# John Hancock Small Cap Core Fund

## Prospectus 3/1/21

Class A JCCAX
Class I JCCIX
Class R6 JORSX



As with all mutual funds, the Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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## Fund summary

## John Hancock Small Cap Core Fund

### **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

To seek long-term capital appreciation.

#### **FEES AND EXPENSES**

This table describes the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell shares of the fund. You may qualify for sales charge discounts on Class A shares if you and your family invest, or agree to invest in the future, at least \$50,000 in the John Hancock family of funds. Intermediaries may have different policies and procedures regarding the availability of front-end sales charge waivers or contingent deferred sales charge (CDSC) waivers (See Appendix 1 - Intermediary sales charge waivers, which includes information about specific sales charge waivers applicable to the intermediaries identified therein). Although the fund does not impose any sales charges on Class I shares, you may pay commissions to your broker on your purchases and sales of Class I shares, which are not reflected in the table and example below. More information about these and other discounts is available from your financial professional and on pages 19 to 21 of the prospectus under "Sales charge reductions and waivers" or pages 133 to 136 of the fund's Statement of Additional Information under "Sales Charges on Class A and Class C Shares."

Shareholder fees (%) (fees paid directly from your investment)	Α	1	R6
Maximum front-end sales charge (load) on purchases, as a % of purchase price	5.00	None	None
Maximum deferred sales charge (load) as a % of purchase or sale price, whichever is less	1.00 (on certain purchases, including those of \$1 million or more)	None	None
Small account fee (for fund account balances under \$1,000) (\$)	20	None	None
Annual fund operating expenses (%) (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)	А	1	R6
Management fee	0.85	0.85	0.85
Distribution and service (Rule 12b-1) fees	0.25	0.00	0.00
Other expenses	0.20	0.201	0.08
Total annual fund operating expenses	1.30	1.05	0.93
Contractual expense reimbursement <sup>2</sup>	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Total annual fund operating expenses after expense reimbursements	1.29	1.04	0.92

- 1 "Other expenses" have been restated from fiscal year amounts to reflect current fees and expenses.
- 2 The advisor contractually agrees to waive a portion of its management fee and/or reimburse expenses for the fund and certain other John Hancock funds according to an asset level breakpoint schedule that is based on the aggregate net assets of all the funds participating in the waiver or reimbursement. This waiver is allocated proportionally among the participating funds. During its most recent fiscal year, the fund's reimbursement amounted to 0.01% of the fund's average daily net assets. This agreement expires on July 31, 2022, unless renewed by mutual agreement of the fund and the advisor based upon a determination that this is appropriate under the circumstances at that time.

## **EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. Please see below a hypothetical example showing the expenses of a \$10,000 investment for the time periods indicated and then assuming you sell all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example assumes a 5% average annual return and that fund expenses will not change over the periods. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

Expenses (\$)	Α	I	R6
1 year	625	106	94
3 years	891	333	295
5 years	1,176	578	514
10 years	1,989	1,282	1,142

#### **PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, affect the fund's performance. During its most recent fiscal year, the fund's portfolio turnover rate was 82% of the average value of its portfolio.

#### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

Under normal market conditions, the fund invests at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in equity securities of small-capitalization companies. The fund considers small-capitalization companies to be those that, at the time of investment, are in the capitalization range of the Russell 2000 Index, with a maximum capitalization of \$13.4 billion as of December 31, 2020. The fund generally will not invest in companies that, at the time of purchase, have market capitalizations of \$5 billion or more. Equity securities include common and preferred stocks, rights, warrants, and depositary receipts.

The manager emphasizes a fundamental, bottom-up approach to individual stock selection, looking for companies with durable, niche business models with the potential for high returns on capital and that the manager believes are undervalued. Companies are screened based on a number of factors, including balance sheet quality, profitability, liquidity, size, and risk profile.

The fund intends to invest in a number of different sectors based on stock selection and sector weightings may vary significantly from its benchmark. The fund may focus its investments in a particular sector or sectors. The fund may invest up to 10% of its total assets in foreign securities including emerging-market securities and securities of non-U.S. companies traded on a U.S. exchange.

The fund may invest in initial public offerings (IPOs), real estate investment trusts (REITs) or other real estate-related equity securities, and certain exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

The fund normally will invest 10% or less of its total assets in cash and cash equivalents, including repurchase agreements, money market securities, U.S. government securities, and other short-term investments. The fund may invest in derivatives to a limited extent. Derivatives may be used to reduce risk and/or obtain efficient market exposure, and may include futures contracts and foreign currency forward contracts.

#### **PRINCIPAL RISKS**

An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Many factors affect performance, and fund shares will fluctuate in price, meaning you could lose money. The fund's investment strategy may not produce the intended results.

During periods of heightened market volatility or reduced liquidity, governments, their agencies, or other regulatory bodies, both within the United States and abroad, may take steps to intervene. These actions, which could include legislative, regulatory, or economic initiatives, might have unforeseeable consequences and could adversely affect the fund's performance or otherwise constrain the fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

The fund's main risks are listed below in alphabetical order, not in order of importance. Before investing, be sure to read the additional descriptions of these risks beginning on page 5 of the prospectus.

**Credit and counterparty risk.** The counterparty to an over-the-counter derivatives contract or a borrower of fund securities may not make timely payments or otherwise honor its obligations. U.S. government securities are subject to varying degrees of credit risk based on the nature of their support.

**Cybersecurity and operational risk.** Cybersecurity breaches may allow an unauthorized party to gain access to fund assets, customer data, or proprietary information, or cause a fund or its service providers to suffer data corruption or lose operational functionality. Similar incidents affecting issuers of a fund's securities may negatively impact performance. Operational risk may arise from human error, error by third parties, communication errors, or technology failures, among other causes.

**Economic and market events risk.** Events in the U.S. and global financial markets, including actions taken by the U.S. Federal Reserve or foreign central banks to stimulate or stabilize economic growth, may at times result in unusually high market volatility, which could negatively impact performance. Reduced liquidity in credit and fixed-income markets could adversely affect issuers worldwide. Banks and financial services companies could suffer losses if interest rates rise or economic conditions deteriorate.

**Equity securities risk.** The price of equity securities may decline due to changes in a company's financial condition or overall market conditions. Securities the manager believes are undervalued may never realize their full potential value, and in certain markets value stocks may underperform the market as a whole.

**Exchange-traded funds risk.** An ETF generally reflects the risks of the underlying securities of the index it is designed to track. However, at times, an ETF's portfolio composition and performance may not match that of such index. A fund bears ETF fees and expenses indirectly.

**Foreign securities risk.** Less information may be publicly available regarding foreign issuers. Foreign securities may be subject to foreign taxes and may be more volatile than U.S. securities. Currency fluctuations and political and economic developments may adversely impact the value of foreign securities. The risks of investing in foreign securities are magnified in emerging markets. Any depositary receipts are subject to most of the risks associated with investing in foreign securities directly because the value of a depositary receipt is dependent upon the market price of the underlying foreign equity security. Depositary receipts are also subject to liquidity risk.

**Hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions risk.** Hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions may increase a fund's volatility and could produce disproportionate losses, potentially more than the fund's principal investment. Risks of these transactions are different from and possibly greater than risks of investing directly in securities and other traditional instruments. Under certain market conditions, derivatives could become harder to value or sell and may become subject to liquidity risk (i.e., the inability to enter into closing transactions). Derivatives and other strategic transactions that the fund intends to utilize

include: foreign currency forward contracts and futures contracts. Foreign currency forward contracts and futures contracts generally are subject to counterparty risk.

Derivatives associated with foreign currency transactions are subject to currency risk.

High portfolio turnover risk. Trading securities actively and frequently can increase transaction costs (thus lowering performance) and taxable distributions.

