1,577						
<b>Charter Communications Operating LLC</b>								
4.464% due 07/23/2022	2,100	2,174						
<b>CommonSpirit Health</b>								
1.547% due 10/01/2025	4,900	4,945						
<b>Daimler Finance North America LLC</b>								
0.750% due 03/01/2024	6,000	6,015						
0.846% (US0003M + 0.670%) due 11/05/2021 ~	900	902						
<b>Danone S.A.</b>								
2.947% due 11/02/2026	4,000	4,290						
<b>Enbridge, Inc.</b>								
0.655% (US0003M + 0.500%) due 02/18/2022 ~	4,400	4,411						
<b>Expedia Group, Inc.</b>								
3.600% due 12/15/2023	3,600	3,829						
<b>Fidelity National Information Services, Inc.</b>								
0.375% due 03/01/2023	5,000	4,995						
<b>General Mills, Inc.</b>								
6.410% due 10/15/2022	\$ 4,900	\$ 5,251						
<b>Hasbro, Inc.</b>								
2.600% due 11/19/2022	2,000	2,059						
3.550% due 11/19/2026	4,600	5,045						
<b>Heathrow Funding Ltd.</b>								
4.875% due 07/15/2023	2,000	2,003						
<b>Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.</b>								
0.914% (US0003M + 0.720%) due 10/05/2021 ~	3,900	3,901						
<b>Hyatt Hotels Corp.</b>								
3.135% (US0003M + 3.000%) due 09/01/2022 ~	1,500	1,506						
<b>Hyundai Capital America</b>								
0.800% due 04/03/2023	5,000	5,001						
0.800% due 01/08/2024	4,900	4,881						
1.150% due 11/10/2022	6,000	6,043						
<b>Kinder Morgan Energy Partners LP</b>								
4.150% due 03/01/2022	500	513						
<b>Local Initiatives Support Corp.</b>								
3.005% due 03/01/2022	1,300	1,315						
<b>Nissan Motor Co. Ltd.</b>								
3.043% due 09/15/2023	4,800	5,008						
<b>Penske Truck Leasing Co. LP</b>								
1.700% due 06/15/2026	5,000	5,038						
<b>Phillips 66</b>								
0.900% due 02/15/2024	4,900	4,907						
<b>Reckitt Benckiser Treasury Services PLC</b>								
0.694% (US0003M + 0.560%) due 06/24/2022 ~	400	402						
<b>Seven &amp; i Holdings Co. Ltd.</b>								
3.350% due 09/17/2021	5,100	5,132						
<b>SK Hynix, Inc.</b>								
1.000% due 01/19/2024	5,000	4,975						
<b>Southern Co.</b>								
0.600% due 02/26/2024	5,100	5,088						
<b>Sprint Spectrum Co. LLC</b>								
3.360% due 03/20/2023	129	130						
<b>Sutter Health</b>								
1.321% due 08/15/2025	4,900	4,936						
<b>Sysco Corp.</b>								
5.650% due 04/01/2025	4,500	5,216						
<b>Toyota Industries Corp.</b>								
3.110% due 03/12/2022	4,800	4,886						
<b>Toyota Motor Corp.</b>								
0.681% due 03/25/2024	6,500	6,513						
<b>Volkswagen Group of America Finance LLC</b>								
0.994% (US0003M + 0.860%) due 09/24/2021 ~	1,600	1,603						
2.700% due 09/26/2022	500	514						
<b>Volkswagen International Finance NV</b>								
1.009% (EUR003M + 1.550%) due 11/16/2024 ~	EUR 700	863						
		168,087						
<b>UTILITIES 2.5%</b>								
<b>AES Corp.</b>								
1.375% due 01/15/2026	\$ 5,100	5,052						
<b>Atmos Energy Corp.</b>								
0.503% (US0003M + 0.380%) due 03/09/2023 ~	6,000	6,001						
<b>Midwest Connector Capital Co. LLC</b>								
3.625% due 04/01/2022	2,700	2,746						
<b>NextEra Energy Capital Holdings, Inc.</b>								
0.420% (US0003M + 0.270%) due 02/22/2023 ~	5,000	5,001						
<b>Pacific Gas &amp; Electric Co.</b>								
1.367% due 03/10/2023	5,000	5,000						
1.531% (US0003M + 1.375%) due 11/15/2021 ~	5,000	5,011						
1.598% (US0003M + 1.480%) due 06/16/2022 ~	3,500	3,502						



	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (0005)	MARKET VALUE (0005)		PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (0005)	MARKET VALUE (0005)		PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (0005)	MARKET VALUE (0005)
<b>Amerquest Mortgage Securities, Inc. Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates</b>								
0.842% due 09/25/2035 •	\$ 1,970	\$ 1,972						
<b>Aqueduct European CLO DAC</b>								
0.640% due 07/20/2030 •	EUR 2,800	3,325						
<b>Asset-Backed Securities Corp. Home Equity Loan Trust</b>								
1.723% due 03/15/2032 •	\$ 50	50						
<b>Bear Stearns Asset-Backed Securities Trust</b>								
1.092% due 10/25/2037 •	383	384						
<b>Chesapeake Funding LLC</b>								
0.443% due 08/15/2030 •	2,364	2,365						
3.230% due 08/15/2030	1,773	1,787						
<b>CIFC Funding Ltd.</b>								
1.038% due 10/24/2030 •	5,000	5,001						
<b>Countrywide Asset-Backed Certificates</b>								
0.792% due 12/25/2033 •	658	644						
<b>Credit Suisse First Boston Mortgage Securities Corp.</b>								
0.712% due 01/25/2032 •	4	4						
<b>Dryden Senior Loan Fund</b>								
1.204% due 04/15/2029 •	5,900	5,908						
<b>Edsouth Indenture LLC</b>								
1.242% due 09/25/2040 •	312	315						
<b>Enterprise Fleet Financing LLC</b>								
3.380% due 05/20/2024	892	897						
<b>Ford Credit Floorplan Master Owner Trust</b>								
2.840% due 03/15/2024	4,700	4,787						
<b>Gallatin CLO Ltd.</b>								
1.236% due 01/21/2028 •	4,166	4,167						
<b>GE-WMC Mortgage Securities Trust</b>								
0.172% due 08/25/2036 •	8	4						
<b>GSAMP Trust</b>								
0.677% due 01/25/2036 •	594	595						
<b>LMREC LLC</b>								
1.160% due 04/22/2037 •	5,000	5,010						
<b>Lument Finance Trust, Inc.</b>								
1.270% due 06/15/2039 •	5,000	5,016						
<b>Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority</b>								
1.126% due 04/25/2038 •	156	157						
<b>NovaStar Mortgage Funding Trust</b>								
0.412% due 05/25/2036 •	2,448	2,417						
<b>Palmer Square European Loan Funding DAC</b>								
0.870% due 02/15/2030 •	EUR 4,371	5,191						
<b>Palmer Square Loan Funding Ltd.</b>								
1.006% due 08/15/2026 •	\$ 1,041	1,041						
<b>Residential Asset Securities Corp. Trust</b>								
0.977% due 01/25/2034 •	1,438	1,437						
<b>Santander Drive Auto Receivables Trust</b>								
0.423% due 05/15/2023 •	290	290						
<b>SLC Student Loan Trust</b>								
0.229% due 03/15/2027 •	\$ 1,442	\$ 1,439						
<b>SLM Student Loan Trust</b>								
0.326% due 10/25/2029 •	2,371	2,361						
<b>SP-Static CLO Ltd.</b>								
1.584% due 07/22/2028 •	3,542	3,546						
<b>Structured Asset Investment Loan Trust</b>								
0.797% due 03/25/2034 •	307	302						
1.067% due 10/25/2033 •	85	86						
<b>Symphony CLO Ltd.</b>								
1.064% due 04/15/2028 •	1,540	1,543						
<b>TICP CLO Ltd.</b>								
1.028% due 04/20/2028 •	4,325	4,325						
<b>TPG Real Estate Finance Ltd.</b>								
1.274% due 10/15/2034 •	3,600	3,601						
<b>Venture CLO Ltd.</b>								
1.004% due 04/15/2027 •	430	430						
1.208% due 04/20/2029 •	5,732	5,729						
<b>Voya CLO Ltd.</b>								
1.073% due 04/17/2030 •	5,000	5,001						
<b>WhiteHorse Ltd.</b>								
1.120% due 04/17/2027 •	530	530						
<b>Zais CLO Ltd.</b>								
1.334% due 04/15/2028 •	2,207	2,210						
<b>Total Asset-Backed Securities (Cost \$91,251)</b>		<b>91,969</b>						
<b>SOVEREIGN ISSUES 5.2%</b>								
<b>Brazil Letras do Tesouro Nacional</b>								
0.000% due 10/01/2021 (d)	BRL 353,200	70,155						
0.000% due 01/01/2022 (d)	81,700	15,974						
<b>Israel Government International Bond</b>								
0.020% (MAKASDAY) due 11/30/2021 ~	ILS 17,000	5,214						
5.500% due 01/31/2022	6,200	1,964						
<b>Peru Government International Bond</b>								
8.200% due 08/12/2026	PEN 26,000	8,401						
<b>Provincia de Buenos Aires</b>								
37.854% due 04/12/2025	ARS 3,463	17						
<b>Total Sovereign Issues (Cost \$93,449)</b>		<b>101,725</b>						
<b>SHORT-TERM INSTRUMENTS 25.6%</b>								
<b>SHORT-TERM NOTES 0.7%</b>								
<b>Federal Home Loan Bank</b>								
0.010% due 08/25/2021 (d)(e)	\$ 13,700	13,699						
<b>ARGENTINA TREASURY BILLS 0.0%</b>								
38.503% due 09/13/2021 (d)(e)(f)	ARS 5,941	\$ 35						
<b>ISRAEL TREASURY BILLS 0.5%</b>								
0.005% due 03/02/2022 - 04/06/2022 (c)(d)	ILS 33,000	10,121						
<b>U.S. TREASURY BILLS 20.4%</b>								
0.040% due 07/01/2021 - 12/16/2021 (b)(c)(d)(i)(k)	\$ 401,800	401,757						
<b>U.S. TREASURY CASH MANAGEMENT BILLS 4.0%</b>								
0.024% due 09/14/2021 - 10/26/2021 (c)(d)(i)(k)	79,400	79,393						
<b>Total Short-Term Instruments (Cost \$504,919)</b>		<b>505,005</b>						
<b>Total Investments in Securities (Cost \$1,611,371)</b>		<b>1,638,018</b>						
<b>SHARES</b>								
<b>INVESTMENTS IN AFFILIATES 24.4%</b>								
<b>SHORT-TERM INSTRUMENTS 24.4%</b>								
<b>CENTRAL FUNDS USED FOR CASH MANAGEMENT PURPOSES 24.4%</b>								
<b>PIMCO Short Asset Portfolio</b>	38,112,009	381,959						
<b>PIMCO Short-Term Floating NAV Portfolio III</b>	10,138,966	99,980						
<b>Total Short-Term Instruments (Cost \$477,746)</b>		<b>481,939</b>						
<b>Total Investments in Affiliates (Cost \$477,746)</b>		<b>481,939</b>						
<b>Total Investments 107.5% (Cost \$2,089,117)</b>		<b>\$ 2,119,957</b>						
<b>Financial Derivative Instruments (h)(j) (0.3%) (Cost or Premiums, net \$2,289)</b>		<b>(6,385)</b>						
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, net (7.2%)</b>		<b>(141,990)</b>						
<b>Net Assets 100.0%</b>		<b>\$ 1,971,582</b>						