Initial public offerings risk. IPO share prices are frequently volatile and may significantly impact fund performance.

**Liquidity risk.** The extent (if at all) to which a security may be sold or a derivative position closed without negatively impacting its market value may be impaired by reduced market activity or participation, legal restrictions, or other economic and market impediments.

**Preferred stock risk.** Preferred stock generally ranks senior to common stock with respect to dividends and liquidation but ranks junior to debt securities. Unlike interest payments on debt securities, preferred stock dividends are payable only if declared by the issuer's board of directors. Preferred stock may be subject to optional or mandatory redemption provisions.

**Real estate investment trust risk.** REITs, pooled investment vehicles that typically invest in real estate directly or in loans collateralized by real estate, carry risks associated with owning real estate, including the potential for a decline in value due to economic or market conditions.

**Real estate securities risk.** Securities of companies in the real estate industry carry risks associated with owning real estate, including the potential for a decline in value due to economic or market conditions.

**Sector risk.** When a fund focuses its investments in certain sectors of the economy, its performance may be driven largely by sector performance and could fluctuate more widely than if the fund were invested more evenly across sectors.

**Small and mid-sized company risk.** Small and mid-sized companies are generally less established and may be more volatile than larger companies. Small and/or mid-capitalization securities may underperform the market as a whole.

**Warrants risk.** The prices of warrants may not precisely reflect the prices of their underlying securities. Warrant holders do not receive dividends or have voting or credit rights. A warrant ceases to have value if not exercised prior to its expiration date.

#### **PAST PERFORMANCE**

The following information illustrates the variability of the fund's returns and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the fund by showing changes in the fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the fund's average annual returns compared with a broad-based market index. Past performance (before and after taxes) does not indicate future results. All figures assume dividend reinvestment. Performance information is updated daily, monthly, and quarterly and may be obtained at our website, jhinvestments.com, or by calling 800-225-5291 (Class A), Monday to Thursday, 8:00 A.M.—7:00 P.M., and Friday, 8:00 A.M.—6:00 P.M., Eastern time, or 888-972-8696 (Class I and Class R6) between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Eastern time, on most business days.

## A note on performance

Class A and Class I shares commenced operations on December 20, 2013. Class A shares ceased operations between March 10, 2016 and August 30, 2017. Returns shown while Class A shares were not offered are those of Class I shares that include Class A sales charges. Class R6 shares commenced operations on August 30, 2017. Returns shown prior to Class R6 shares' commencement date are those of Class A shares, except that they do not include sales charges and would be lower if they did. Returns for Class A, Class I, and Class R6 shares would have been substantially similar because each share class is invested in the same portfolio of securities and returns would differ only to the extent that expenses of the classes are different. To the extent expenses of a class would have been higher than expenses of Class A or Class I shares (as applicable) for the periods shown, performance would have been lower.

Please note that after-tax returns (shown for Class A shares only) reflect the highest individual federal marginal income-tax rate in effect as of the date provided and do not reflect any state or local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns may be different. After-tax returns are not relevant to shares held in an IRA, 401(k), or other tax-advantaged investment plan. After-tax returns for other share classes would vary.

Calendar year total returns (%)—Class A (sales charges are not reflected in the bar chart and returns would have been lower if they were)

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
-1.11	-1.71	27.04	16.07	-18.36	26.53	25.62

**Best quarter:** Q4 2020, 27.26% **Worst quarter:** Q1 2020, -26.37%

Average annual total returns (%)—as of 12/31/20	1 year	5 year	Since inception (12/20/13)
Class A (before tax)	19.36	12.70	8.74
after tax on distributions	18.84	11.58	7.79
after tax on distributions, with sale	11.58	9.80	6.65
Class I	25.98	14.03	9.75
Class R6	26.11	14.13	9.72
Russell 2000 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes)	19.96	13.26	9.83

#### INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

**Investment advisor** John Hancock Investment Management LLC **Subadvisor** Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC

#### **PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

#### Bill Talbot, CFA

Senior Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager Managed the fund since 2013

### **PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

The minimum initial investment requirement for Class A shares is \$1,000 (\$250 for group investments), except that there is no minimum for certain group retirement plans, certain fee-based or wrap accounts, or certain other eligible investment product platforms. The minimum initial investment requirement for Class I shares is \$250,000, except that the fund may waive the minimum for any category of investors at the fund's sole discretion. The minimum initial investment requirement for Class R6 shares is \$1 million, except that there is no minimum for: qualified and nonqualified plan investors; certain eligible qualifying investment product platforms; Trustees, employees of the advisor or its affiliates, employees of the subadvisor, members of the fund's portfolio management team and the spouses and children (under age 21) of the aforementioned. There are no subsequent minimum investment requirements for any of these share classes.

Class A, Class I, and Class R6 shares may be redeemed on any business day by mail: John Hancock Signature Services, Inc., P.O. Box 219909, Kansas City, MO 64121-9909; or for most account types through our website: jhinvestments.com; or by telephone: 800-225-5291 (Class A); 888-972-8696 (Class I and Class R6).

#### **TAXES**

The fund's distributions are taxable, and will be taxed as ordinary income and/or capital gains, unless you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or individual retirement account. Withdrawals from such tax-deferred arrangements may be subject to tax at a later date.

#### PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

If you purchase the fund through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank, registered investment advisor, financial planner, or retirement plan administrator), the fund and its related companies may pay the broker-dealer or other intermediary for the sale of fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your salesperson to recommend the fund over another investment. These payments are not applicable to Class R6 shares. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## Fund details

#### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

**Investment Objective:** The fund seeks long-term capital appreciation.

The Board of Trustees can change the fund's investment objective and strategies without shareholder approval. The fund will provide written notice to shareholders at least 60 days prior to a change in its 80% investment policy.

Under normal market conditions, the fund invests at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in equity securities of small-capitalization companies. The fund considers small-capitalization companies to be those companies that, at the time of investment, are in the capitalization range of the Russell 2000 Index, which had a maximum market capitalization of \$13.4 billion as of December 31, 2020. The fund generally will not invest in companies that, at the time of purchase, have market capitalizations of \$5 billion or more. Equity securities include common and preferred stocks, rights, warrants, and depositary receipts (including ADRs, American Depositary Shares, European Depositary Receipts, and Global Depositary Receipts).

In managing the fund, the manager emphasizes a bottom-up approach to individual stock selection. The manager looks for companies with durable, niche business models that have the potential to allow them to earn high returns on capital and that are trading at a significant discount to the manager's estimate of fair value. With the aid of proprietary financial models, companies are screened based on a number of factors, including balance sheet quality, profitability, liquidity, and size.

The manager then conducts in-depth fundamental research of individual companies to locate companies that have particular attributes, such as cash flow and earnings growth visibility, manageable risks, including business risk and financial risk, and above-average return on capital. Stocks considered for inclusion in the portfolio may also be experiencing some type of temporary weakness or short-term mispricing due to various factors, such as an inflection point in earnings power, turnaround situations, or a near-term earnings event.

The fund intends to invest in a number of different sectors. The sectors in which the fund invests are primarily a result of stock selection and may, therefore, vary significantly from its benchmark. The fund may focus its investments in a particular sector or sectors of the economy. The fund may invest up to 10% of its total assets in foreign securities, including in emerging markets, which includes securities for which the relevant reference entity is domiciled outside of the United States, such as ADRs, which trade on U.S. exchanges.

The fund may invest in initial public offerings (IPOs). The fund may also purchase real estate investment trusts (REITs) or other real estate-related equity securities, and certain exchange-traded funds (ETFs). The fund may also purchase warrants and rights on certain underlying securities, both U.S. dollar-denominated and otherwise.