**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.
- (a) Security is an Interest Only ("IO") or IO Strip.
- (b) When-issued security.
- (c) Coupon represents a weighted average yield to maturity.
- (d) Zero coupon security.
- (e) Coupon represents a yield to maturity.
- (f) Principal amount of security is adjusted for inflation.



## Schedule of Investments PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio (Cont.)

### (g) RESTRICTED SECURITIES:

Issuer Description	Coupon	Maturity Date	Acquisition Date	Cost	Market Value	Market Value as Percentage of Net Assets
Ford Credit Canada Co.	3.465%	01/10/2022	10/20/2020 - 10/29/2020	\$ 3,548	\$ 3,815	0.19%
Wells Fargo & Co.	2.509	10/27/2023	10/20/2020	4,869	5,161	0.26
				\$ 8,417	\$ 8,976	0.45%

### BORROWINGS AND OTHER FINANCING TRANSACTIONS

#### SHORT SALES:

Description	Coupon	Maturity Date	Principal Amount	Proceeds	Payable for Short Sales
U.S. Government Agencies (7.2)%					
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	3.500%	08/01/2051	\$ 5,100	\$ (5,383)	\$ (5,372)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	4.000	07/01/2051	24,100	(25,760)	(25,665)
Uniform Mortgage-Backed Security, TBA	4.000	08/01/2051	103,500	(110,612)	(110,308)
<b>Total Short Sales (7.2)%</b>				<b>\$ (141,755)</b>	<b>\$ (141,345)</b>

### (h) 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
U.S. Treasury 2-Year Note September Futures	09/2021	5,466	\$ 1,204,271	\$ (1,971)	\$ 128	\$ 0
U.S. Treasury 5-Year Note September Futures	09/2021	1,998	246,613	(460)	125	0
				\$ (2,431)	\$ 253	\$ 0

##### 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	09/2021	878	\$ (116,335)	\$ (718)	\$ 0	\$ (206)
U.S. Treasury 30-Year Bond September Futures	09/2021	139	(22,344)	(706)	0	(91)
United Kingdom Long Gilt September Futures	09/2021	193	(34,200)	(417)	0	(38)
				\$ (1,841)	\$ 0	\$ (335)
<b>Total Futures Contracts</b>				<b>\$ (4,272)</b>	<b>\$ 253</b>	<b>\$ (335)</b>

#### SWAP AGREEMENTS:

##### CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS ON CREDIT INDICES - SELL PROTECTION<sup>(1)</sup>

Index/Tranches	Fixed Receive Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Notional Amount <sup>(2)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Market Value <sup>(3)</sup>	Variation Margin	
								Asset	Liability
CDX.IG-35 5-Year Index	1.000%	Quarterly	12/20/2025	\$ 4,600	\$ 97	\$ 21	\$ 118	\$ 1	\$ 0
CDX.IG-36 5-Year Index	1.000	Quarterly	06/20/2026	22,800	526	61	587	3	0
iTraxx Crossover 35 5-Year Index	5.000	Quarterly	06/20/2026	EUR 3,400	463	44	507	0	(4)
					\$ 1,086	\$ 126	\$ 1,212	\$ 4	\$ (4)

## 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>(4)</sup>	1-Day GBP-SONIO										
	Compounded-OIS	0.750%	Annual	09/15/2051	GBP	6,200	\$ 365	\$ (193)	\$ 172	\$ 0	\$ (1)
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.850	Maturity	01/03/2022	BRL	59,100	0	148	148	3	0
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.859	Maturity	01/03/2022		47,000	0	115	115	2	0
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.860	Maturity	01/03/2022		48,400	(1)	122	121	2	0
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.870	Maturity	01/03/2022		14,300	0	35	35	1	0
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.871	Maturity	01/03/2022		21,000	0	51	51	1	0
Receive	1-Year BRL-CDI	2.883	Maturity	01/03/2022		35,000	0	84	84	2	0
Pay	1-Year BRL-CDI	3.345	Maturity	01/03/2022		6,300	0	(11)	(11)	0	0
Pay	1-Year BRL-CDI	3.350	Maturity	01/03/2022		147,700	(4)	(247)	(251)	0	(7)
Pay	1-Year BRL-CDI	3.360	Maturity	01/03/2022		939,800	262	(1,090)	(828)	0	(48)
Pay	1-Year BRL-CDI	3.700	Maturity	01/03/2022		173,700	(48)	(195)	(243)	0	(9)
Pay	6-Month JPY-LIBOR	0.100	Semi-Annual	03/20/2024	JPY	10,270,000	321	30	351	3	0
Receive	6-Month JPY-LIBOR	0.300	Semi-Annual	03/18/2026		2,930,000	(35)	(377)	(412)	0	(1)
Pay	6-Month JPY-LIBOR	0.380	Semi-Annual	06/18/2028		1,640,000	201	169	370	0	(1)
Receive	6-Month JPY-LIBOR	0.750	Semi-Annual	03/20/2038		1,000,000	4	(742)	(738)	5	0
Receive	6-Month JPY-LIBOR	1.000	Semi-Annual	03/21/2048		340,000	(11)	(418)	(429)	5	0
Receive	6-Month JPY-LIBOR	0.538	Semi-Annual	03/15/2051		279,000	(6)	(19)	(25)	6	0
Receive	6-Month JPY-LIBOR	0.350	Semi-Annual	03/17/2051		231,000	127	(36)	91	5	0
Receive	6-Month JPY-LIBOR	0.557	Semi-Annual	03/17/2051		763,000	0	(107)	(107)	15	0
Receive	6-Month JPY-LIBOR	0.570	Semi-Annual	03/19/2051		222,000	0	(39)	(39)	4	0
Receive	6-Month JPY-LIBOR	0.572	Semi-Annual	04/07/2051		99,000	0	(17)	(17)	2	0
							\$ 1,175	\$ (2,737)	\$ (1,562)	\$ 56	\$ (67)
<b>Total Swap Agreements</b>							<b>\$ 2,261</b>	<b>\$ (2,611)</b>	<b>\$ (350)</b>	<b>\$ 60</b>	<b>\$ (71)</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, 2021:

	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>\$ 253</b>	<b>\$ 60</b>	<b>\$ 313</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (335)</b>	<b>\$ (71)</b>	<b>\$ (406)</b>

(i) Securities with an aggregate market value of \$5,867 and cash of \$5,110 have been pledged as collateral for exchange-traded and centrally cleared financial derivative instruments as of June 30, 2021. 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) 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.
- (3) 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.
- (4) This instrument has a forward starting effective date. See Note 2, Securities Transactions and Investment Income, in the Notes to Financial Statements for further information.

## (j) 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	08/2021	EUR	24,970	\$ 30,332	\$ 696	\$ 0
BPS	07/2021	AUD	10,653	8,279	290	0
BSH	10/2021	BRL	125,000	21,952	0	(2,893)
	01/2022		48,400	8,412	0	(1,067)