The fund normally will invest 10% or less of its total assets in cash and cash equivalents, including repurchase agreements, money market securities, U.S. government securities, and other short-term investments. The fund may, to a limited extent, engage in derivatives transactions that include futures contracts and foreign currency forward contracts, in each case for the purposes of reducing risk and/or obtaining efficient market exposure.

The fund may invest in cash or money market instruments for the purpose of meeting redemption requests or making other anticipated cash payments.

The fund may deviate from its principal investment strategies during transition periods, which may include the reassignment of portfolio management, a change in investment objective or strategy, a reorganization or liquidation, or the occurrence of large inflows or outflows.

### Temporary defensive investing

The fund may invest up to 100% of its assets in cash, money market instruments, or other investment-grade short-term securities for the purpose of protecting the fund in the event the manager determines that market, economic, political, or other conditions warrant a defensive posture.

To the extent that the fund is in a defensive position, its ability to achieve its investment objective will be limited.

### PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING

An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. The fund's shares will go up and down in price, meaning that you could lose money by investing in the fund. Many factors influence a fund's performance. The fund's investment strategy may not produce the intended results.

Instability in the financial markets has led many governments, including the U.S. government, to take a number of unprecedented actions designed to support certain financial institutions and segments of the financial markets that have experienced extreme volatility and, in some cases, a lack of liquidity. Federal, state, and other governments, and their regulatory agencies or self-regulatory organizations, may take actions that affect the regulation of the instruments in which the fund invests, or the issuers of such instruments, in ways that are unforeseeable. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the fund itself is regulated. Such legislation or regulation could limit or preclude the fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. In addition, political events within the United States and abroad could negatively impact financial markets and the fund's performance.

Governments or their agencies may also acquire distressed assets from financial institutions and acquire ownership interests in those institutions. The implications of government ownership and disposition of these assets are unclear, and such a program may have positive or negative effects on the liquidity, valuation, and performance of the fund's portfolio holdings. Furthermore, volatile financial markets can expose the fund to greater market and liquidity risk, increased transaction costs, and potential difficulty in valuing portfolio instruments held by the fund.

The principal risks of investing in the fund are summarized in its fund summary above. Below are descriptions of the main factors that may play a role in shaping the fund's overall risk profile. The descriptions appear in alphabetical order, not in order of importance. For further details about fund risks, including additional risk factors that are not discussed in this prospectus because they are not considered primary factors, see the fund's Statement of Additional Information (SAI).

#### Credit and counterparty risk

This is the risk that an issuer of a U.S. government security, the counterparty to an over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives contract (see "Hedging, derivatives and other strategic transactions risk") or a borrower of a fund's securities will be unable or unwilling to make timely principal, interest or settlement payments or

to otherwise honor its obligations. U.S. government securities are subject to varying degrees of credit risk depending upon whether the securities are supported by the full faith and credit of the United States; supported by the ability to borrow from the U.S. Treasury; supported only by the credit of the issuing U.S. government agency, instrumentality, or corporation; or otherwise supported by the United States. For example, issuers of many types of U.S. government securities (e.g., the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac), Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae), and Federal Home Loan Banks), although chartered or sponsored by Congress, are not funded by congressional appropriations, and their fixed-income securities, including asset-backed and mortgage-backed securities, are neither guaranteed nor insured by the U.S. government. An agency of the U.S. government has placed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac into conservatorship, a statutory process with the objective of returning the entities to normal business operations. It is unclear what effect this conservatorship will have on the securities issued or guaranteed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. As a result, these securities are subject to more credit risk than U.S. government securities that are supported by the full faith and credit of the United States (e.g., U.S. Treasury bonds).

The fund is exposed to credit risk to the extent it makes use of OTC derivatives (such as forward foreign currency contracts and/or swap contracts) and engages to a significant extent in the lending of fund securities or the use of repurchase agreements. OTC derivatives transactions can be closed out with the other party to the transaction. If the counterparty defaults, a fund will have contractual remedies, but there is no assurance that the counterparty will be able to meet its contractual obligations or that, in the event of default, a fund will succeed in enforcing them. A fund, therefore, assumes the risk that it may be unable to obtain payments owed to it under OTC derivatives contracts or that those payments may be delayed or made only after the fund has incurred the costs of litigation. While the manager intends to monitor the creditworthiness of contract counterparties, there can be no assurance that the counterparty will be in a position to meet its obligations, especially during unusually adverse market conditions.

### Cybersecurity and operational risk

Intentional cybersecurity breaches include unauthorized access to systems, networks, or devices (such as through "hacking" activity); infection from computer viruses or other malicious software code; and attacks that shut down, disable, slow, or otherwise disrupt operations, business processes, or website access or functionality. In addition, unintentional incidents can occur, such as the inadvertent release of confidential information (possibly resulting in the violation of applicable privacy laws).

A cybersecurity breach could result in the loss or theft of customer data or funds, the inability to access electronic systems ("denial of services"), loss or theft of proprietary information or corporate data, physical damage to a computer or network system, or costs associated with system repairs. Such incidents could cause a fund, the advisor, a manager, or other service providers to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs, litigation costs or financial loss. In addition, such incidents could affect issuers in which a fund invests, and thereby cause the fund's investments to lose value.

Cyber-events have the potential to materially affect the fund and the advisor's relationships with accounts, shareholders, clients, customers, employees, products, and service providers. The fund has established risk management systems reasonably designed to seek to reduce the risks associated with

cyber-events. There is no guarantee that the fund will be able to prevent or mitigate the impact of any or all cyber-events.

The fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the fund's service providers, counterparties, or other third parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures.

In addition, other disruptive events, including (but not limited to) natural disasters and public health crises (such as the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic), may adversely affect the fund's ability to conduct business, in particular if the fund's employees or the employees of its service providers are unable or unwilling to perform their responsibilities as a result of any such event. Even if the fund's employees and the employees of its service providers are able to work remotely, those remote work arrangements could result in the fund's business operations being less efficient than under normal circumstances, could lead to delays in its processing of transactions, and could increase the risk of cyber-events.

#### **Economic and market events risk**

Events in certain sectors historically have resulted, and may in the future result, in an unusually high degree of volatility in the financial markets, both domestic and foreign. These events have included, but are not limited to: bankruptcies, corporate restructurings, and other similar events; governmental efforts to limit short selling and high frequency trading; measures to address U.S. federal and state budget deficits; social, political, and economic instability in Europe; economic stimulus by the Japanese central bank; dramatic changes in energy prices and currency exchange rates; and China's economic slowdown. Interconnected global economies and financial markets increase the possibility that conditions in one country or region might adversely impact issuers in a different country or region. Both domestic and foreign equity markets have experienced increased volatility and turmoil, with issuers that have exposure to the real estate, mortgage, and credit markets particularly affected. Banks and financial services companies could suffer losses if interest rates rise or economic conditions deteriorate.

In addition, relatively high market volatility and reduced liquidity in credit and fixed-income markets may adversely affect many issuers worldwide. Actions taken by the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) or foreign central banks to stimulate or stabilize economic growth, such as interventions in currency markets, could cause high volatility in the equity and fixed-income markets. Reduced liquidity may result in less money being available to purchase raw materials, goods, and services from emerging markets, which may, in turn, bring down the prices of these economic staples. It may also result in emerging-market issuers having more difficulty obtaining financing, which may, in turn, cause a decline in their securities prices.

In addition, while interest rates have been unusually low in recent years in the United States and abroad, any decision by the Fed to adjust the target fed funds rate, among other factors, could cause markets to experience continuing high volatility. A significant increase in interest rates may cause a decline in the market for equity securities. Also, regulators have expressed concern that rate increases may contribute to price volatility. These events and the possible resulting market volatility may have an adverse effect on the fund.