## Schedule of Investments PIMCO Low Duration Portfolio (Cont.)

Counterparty	Settlement Month	Currency to be Delivered	Currency to be Received	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)		
				Asset	Liability	
CBK	07/2021	AUD	3,618	\$ 2,798	\$ 85	\$ 0
	07/2021	PEN	9,343	2,414	0	(16)
	07/2021	\$	2,428	PEN 9,343	2	0
	10/2021	PEN	9,343	\$ 2,432	0	(2)
	11/2021	ILS	17,006	5,146	0	(81)
	01/2022		6,543	1,997	0	(16)
	03/2022		16,498	5,036	0	(44)
	04/2022		16,500	5,035	0	(49)
	04/2022	PEN	25,020	6,579	80	0
	GLM	09/2021	\$	125	MYR 520	0
HUS	08/2021	GBP	73,417	\$ 103,787	2,218	0
	08/2021	\$	1,701	EUR 1,402	0	(37)
	08/2021		1,402	GBP 990	0	(33)
	09/2021	MXN	1,628	\$ 77	0	(4)
JPM	10/2021	BRL	228,200	40,408	0	(4,948)
	01/2022		33,300	5,825	0	(696)
SCX	08/2021	\$	1,153	EUR 942	0	(35)
	08/2021		1,059	GBP 756	0	(13)
TOR	07/2021	CAD	11,474	\$ 9,497	241	0
	08/2021		11,474	9,266	10	0
UAG	07/2021	\$	7,290	AUD 9,610	0	(83)
	08/2021	AUD	9,610	\$ 7,291	82	0
<b>Total Forward Foreign Currency Contracts</b>					<b>\$ 3,704</b>	<b>\$ (10,017)</b>

### SWAP AGREEMENTS:

#### CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS ON CORPORATE ISSUES - SELL PROTECTION<sup>(1)</sup>

Counterparty	Reference Entity	Fixed Receive Rate	Payment Frequency	Maturity Date	Implied Credit Spread at June 30, 2021 <sup>(2)</sup>	Notional Amount <sup>(3)</sup>	Premiums Paid/(Received)	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)	Swap Agreements, at Value <sup>(4)</sup>	
									Asset	Liability
MYC	Barclays Bank PLC	1.000%	Quarterly	12/20/2021	0.143%	EUR 4,000	\$ 28	\$ (7)	\$ 21	\$ 0
<b>Total Swap Agreements</b>							<b>\$ 28</b>	<b>\$ (7)</b>	<b>\$ 21</b>	<b>\$ 0</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, 2021:

Counterparty	Financial Derivative Assets				Financial Derivative Liabilities				Net Market Value of OTC Derivatives	Collateral Pledged/ (Received)	Net Exposure <sup>(5)</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	\$ 696	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 696	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 696	\$ (550)	\$ 146
BPS	290	0	0	290	0	0	0	0	290	(300)	(10)
BSH	0	0	0	0	(3,960)	0	0	(3,960)	(3,960)	4,267	307
CBK	167	0	0	167	(208)	0	0	(208)	(41)	(310)	(351)
GLM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	11
HUS	2,218	0	0	2,218	(74)	0	0	(74)	2,144	(1,850)	294
JPM	0	0	0	0	(5,644)	0	0	(5,644)	(5,644)	6,111	467
MYC	0	0	21	21	0	0	0	0	21	0	21
SCX	0	0	0	0	(48)	0	0	(48)	(48)	0	(48)
TOR	251	0	0	251	0	0	0	0	251	(260)	(9)
UAG	82	0	0	82	(83)	0	0	(83)	(1)	0	(1)
<b>Total Over the Counter</b>	<b>\$ 3,704</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 21</b>	<b>\$ 3,725</b>	<b>\$ (10,017)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (10,017)</b>			

(k) Securities with an aggregate market value of \$10,390 have been pledged as collateral for financial derivative instruments as governed by International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. master agreements as of June 30, 2021.

<sup>(1)</sup> 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 corporate 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.
- (5) 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 and Other 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, 2021:

	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	\$ 253	\$ 253
Swap Agreements	0	4	0	0	56	60
	\$ 0	\$ 4	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 309	\$ 313
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 3,704	\$ 0	\$ 3,704
Swap Agreements	0	21	0	0	0	21
	\$ 0	\$ 21	\$ 0	\$ 3,704	\$ 0	\$ 3,725
	\$ 0	\$ 25	\$ 0	\$ 3,704	\$ 309	\$ 4,038
<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Liabilities</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Futures	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 335	\$ 335
Swap Agreements	0	4	0	0	67	71
	\$ 0	\$ 4	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 402	\$ 406
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,017	\$ 0	\$ 10,017
	\$ 0	\$ 4	\$ 0	\$ 10,017	\$ 402	\$ 10,423

The effect of Financial Derivative Instruments on the Statement of Operations for the period ended June 30, 2021:

	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						
Futures	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,069	\$ 5,069
Swap Agreements	0	328	0	0	(2,403)	(2,075)
	\$ 0	\$ 328	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,666	\$ 2,994
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (44)	\$ 0	\$ (44)
Written Options	0	0	0	127	0	127
Swap Agreements	0	24	0	0	(2)	22
	\$ 0	\$ 24	\$ 0	\$ 83	\$ (2)	\$ 105
	\$ 0	\$ 352	\$ 0	\$ 83	\$ 2,664	\$ 3,099

	Derivatives not accounted for as hedging instruments					Total
	Commodity Contracts	Credit Contracts	Equity Contracts	Foreign Exchange Contracts	Interest Rate Contracts	
<b>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) on Financial Derivative Instruments</b>						
Exchange-traded or centrally cleared						
Futures	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (5,625)	\$ (5,625)
Swap Agreements	0	9	0	0	441	450
	\$ 0	\$ 9	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (5,184)	\$ (5,175)
Over the counter						
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 3,154	\$ 0	\$ 3,154
Swap Agreements	0	(18)	0	0	0	(18)
	\$ 0	\$ (18)	\$ 0	\$ 3,154	\$ 0	\$ 3,136
	\$ 0	\$ (9)	\$ 0	\$ 3,154	\$ (5,184)	\$ (2,039)

**FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

The following is a summary of the fair valuations according to the inputs used as of June 30, 2021 in valuing the Portfolio's assets and liabilities:

Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value at 06/30/2021	Category and Subcategory	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value at 06/30/2021
<b>Investments in Securities, at Value</b>					<b>Short Sales, at Value - Liabilities</b>				
Corporate Bonds & Notes					U.S. Government Agencies	\$ 0	\$ (141,345)	\$ 0	\$ (141,345)
Banking & Finance	\$ 0	\$ 241,307	\$ 0	\$ 241,307	<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Assets</b>				
Industrials	0	168,087	0	168,087	Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	0	313	0	313
Utilities	0	49,327	0	49,327	Over the counter	0	3,725	0	3,725
U.S. Government Agencies	0	311,448	0	311,448		\$ 0	\$ 4,038	\$ 0	\$ 4,038
U.S. Treasury Obligations	0	12,944	0	12,944	<b>Financial Derivative Instruments - Liabilities</b>				
Non-Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	0	156,206	0	156,206	Exchange-traded or centrally cleared	(38)	(368)	0	(406)
Asset-Backed Securities	0	91,969	0	91,969	Over the counter	0	(10,017)	0	(10,017)
Sovereign Issues	0	101,725	0	101,725		\$ (38)	\$ (10,385)	\$ 0	\$ (10,423)
Short-Term Instruments					<b>Total Financial Derivative Instruments</b>				
Short-Term Notes	0	13,699	0	13,699		\$ (38)	\$ (6,347)	\$ 0	\$ (6,385)
Argentina Treasury Bills	0	35	0	35	<b>Totals</b>				
Israel Treasury Bills	0	10,121	0	10,121		\$ 481,901	\$ 1,490,326	\$ 0	\$ 1,972,227
U.S. Treasury Bills	0	401,757	0	401,757					
U.S. Treasury Cash Management Bills	0	79,393	0	79,393					
	\$ 0	\$ 1,638,018	\$ 0	\$ 1,638,018					
<b>Investments in Affiliates, at Value</b>									
Short-Term Instruments									
Central Funds Used for Cash Management Purposes	\$ 481,939	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 481,939					
Total Investments	\$ 481,939	\$ 1,638,018	\$ 0	\$ 2,119,957					

There were no significant transfers into or out of Level 3 during the period ended June 30, 2021.

## 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.

Separately, if the Portfolio determines or estimates, as applicable, that a portion of a distribution may be comprised of amounts from sources other than net investment income in accordance with its policies, accounting records (if applicable), 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 determines or estimates, as applicable, 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 determined or estimated, as applicable, 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 but are not limited to, for certain Funds, the treatment of 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. Please visit [www.pimco.com](http://www.pimco.com) for the most recent Section 19 Notice, if applicable, for additional information regarding the estimated composition of distributions. 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 and Regulatory Updates** 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.

In October 2020, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") adopted a rule related to the use of derivatives, short sales, reverse repurchase agreements and certain other transactions by registered investment companies that rescinds and withdraws the guidance of the SEC and its staff regarding asset segregation and cover transactions. Subject to certain exceptions, the rule requires funds to trade derivatives and other transactions that create future payment or delivery obligations (except reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions) subject to a value-at-risk leverage limit, certain derivatives risk management program and reporting requirements. The rule went into effect on February 19, 2021 and funds will have an eighteen-month transition period to comply with the rule and related reporting requirements. At this time, management is evaluating the implications of these changes on the financial statements.

In October 2020, the SEC adopted a rule regarding the ability of a fund to invest in other funds. The rule allows a fund to acquire shares of another fund in excess of certain limitations currently imposed by the Act without obtaining individual exemptive relief from the SEC, subject to certain conditions. The rule also included the rescission of certain

exemptive relief from the SEC and guidance from the SEC staff for funds to invest in other funds. The rule went into effect on January 19, 2021 and funds will have a one-year transition period to comply with the rule and related reporting requirements. At this time, management is evaluating the implications of these changes on the financial statements.