Political turmoil within the United States and abroad may also impact the fund. Although the U.S. government has honored its credit obligations, it remains possible that the United States could default on its obligations. While it is

impossible to predict the consequences of such an unprecedented event, it is likely that a default by the United States would be highly disruptive to the U.S. and global securities markets and could significantly impair the value of the fund's investments. Similarly, political events within the United States at times have resulted, and may in the future result, in a shutdown of government services, which could negatively affect the U.S. economy, decrease the value of many fund investments, and increase uncertainty in or impair the operation of the U.S. or other securities markets. The U.S. is also renegotiating many of its global trade relationships and has imposed or threatened to impose significant import tariffs. These actions could lead to price volatility and overall declines in U.S. and global investment markets.

Uncertainties surrounding the sovereign debt of a number of European Union (EU) countries and the viability of the EU have disrupted and may in the future disrupt markets in the United States and around the world. If one or more countries leave the EU or the EU dissolves, the world's securities markets likely will be significantly disrupted. On January 31, 2020, the United Kingdom (UK) left the EU, commonly referred to as "Brexit," and the UK ceased to be a member of the EU. Following a transition period during which the EU and the UK Government engaged in a series of negotiations regarding the terms of the UK's future relationship with the EU, the EU and UK Government signed an agreement on December 30, 2020 regarding the economic relationship between the UK and the EU. This agreement became effective on a provisional basis on January 1, 2021. There remains significant market uncertainty regarding Brexit's ramifications, and the range and potential implications of possible political, regulatory, economic, and market outcomes are difficult to predict. This uncertainty may affect other countries in the EU and elsewhere, and may cause volatility within the EU, triggering prolonged economic downturns in certain countries within the EU. In addition, Brexit may create additional and substantial economic stresses for the UK, including a contraction of the UK economy and price volatility in UK stocks, decreased trade, capital outflows, devaluation of the British pound, wider corporate bond spreads due to uncertainty and declines in business and consumer spending as well as foreign direct investment. Brexit may also adversely affect UK-based financial firms that have counterparties in the EU or participate in market infrastructure (trading venues, clearing houses, settlement facilities) based in the EU. Additionally, the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic will stretch the resources and deficits of many countries in the EU and throughout the world, increasing the risk of default on their sovereign debt. These events and the resulting market volatility may have an adverse effect on the performance of the fund.

A widespread health crisis such as a global pandemic could cause substantial market volatility, exchange trading suspensions and closures, impact the ability to complete redemptions, and affect fund performance. For example, the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has resulted in significant disruptions to global business activity. The impact of a health crisis and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the global economy in ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time. A health crisis may exacerbate other pre-existing political, social and economic risks. Any such impact could adversely affect the fund's performance, resulting in losses to your investment.

The United States has responded to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and resulting economic distress with fiscal and monetary stimulus packages. In late March 2020, the government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, a stimulus package providing for over \$2.2

trillion in resources to small businesses, state and local governments, and individuals that have been adversely impacted by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. In addition, in mid-March 2020 the Fed cut interest rates to historically low levels and promised unlimited and open-ended quantitative easing, including purchases of corporate and municipal government bonds. The Fed also enacted various programs to support liquidity operations and funding in the financial markets, including expanding its reverse repurchase agreement operations, adding \$1.5 trillion of liquidity to the banking system, establishing swap lines with other major central banks to provide dollar funding, establishing a program to support money market funds, easing various bank capital buffers, providing funding backstops for businesses to provide bridging loans for up to four years, and providing funding to help credit flow in asset-backed securities markets. The Fed also plans to extend credit to small- and medium-sized businesses.

Political and military events, including in North Korea, Venezuela, Iran, Syria, and other areas of the Middle East, and nationalist unrest in Europe and South America, also may cause market disruptions.

In addition, there is a risk that the prices of goods and services in the United States and many foreign economies may decline over time, known as deflation. Deflation may have an adverse effect on stock prices and creditworthiness and may make defaults on debt more likely. If a country's economy slips into a deflationary pattern, it could last for a prolonged period and may be difficult to reverse.

## **Equity securities risk**

Common and preferred stocks represent equity ownership in a company. Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities will fluctuate, and can decline and reduce the value of a fund investing in equities. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions. The value of equity securities purchased by a fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies in which the fund is invested declines, or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. An issuer's financial condition could decline as a result of poor management decisions, competitive pressures, technological obsolescence, undue reliance on suppliers, labor issues, shortages, corporate restructurings, fraudulent disclosures, irregular and/or unexpected trading activity among retail investors, or other factors. Changes in the financial condition of a single issuer can impact the market as a whole.

Even a fund that invests in high-quality, or blue chip, equity securities, or securities of established companies with large market capitalizations (which generally have strong financial characteristics), can be negatively impacted by poor overall market and economic conditions. Companies with large market capitalizations may also have less growth potential than smaller companies and may be less able to react quickly to changes in the marketplace.

The fund generally does not attempt to time the market. Because of its exposure to equities, the possibility that stock market prices in general will decline over short or extended periods subjects the fund to unpredictable declines in the value of its investments, as well as periods of poor performance.

**Value investment style risk.** Certain equity securities (generally referred to as value securities) are purchased primarily because they are selling at prices below what the manager believes to be their fundamental value and not necessarily because the issuing companies are expected to experience significant earnings growth. The fund bears the risk that the companies that

issued these securities may not overcome the adverse business developments or other factors causing their securities to be perceived by the manager to be underpriced or that the market may never come to recognize their fundamental value. A value security may not increase in price, as anticipated by the manager investing in such securities, if other investors fail to recognize the company's value and bid up the price or invest in markets favoring faster growing companies. The fund's strategy of investing in value securities also carries the risk that in certain markets, value securities will underperform growth securities. In addition, securities issued by U.S. entities with substantial foreign operations may involve risks relating to economic, political or regulatory conditions in foreign countries.

## **Exchange-traded funds (ETFs) risk**

ETFs are a type of investment company bought and sold on a securities exchange. An ETF generally represents a fixed portfolio of securities designed to track a particular market index or basket of securities. A fund could purchase an ETF to temporarily gain exposure to a portion of the U.S. or a foreign market while awaiting purchase of underlying securities. The risks of owning an ETF generally reflect the risks of owning the underlying securities, although lack of liquidity in an ETF could result in it being more volatile than its underlying securities, and ETFs have management fees that increase their costs. An ETF's portfolio composition and performance may not match that of the index it is designed to track due to delays in the ETF's implementation of changes to the composition of the index and other factors. An ETF has its own fees and expenses, which are indirectly borne by the fund. The existence of extreme market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for an ETF's shares could result in the ETF's shares trading at a significant premium or discount to its NAV.

## Foreign securities risk

Funds that invest in securities traded principally in securities markets outside the United States are subject to additional and more varied risks, as the value of foreign securities may change more rapidly and extremely than the value of U.S. securities. Less information may be publicly available regarding foreign issuers. Foreign securities may be subject to foreign taxes and may be more volatile than U.S. securities. Currency fluctuations and political and economic developments may adversely impact the value of foreign securities. The securities markets of many foreign countries are relatively small, with a limited number of companies representing a small number of industries. Additionally, issuers of foreign securities may not be subject to the same degree of regulation as U.S. issuers. Reporting, accounting, and auditing standards of foreign countries differ, in some cases significantly, from U.S. standards. There are generally higher commission rates on foreign portfolio transactions, transfer taxes, higher custodial costs, and the possibility that foreign taxes will be charged on dividends and interest payable on foreign securities, some or all of which may not be reclaimable. Also, adverse changes in investment or exchange control regulations (which may include suspension of the ability to transfer currency or assets from a country); political changes; or diplomatic developments could adversely affect a fund's investments. In the event of nationalization, expropriation, confiscatory taxation, or other confiscation, the fund could lose a substantial portion of, or its entire investment in, a foreign security. Some of the foreign securities risks are also applicable to funds that invest a material portion of their assets in securities of foreign issuers traded in the United States.