In December 2020, the SEC adopted a rule addressing fair valuation of fund investments. The new rule sets forth requirements for good faith determinations of fair value as well as for the performance of fair value determinations, including related oversight and reporting obligations. The new rule also defines “readily available market quotations” for purposes of the definition of “value” under the Act, and the SEC noted that this definition would apply in all contexts under the Act. The effective date for the rule was March 8, 2021. The SEC adopted an eighteen-month transition period beginning from the effective date for both the new rule and the associated new recordkeeping requirements. At this time, management is evaluating the 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 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 such data reflecting 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, quotes obtained from a quotation reporting system, established market makers or pricing services. Swap agreements are valued on the basis of market-based prices supplied by Pricing Services or quotes obtained from brokers and dealers. 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.

Valuation adjustments may be applied to certain exchange traded futures and options to account for market movement between the exchange settlement and the NYSE close. These securities are valued using quotes obtained from a quotation reporting system, established market makers or pricing services. Financial derivatives using these valuation adjustments are 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.

## Notes to Financial Statements (Cont.)

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 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, 2021 (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

### Investment in PIMCO Short Asset Portfolio

Market Value 12/31/2020	Purchases at Cost	Proceeds from Sales	Net Realized Gain (Loss)	Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)	Market Value 06/30/2021	Dividend Income <sup>(1)</sup>	Realized Net Capital Gain Distributions <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 380,278	\$ 1,796	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (115)	\$ 381,959	\$ 1,796	\$ 0

### Investment in PIMCO Short-Term Floating NAV Portfolio III

Market Value 12/31/2020	Purchases at Cost	Proceeds from Sales	Net Realized Gain (Loss)	Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)	Market Value 06/30/2021	Dividend Income <sup>(1)</sup>	Realized Net Capital Gain Distributions <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 99,078	\$ 72,501	\$ (71,600)	\$ 0	\$ 1	\$ 99,980	\$ 101	\$ 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.

**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.

**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.

**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 Fund at December 31, 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, FNMA and FHLMC started issuing Uniform Mortgage Backed Securities in place of their current offerings of TBA-eligible securities (the "Single Security Initiative"). 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. Recently finalized FINRA rules include mandatory margin requirements for the TBA market that require the Portfolio to post collateral in connection with their TBA transactions. There is no similar requirement applicable to the Portfolio's TBA counterparties. The required collateralization of TBA trades could increase the cost of TBA transactions to the Portfolio and impose added operational complexity.

**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) 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.

**(b) 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 Board has authorized the Portfolios to rely on the Temporary Order. With respect to interfund lending, the Temporary Order permitted, 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 provided notice in April 2021 that the Temporary Order would be terminated on April 30, 2021.

During the period ended June 30, 2021, 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.

(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. Credit default swaps on credit indices may be used 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.

**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 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, and valuation complexity. Changes in the value of a 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. The primary credit risk on derivatives that are exchange-traded or traded through a central clearing counterparty, resides with the Portfolio's clearing broker or the clearinghouse. 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 actual or potential conflicts of interest, 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 and may cause PIMCO to restrict or prohibit participation in certain investments. 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.

**LIBOR Transition Risk** is the risk related to the anticipated discontinuation of the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"). Certain instruments held by the Portfolio rely in some fashion upon LIBOR. Although the transition process away from LIBOR has become increasingly well-defined in advance of the anticipated discontinuation date, there remains uncertainty regarding the nature of any replacement rate, and any potential effects of the transition away from LIBOR on a Portfolio or on certain instruments in which the Portfolio invests can be difficult to ascertain. The transition process may involve, among other things, increased volatility or illiquidity in markets for instruments that currently rely on LIBOR and may result in a reduction in the value of certain instruments held by a 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, interest rates, auctions, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation, deflation and other factors relating to the Portfolio's investments or the Investment Manager's operations 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, which reflects changes in market value, is 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. 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 or as required by regulation. Similarly, if required by regulation, the

Portfolio may be required to post additional collateral beyond coverage of daily exposure. These amounts, if any, may (or if required by law, will) be segregated with a third-party custodian. To the extent the Portfolio is required by regulation to post additional collateral beyond coverage of daily exposure, it could potentially incur costs, including in procuring eligible assets to meet collateral requirements, associated with such posting. 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.