Any depositary receipts are subject to most of the risks associated with investing in foreign securities directly because the value of a depositary receipt is dependent upon the market price of the underlying foreign equity security. Depositary receipts are also subject to liquidity risk.

**Emerging-market risk.** Investments in the securities of issuers based in countries with emerging-market economies are subject to greater levels of risk and uncertainty than investments in more-developed foreign markets, since emerging-market securities may present market, credit, currency, liquidity, legal, political, and other risks greater than, or in addition to, the risks of investing in developed foreign countries. These risks include high currency exchange-rate fluctuations; increased risk of default (including both government and private issuers); greater social, economic, and political uncertainty and instability (including the risk of war); more substantial governmental involvement in the economy; less governmental supervision and regulation of the securities markets and participants in those markets; controls on foreign investment and limitations on repatriation of invested capital and on a fund's ability to exchange local currencies for U.S. dollars; unavailability of currency hedging techniques in certain emerging-market countries; the fact that companies in emerging-market countries may be newly organized, smaller, and less seasoned; the difference in, or lack of, auditing and financial reporting requirements or standards, which may result in the unavailability of material information about issuers; different clearance and settlement procedures, which may be unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions or otherwise make it difficult to engage in such transactions; difficulties in obtaining and/or enforcing legal judgments against non-U.S. companies and non-U.S. persons, including company directors and officers, in foreign jurisdictions; and significantly smaller market capitalizations of emerging-market issuers. In addition, shareholders of emerging market issuers, such as the fund, often have limited rights and few practical remedies in emerging markets. Finally, the risks associated with investments in emerging markets often are significant, and vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and company to company.

**Currency risk.** Currency risk is the risk that fluctuations in exchange rates may adversely affect the U.S. dollar value of a fund's investments. Currency risk includes both the risk that currencies in which a fund's investments are traded, or currencies in which a fund has taken an active investment position, will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar and, in the case of hedging positions, that the U.S. dollar will decline in value relative to the currency being hedged. Currency rates in foreign countries may fluctuate significantly for a number of reasons, including the forces of supply and demand in the foreign exchange markets, actual or perceived changes in interest rates, intervention (or the failure to intervene) by U.S. or foreign governments or central banks, or currency controls or political developments in the United States or abroad. Certain funds may engage in proxy hedging of currencies by entering into derivative transactions with respect to a currency whose value is expected to correlate to the value of a currency the fund owns or wants to own. This presents the risk that the two currencies may not move in relation to one another as expected. In that case, the fund could lose money on its investment and also lose money on the position designed to act as a proxy hedge. Certain funds may also take active currency positions and may cross-hedge currency exposure represented by their securities into another foreign currency. This may result in a fund's currency exposure being substantially different than that suggested by its securities investments. All funds with foreign currency holdings and/or that invest or trade in securities

denominated in foreign currencies or related derivative instruments may be adversely affected by changes in foreign currency exchange rates. Derivative foreign currency transactions (such as futures, forwards, and swaps) may also involve leveraging risk in addition to currency risk. Leverage may disproportionately increase a fund's portfolio losses and reduce opportunities for gain when interest rates, stock prices, or currency rates are changing.

### Hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions risk

The ability of a fund to utilize hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions to benefit the fund will depend in part on its manager's ability to predict pertinent market movements and market risk, counterparty risk, credit risk, interest-rate risk, and other risk factors, none of which can be assured. The skills required to utilize hedging and other strategic transactions are different from those needed to select a fund's securities. Even if the manager only uses hedging and other strategic transactions in a fund primarily for hedging purposes or to gain exposure to a particular securities market, if the transaction does not have the desired outcome, it could result in a significant loss to a fund. The amount of loss could be more than the principal amount invested. These transactions may also increase the volatility of a fund and may involve a small investment of cash relative to the magnitude of the risks assumed, thereby magnifying the impact of any resulting gain or loss. For example, the potential loss from the use of futures can exceed a fund's initial investment in such contracts. In addition, these transactions could result in a loss to a fund if the counterparty to the transaction does not perform as promised.

A fund may invest in derivatives, which are financial contracts with a value that depends on, or is derived from, the value of underlying assets, reference rates, or indexes. Derivatives may relate to stocks, bonds, interest rates, currencies or currency exchange rates, and related indexes. A fund may use derivatives for many purposes, including for hedging and as a substitute for direct investment in securities or other assets. Derivatives may be used in a way to efficiently adjust the exposure of a fund to various securities, markets, and currencies without a fund actually having to sell existing investments and make new investments. This generally will be done when the adjustment is expected to be relatively temporary or in anticipation of effecting the sale of fund assets and making new investments over time. Further, since many derivatives have a leverage component, adverse changes in the value or level of the underlying asset, reference rate, or index can result in a loss substantially greater than the amount invested in the derivative itself. Certain derivatives have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment. When a fund uses derivatives for leverage, investments in that fund will tend to be more volatile, resulting in larger gains or losses in response to market changes. To limit risks associated with leverage, a fund may segregate assets determined to be liquid or, as permitted by applicable regulation, enter into certain offsetting positions to cover its obligations under derivative instruments. For a description of the various derivative instruments the fund may utilize, refer to the SAI.

The regulation of the U.S. and non-U.S. derivatives markets has undergone substantial change in recent years and such change may continue. In particular, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, and regulations promulgated or proposed thereunder require many derivatives to be cleared and traded on an exchange, expand entity registration requirements, impose business conduct requirements on dealers that enter into swaps with a pension plan, endowment, retirement plan or government entity, and required banks to move some derivatives trading units to a non-guaranteed affiliate separate from the deposit-taking bank or divest them altogether. Although the

Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) has released final rules relating to clearing, reporting, recordkeeping and registration requirements under the legislation, many of the provisions are subject to further final rule making, and thus its ultimate impact remains unclear. New regulations could, among other things, restrict the fund's ability to engage in derivatives transactions (for example, by making certain types of derivatives transactions no longer available to the fund) and/or increase the costs of such derivatives transactions (for example, by increasing margin or capital requirements), and the fund may be unable to fully execute its investment strategies as a result. Limits or restrictions applicable to the counterparties with which the fund engages in derivative transactions also could prevent the fund from using these instruments or affect the pricing or other factors relating to these instruments, or may change the availability of certain investments.

In addition, new Rule 18f-4 (the "Derivatives Rule"), adopted by the SEC on October 28, 2020, replaces current asset segregation requirements with a new framework for the use of derivatives by registered funds. For funds using a significant amount of derivatives, the Derivatives Rule mandates a fund adopt and/or implement: (i) value at risk limitations in lieu of asset segregation requirements; (ii) a written derivatives risk management program; (iii) new Board oversight responsibilities; and (iv) new reporting and recordkeeping requirements. The Derivatives Rule provides an exception for funds with derivative exposure not exceeding 10% of its net assets, excluding certain currency and interest rate hedging transactions. In addition, the Derivatives Rule provides special treatment for reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions and unfunded commitment agreements. Funds will be required to comply with the Derivatives Rule starting on August 19, 2022.

At any time after the date of this prospectus, legislation may be enacted that could negatively affect the assets of the fund. Legislation or regulation may change the way in which the fund itself is regulated. The advisor cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the fund's ability to achieve its investment objectives.

The use of derivative instruments may involve risks different from, or potentially greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other, more traditional assets. In particular, the use of derivative instruments exposes a fund to the risk that the counterparty to an OTC derivatives contract will be unable or unwilling to make timely settlement payments or otherwise honor its obligations. OTC derivatives transactions typically can only be closed out with the other party to the transaction, although either party may engage in an offsetting transaction that puts that party in the same economic position as if it had closed out the transaction with the counterparty or may obtain the other party's consent to assign the transaction to a third party. If the counterparty defaults, the fund will have contractual remedies, but there is no assurance that the counterparty will meet its contractual obligations or that, in the event of default, the fund will succeed in enforcing them. For example, because the contract for each OTC derivatives transaction is individually negotiated with a specific counterparty, a fund is subject to the risk that a counterparty may interpret contractual terms (e.g., the definition of default) differently than the fund when the fund seeks to enforce its contractual rights. If that occurs, the cost and unpredictability of the legal proceedings required for the fund to enforce its contractual rights may lead it to decide not to pursue its claims against the counterparty. The fund, therefore, assumes the risk that it may be unable to obtain payments owed to it under OTC derivatives contracts or that those payments may be delayed or made only after the fund has incurred the

costs of litigation. While a manager intends to monitor the creditworthiness of counterparties, there can be no assurance that a counterparty will meet its obligations, especially during unusually adverse market conditions. To the extent a fund contracts with a limited number of counterparties, the fund's risk will be concentrated and events that affect the creditworthiness of any of those counterparties may have a pronounced effect on the fund. Derivatives are also subject to a number of other risks, including market risk and liquidity risk. Since the value of derivatives is calculated and derived from the value of other assets, instruments, or references, there is a risk that they will be improperly valued. Derivatives also involve the risk that changes in their value may not correlate perfectly with the assets, rates, or indexes they are designed to hedge or closely track. Suitable derivatives transactions may not be available in all circumstances. The fund is also subject to the risk that the counterparty closes out the derivatives transactions upon the occurrence of certain triggering events. In addition, a manager may determine not to use derivatives to hedge or otherwise reduce risk exposure. Government legislation or regulation could affect the use of derivatives transactions and could limit a fund's ability to pursue its investment strategies.

A detailed discussion of various hedging and other strategic transactions appears in the SAI. The following is a list of certain derivatives and other strategic transactions that the fund intends to utilize and the main risks associated with each of them:

**Foreign currency forward contracts.** Counterparty risk, liquidity risk (i.e., the inability to enter into closing transactions), foreign currency risk, and risk of disproportionate loss are the principal risks of engaging in transactions involving foreign currency forward contracts.

**Futures contracts.** Counterparty risk, liquidity risk (i.e., the inability to enter into closing transactions), and risk of disproportionate loss are the principal risks of engaging in transactions involving futures contracts.

#### High portfolio turnover risk

A high fund portfolio turnover rate (over 100%) generally involves correspondingly greater brokerage commission and tax expenses, which must be borne directly by a fund and its shareholders, respectively. The portfolio turnover rate of a fund may vary from year to year, as well as within a year.

### Initial public offerings (IPOs) risk

Certain funds may invest a portion of their assets in shares of IPOs. IPOs may have a magnified impact on the performance of a fund with a small asset base. The impact of IPOs on a fund's performance will likely decrease as the fund's asset size increases, which could reduce the fund's returns. IPOs may not be consistently available to a fund for investing, particularly as the fund's asset base grows. IPO shares are frequently volatile in price due to the absence of a prior public market, the small number of shares available for trading, and limited information about the issuer. Therefore, a fund may hold IPO shares for a very short period of time. This may increase the turnover of a fund and may lead to increased expenses for a fund, such as commissions and transaction costs. In addition, IPO shares can experience an immediate drop in value if the demand for the securities does not continue to support the offering price.

#### Liquidity risk

The extent (if at all) to which a security may be sold or a derivative position closed without negatively impacting its market value may be impaired by reduced market activity or participation, legal restrictions, or other economic and market impediments. Funds with principal investment strategies that

involve investments in securities of companies with smaller market capitalizations, foreign securities, derivatives, or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk tend to have the greatest exposure to liquidity risk. Exposure to liquidity risk may be heightened for funds that invest in securities of emerging markets and related derivatives that are not widely traded, and that may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.

#### Preferred stock risk

The fund may invest in preferred stock. Preferred stock generally has a preference as to dividends and liquidation over an issuer's common stock but ranks junior to debt securities in an issuer's capital structure. Unlike interest payments on debt securities, preferred stock dividends are payable only if declared by the issuer's board of directors. Preferred stock also may be subject to optional or mandatory redemption provisions.

### Real estate investment trust (REIT) risk

REITs are subject to risks associated with the ownership of real estate. Some REITs experience market risk and liquidity risk due to investment in a limited number of properties, in a narrow geographic area, or in a single property type, which increases the risk that such REIT could be unfavorably affected by the poor performance of a single investment or investment type. These companies are also sensitive to factors such as changes in real estate values and property taxes, interest rates, cash flow of underlying real estate assets, supply and demand, and the management skill and creditworthiness of the issuer.

Borrowers could default on or sell investments that a REIT holds, which could reduce the cash flow needed to make distributions to investors. In addition, REITs may also be affected by tax and regulatory requirements impacting the REITs' ability to qualify for preferential tax treatments or exemptions. REITs require specialized management and pay management expenses. REITs also are subject to physical risks to real property, including weather, natural disasters, terrorist attacks, war, or other events that destroy real property.

REITs include equity REITs and mortgage REITs. Equity REITs may be affected by changes in the value of the underlying property owned by the trusts, while mortgage REITs may be affected by the quality of any credit extended. Further, equity and mortgage REITs are dependent upon management skills and generally may not be diversified. Equity and mortgage REITs are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency, defaults by borrowers or lessees, and self-liquidations. In addition, equity and mortgage REITs could possibly fail to qualify for tax-free pass-through of income under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), or to maintain their exemptions from registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. The above factors may also adversely affect a borrower's or a lessee's ability to meet its obligations to the REIT. In the event of a default by a borrower or lessee, the REIT may experience delays in enforcing its rights as a mortgagee or lessor and may incur substantial costs associated with protecting its investments. In addition, even many of the larger REITs in the industry tend to be small to medium-sized companies in relation to the equity markets as a whole. Moreover, shares of REITs may trade less frequently and, therefore, are subject to more erratic price movements than securities of larger issuers.

## Real estate securities risk

Investing in securities of companies in the real estate industry subjects a fund to the risks associated with the direct ownership of real estate.

These risks include:

Declines in the value of real estate

- Risks related to general and local economic conditions
- Possible lack of availability of mortgage funds
- Overbuilding
- Extended vacancies of properties
- Increased competition
- Increases in property taxes and operating expenses
- Changes in zoning laws
- Losses due to costs resulting from the cleanup of environmental problems
- Liability to third parties for damages resulting from environmental problems
- Casualty or condemnation losses
- Limitations on rents
- Changes in neighborhood values and the appeal of properties to tenants
- Changes in interest rates and
- Liquidity risk

Therefore, for a fund investing a substantial amount of its assets in securities of companies in the real estate industry, the value of the fund's shares may change at different rates compared with the value of shares of a fund with investments in a mix of different industries.

Securities of companies in the real estate industry have been and may continue to be negatively affected by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Potential impacts on the real estate market may include lower occupancy rates, decreased lease payments, defaults and foreclosures, among other consequences. These impacts could adversely affect corporate borrowers and mortgage lenders, the value of mortgage-backed securities, the bonds of municipalities that depend on tax revenues and tourist dollars generated by such properties, and insurers of the property and/or of corporate, municipal or mortgage-backed securities. It is not known how long such impacts, or any future impacts of other significant events, will last.