	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) salaries and other compensation of any of the Trust’s executive officers and employees who are not officers, directors, stockholders, or employees of PIMCO or its subsidiaries or affiliates; (ii) taxes and governmental fees; (iii) brokerage fees and commissions and other portfolio transaction expenses; (iv) the costs of borrowing money, including interest expenses; (v) 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; (vi) extraordinary expense, including costs of litigation and indemnification expenses; (vii) organizational expenses; and (viii) 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, through May 1, 2022, 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 on 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, 2021, 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, 2021, were as follows (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

Purchases	Sales
\$ 0	\$ 6,114

<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

## Notes to Financial Statements (Cont.)

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

### 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 06/30/2021 (Unaudited)		Year Ended 12/31/2020	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
<b>Receipts for shares sold</b>				
Institutional Class	882	\$ 9,158	1,833	\$ 18,831
Administrative Class	11,600	120,322	37,432	385,687
Advisor Class	8,781	91,080	22,353	230,395
<b>Issued as reinvestment of distributions</b>				
Institutional Class	4	41	14	147
Administrative Class	233	2,419	1,199	12,339
Advisor Class	139	1,442	829	8,527
<b>Cost of shares redeemed</b>				
Institutional Class	(261)	(2,713)	(1,870)	(19,176)
Administrative Class	(15,195)	(157,590)	(28,429)	(291,981)
Advisor Class	(5,761)	(59,742)	(16,985)	(174,111)
<b>Net increase (decrease) resulting from Portfolio share transactions</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>\$ 4,417</b>	<b>16,376</b>	<b>\$ 170,658</b>

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

As of June 30, 2021, two shareholders each owned 10% or more of the Portfolio's total outstanding shares comprising 42% 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.

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, 2021, were as follows (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

U.S. Government/Agency		All Other	
Purchases	Sales	Purchases	Sales
\$ 2,090,010	\$ 2,174,697	\$ 209,818	\$ 146,971

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

### 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, 2021, 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, 2020, the Portfolio had the following post-effective capital losses with no expiration (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

Short-Term	Long-Term
\$ 14,956	\$ 6,748

<sup>†</sup> A zero balance may reflect actual amounts rounding to less than one thousand.

As of June 30, 2021, the aggregate cost and the net unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) of investments for federal income tax purposes are as follows (amounts in thousands<sup>†</sup>):

Federal Tax Cost	Unrealized Appreciation	Unrealized (Depreciation)	Net Unrealized Appreciation/(Depreciation) <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 1,950,068	\$ 38,607	\$ (20,979)	\$ 17,628

<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>GLM</b>	Goldman Sachs Bank USA	<b>SCX</b>	Standard Chartered Bank, London
<b>BPS</b>	BNP Paribas S.A.	<b>HUS</b>	HSBC Bank USA N.A.	<b>TOR</b>	The Toronto-Dominion Bank
<b>BSH</b>	Banco Santander S.A. - New York Branch	<b>JPM</b>	JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A.	<b>UAG</b>	UBS AG Stamford
<b>CBK</b>	Citibank N.A.	<b>MYC</b>	Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC		

**Currency Abbreviations:**

<b>ARS</b>	Argentine Peso	<b>EUR</b>	Euro	<b>MXN</b>	Mexican Peso
<b>AUD</b>	Australian Dollar	<b>GBP</b>	British Pound	<b>MYR</b>	Malaysian Ringgit
<b>BRL</b>	Brazilian Real	<b>ILS</b>	Israeli Shekel	<b>PEN</b>	Peruvian New Sol
<b>CAD</b>	Canadian Dollar	<b>JPY</b>	Japanese Yen	<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>CDX.IG</b>	Credit Derivatives Index - Investment Grade	<b>SOFRRATE</b>	Secured Overnight Financing Rate
<b>BP0003M</b>	3 Month GBP-LIBOR	<b>EUR003M</b>	3 Month EUR Swap Rate	<b>SONIO</b>	Sterling Overnight Interbank Average Rate
<b>CDOR03</b>	3 month CDN Swap Rate	<b>MAKA5DAY</b>	Israel Gilon 5 Day	<b>US0003M</b>	ICE 3-Month USD LIBOR

**Other Abbreviations:**

<b>ALT</b>	Alternate Loan Trust	<b>DAC</b>	Designated Activity Company	<b>OIS</b>	Overnight Index Swap
<b>CDI</b>	Brazil Interbank Deposit Rate	<b>LIBOR</b>	London Interbank Offered Rate	<b>TBA</b>	To-Be-Announced
<b>CLO</b>	Collateralized Loan Obligation				

In compliance with Rule 22e-4 (the “Liquidity Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (“1940 Act”), 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”) not regulated as a money market fund under 1940 Act Rule 2a-7, 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, Americas Operations, Compliance, Account Management and Portfolio Management, and is advised by members of PIMCO Legal.

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 9-10, 2021, 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, 2019 through December 31, 2020. The Report reviewed the operation of the Program’s components during such period, noted the March-April 2020 market conditions and associated monitoring by the Administrator, and stated 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 period ended June 30, 2021.

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## 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 Portfolio listed on the Report cover.

[pimco.com/pvit](http://pimco.com/pvit)

**P I M C O**