Securities of companies in the real estate industry include equity REITs and mortgage REITs. Equity REITs may be affected by changes in the value of the underlying property owned by the REIT, while mortgage REITs may be affected by the quality of any credit extended. Further, equity and mortgage REITs are dependent upon management skills and generally may not be diversified. Equity and mortgage REITs are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency, defaults by borrowers or lessees, and self-liquidations. In addition, equity and mortgage REITs could possibly fail to qualify for tax-free pass through of income under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the Code) or to maintain their exemptions from registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. The above factors may also adversely affect a borrower's or a lessee's ability to meet its obligations to a REIT. In the event of a default by a borrower or lessee, a REIT may experience delays in enforcing its rights as a mortgagee or lessor and may incur substantial costs associated with protecting its investments.

In addition, even the larger REITs in the industry tend to be small to medium-sized companies in relation to the equity markets as a whole. Moreover, shares of REITs may trade less frequently and, therefore, are subject to more erratic price movements than securities of larger issuers.

## **Sector risk**

When a fund's investments are focused in one or more sectors of the economy, they are less broadly invested across industries or sectors than other funds. This

means that focused funds tend to be more volatile than other funds, and the values of their investments tend to go up and down more rapidly. In addition, a fund that invests in particular sectors is particularly susceptible to the impact of market, economic, political, regulatory, and other conditions and risks affecting those sectors. From time to time, a small number of companies may represent a large portion of a single sector or a group of related sectors as a whole.

#### Small and mid-sized company risk

Market risk and liquidity risk may be pronounced for securities of companies with medium-sized market capitalizations and are particularly pronounced for securities of companies with smaller market capitalizations. These companies may have limited product lines, markets, or financial resources, or they may depend on a few key employees. The securities of companies with medium and smaller market capitalizations may trade less frequently and in lesser volume than more widely held securities, and their value may fluctuate more sharply than those securities. They may also trade in the OTC market or on a regional exchange, or may otherwise have limited liquidity. Investments in less-seasoned companies with medium and smaller market capitalizations may not only present greater opportunities for growth and capital appreciation, but also involve greater risks than are customarily associated with more established companies with larger market capitalizations. These risks apply to all funds that invest in the securities of companies with smaller- or medium-sized market capitalizations. For purposes of the fund's investment policies, the market capitalization of a company is based on its capitalization at the time the fund purchases the company's securities. Market capitalizations of companies change over time. The fund is not obligated to sell a company's security simply because, subsequent to its purchase, the company's market capitalization has changed to be outside the capitalization range, if any, in effect for the fund.

## Warrants risk

Warrants are rights to purchase securities at specific prices and are valid for a specific period of time. Warrant prices do not necessarily move parallel to the prices of the underlying securities, and warrant holders receive no dividends and have no voting rights or rights with respect to the assets of an issuer. The price of a warrant may be more volatile than the price of its underlying security, and a warrant may offer greater potential for capital appreciation as well as capital loss. Warrants cease to have value if not exercised prior to the expiration date. These factors can make warrants more speculative than other types of investments.

#### WHO'S WHO

The following are the names of the various entities involved with the fund's investment and business operations, along with brief descriptions of the role each entity performs.

#### **Board of Trustees**

The Trustees oversee the fund's business activities and retain the services of the various firms that carry out the fund's operations.

#### Investment advisor

The investment advisor manages the fund's business and investment activities.

John Hancock Investment Management LLC 200 Berkeley Street Boston, MA 02116 Founded in 1968, the advisor is an indirect principally owned subsidiary of John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.), which in turn is a subsidiary of Manulife Financial Corporation.

The advisor's parent company has been helping individuals and institutions work toward their financial goals since 1862. The advisor offers investment solutions managed by leading institutional money managers, taking a disciplined team approach to portfolio management and research, leveraging the expertise of seasoned investment professionals. As of December 31, 2020, the advisor had total assets under management of approximately \$153.3 billion.

Subject to general oversight by the Board of Trustees, the advisor manages and supervises the investment operations and business affairs of the fund. The advisor selects, contracts with and compensates one or more subadvisors to manage all or a portion of the fund's portfolio assets, subject to oversight by the advisor. In this role, the advisor has supervisory responsibility for managing the investment and reinvestment of the fund's portfolio assets through proactive oversight and monitoring of the subadvisor and the fund, as described in further detail below. The advisor is responsible for developing overall investment strategies for the fund and overseeing and implementing the fund's continuous investment programs and provides a variety of advisory oversight and investment research services. The advisor also provides management and transition services associated with certain fund events (e.g., strategy, portfolio manager, or subadvisor changes) and coordinates and oversees services provided under other agreements.

The advisor has ultimate responsibility to oversee a subadvisor and recommend to the Board of Trustees its hiring, termination, and replacement. In this capacity, the advisor, among other things: (i) monitors on a daily basis the compliance of the subadvisor with the investment objectives and related policies of the fund; (ii) monitors significant changes that may impact the subadvisor's overall business and regularly performs due diligence reviews of the subadvisor; (iii) reviews the performance of the subadvisor; and (iv) reports periodically on such performance to the Board of Trustees. The advisor employs a team of investment professionals who provide these ongoing research and monitoring services.

The fund relies on an order from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) permitting the advisor, subject to approval by the Board of Trustees, to appoint a subadvisor or change the terms of a subadvisory agreement without obtaining shareholder approval. The fund, therefore, is able to change subadvisors or the fees paid to a subadvisor, from time to time, without the expense and delays associated with obtaining shareholder approval of the change. This order does not, however, permit the advisor to appoint a subadvisor that is an affiliate of the advisor or the fund (other than by reason of serving as a subadvisor to the fund), or to increase the subadvisory fee of an affiliated subadvisor, without the approval of the shareholders.

## Management fee

The fund pays the advisor a management fee for its services to the fund. The advisor in turn pays the fees of the subadvisor. The management fee is stated as an annual percentage of the aggregate net assets of the fund (together with the assets of any other applicable fund identified in the advisory agreement) determined in accordance with the following schedule, and that rate is applied to the average daily net assets of the fund.

Average daily net assets (\$)	Annual rate (%)
First 300 million	0.870
Next 300 million	0.830
Next 300 million	0.815
Excess over 900 million	0.800

During its most recent fiscal year, the fund paid the advisor a management fee equal to 0.84% of average daily net assets (including any waivers and/or reimbursements).

The basis for the Board of Trustees' approval of the advisory fees, and of the investment advisory agreement overall, including the subadvisory agreement, is discussed in the fund's most recent annual shareholder report for the period ended October 31.

## Additional information about fund expenses

The fund's annual operating expenses will likely vary throughout the period and from year to year. The fund's expenses for the current fiscal year may be higher than the expenses listed in the fund's Annual fund operating expenses table, for some of the following reasons: (i) a significant decrease in average net assets may result in a higher advisory fee rate if any advisory fee breakpoints are not achieved; (ii) a significant decrease in average net assets may result in an increase in the expense ratio because certain fund expenses do not decrease as asset levels decrease; or (iii) fees may be incurred for extraordinary events such as fund tax expenses.

As described in "Fund summary - Fees and expenses" on page 1 of this prospectus, the advisor has contractually agreed to waive a portion of its management fee and/or reimburse expenses for certain funds of the John Hancock funds complex, including the fund (the participating portfolios). The waiver equals, on an annualized basis, 0.0100% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$75 billion but is less than or equal to \$125 billion; 0.0125% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$125 billion but is less than or equal to \$150 billion; 0.0150% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$150 billion but is less than or equal to \$175 billion; 0.0175% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$175 billion but is less than or equal to \$200 billion; 0.0200% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$200 billion but is less than or equal to \$225 billion; and 0.0225% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$225 billion. The amount of the reimbursement is calculated daily and allocated among all the participating portfolios in proportion to the daily net assets of the fund. This agreement expires on July 31, 2022, unless renewed by mutual agreement of the fund and the advisor based upon a determination that this is appropriate under the circumstances at that time.

The advisor voluntarily agrees to reduce its management fee for the fund, or if necessary make payment to the fund, in an amount equal to the amount by which the "other expenses" of the fund exceed 0.20% of the average daily net assets of the fund. For purposes of this agreement, "other expenses" means all the expenses of the fund, excluding (a) taxes, (b) brokerage commissions, (c) interest expense, (d) litigation and indemnification expenses and other extraordinary expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of the fund's business, (e) investment management fees, (f) class-specific expenses, (g) borrowing costs, (h) prime brokerage fees, (i) acquired fund fees and expenses

paid indirectly, and (j) short dividend expense. The advisor may terminate this voluntary waiver at any time upon notice to the fund.

#### **Subadvisor**

The subadvisor handles the fund's portfolio management activities, subject to oversight by the advisor.

## Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC 197 Clarendon Street Boston, MA 02116

Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC (Manulife IM (US)) provides investment advisory services to individual and institutional investors. Manulife IM (US) is a wholly owned subsidiary of John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.) (a subsidiary of Manulife Financial Corporation) and, as of December 31, 2020, had total assets under management of approximately \$221.3 billion.

The following is a brief biographical profile of the fund's portfolio manager who is primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund's portfolio. This manager is employed by Manulife IM (US). For more information about this individual, including information about his compensation, other accounts he manages, and any investments he may have in the fund, see the SAI.

#### Bill Talbot, CFA

- Senior Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager
- Portfolio Manager of the fund since 2013
- Joined Manulife IM (US) in 2013

#### Custodian

The custodian holds the fund's assets, settles all portfolio trades, and collects most of the valuation data required for calculating the fund's net asset value.

State Street Bank and Trust Company State Street Financial Center One Lincoln Street Boston, MA 02111

## **Principal distributor**

The principal distributor markets the fund and distributes shares through selling brokers, financial planners, and other financial professionals.

John Hancock Investment Management Distributors LLC 200 Berkeley Street Boston, MA 02116

## Transfer agent

The transfer agent handles shareholder services, including recordkeeping and statements, distribution of dividends, and processing of buy-and-sell requests.

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. P.O. Box 219909 Kansas City, MO 64121-9909

#### **Additional information**

The fund has entered into contractual arrangements with various parties that provide services to the fund, which may include, among others, the advisor, subadvisor, custodian, principal distributor, and transfer agent, as described above and in the SAI. Fund shareholders are not parties to, or intended or "third-party" beneficiaries of, any of these contractual arrangements. These

contractual arrangements are not intended to, nor do they, create in any individual shareholder or group of shareholders any right, either directly or on behalf of the fund, to either: (a) enforce such contracts against the service providers; or (b) seek any remedy under such contracts against the service providers.

The Adviser internally credits a portion of its profits to an affiliated business, John Hancock Retirement (JHR), which is the record keeper for certain 401(k) plans that invest in Class R6 shares. JHR may reduce the record keeping fees paid to it by such 401(k) plans by a commensurate amount. JHR may discontinue this practice with adequate notice to plan sponsors.

This prospectus provides information concerning the fund that you should consider in determining whether to purchase shares of the fund. Each of this prospectus, the SAI, or any contract that is an exhibit to the fund's registration statement, is not intended to, nor does it, give rise to an agreement or contract between the fund and any investor. Each such document also does not give rise to any contract or create rights in any individual shareholder, group of shareholders, or other person. The foregoing disclosure should not be read to suggest any waiver of any rights conferred by federal or state securities laws.

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

These tables detail the financial performance of each share class described in this prospectus, including total return information showing how much an investment in the fund has increased or decreased each period (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). Certain information reflects financial results for a single fund share. Class A shares ceased operations on March 10, 2016 and resumed operations on August 30, 2017. The Class A table below details the financial performance of Class A shares for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2015, and for the fiscal period from August 30, 2017 (resumption of operations) to October 31, 2018 and fiscal years thereafter. Although Class A shares were not in operation for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2016 or a portion of the fiscal year ended October 31, 2017, the Class I table below details the financial performance of Class I for such fiscal years. Because Class A shares have different expenses than Class I shares, financial highlights for Class A shares would have differed.

The financial statements of the fund as of October 31, 2020, have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC), the fund's independent registered public accounting firm. The report of PwC, along with the fund's financial statements in the fund's annual report for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2020, has been incorporated by reference into the SAI. Copies of the fund's most recent annual report are available upon request.

## **Small Cap Core Fund Class A Shares**

Per share operating performance	Period ended	10-31-20	10-31-19	10-31-18	10-31-17 <sup>1</sup>
Net asset value, beginning of period		\$11.78	\$11.42	\$13.82	\$12.86
Net investment loss <sup>2</sup>		(0.02)	(0.01)	(0.01)	3
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments		0.46	0.89	(0.89)	0.96
Total from investment operations		0.44	0.88	(0.90)	0.96
Less distributions					
From net realized gain		_	(0.52)	(1.50)	_
Net asset value, end of period		\$12.22	\$11.78	\$11.42	\$13.82
Total return (%) <sup>4,5</sup>		3.74	8.45	(7.59)	7.476
Ratios and supplemental data					
Net assets, end of period (in millions)		\$229	\$235	\$240	\$1
Ratios (as a percentage of average net assets):					
Expenses before reductions		1.30	1.29	1.37	1.41 <sup>7</sup>
Expenses including reductions		1.29	1.29	1.36	1.407
Net investment loss		(0.19)	(0.10)	(0.07)	7,8
Portfolio turnover (%)		82	72	102 <sup>9</sup>	68 <sup>10</sup>

- 1 Period from 8-30-17 (relaunch date) to 10-31-17. Class A liquidated on 3-10-16, accordingly, there were no shares of this class outstanding 10-31-16.
- 2 Based on average daily shares outstanding.
- 3 Less than \$0.005 per share.
- 4 Total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the applicable periods.
- 5 Does not reflect the effect of sales charges, if any.
- Not annualized.
- 7 Annualized.
- 8 Less than 0.005%.
- 9 Excludes merger activity.
- 10 Portfolio turnover is shown for the period from 11-1-16 to 10-31-17.

## **Small Cap Core Fund Class I Shares**

Per share operating performance Period ende	d 10-31-20	10-31-19	10-31-18	10-31-17	10-31-16
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$11.78	\$11.41	\$13.82	\$10.98	\$9.85
Net investment income <sup>1</sup>	2	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.06
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	0.47	0.89	(0.90)	2.88	1.21
Total from investment operations	0.47	0.91	(0.88)	2.93	1.27
Less distributions					
From net investment income	_	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.09)	(0.04)
From net realized gain	_	(0.52)	(1.50)	_	(0.10)
Total distributions	_	(0.54)	(1.53)	(0.09)	(0.14)
Net asset value, end of period	\$12.25	\$11.78	\$11.41	\$13.82	\$10.98
Total return (%) <sup>3</sup>	3.99	8.79	(7.48)	26.79	13.18
Ratios and supplemental data					
Net assets, end of period (in millions)	\$47	\$25	\$29	\$1	\$1
Ratios (as a percentage of average net assets):					
Expenses before reductions	1.04	1.05	1.13	1.15	1.09
Expenses including reductions	1.04	1.04	1.12	1.14	1.09
Net investment income (loss)	(0.01)	0.14	0.19	0.41	0.60
Portfolio turnover (%)	82	72	1024	68	59

Based on average daily shares outstanding.
 Less than \$0.005 per share.
 Total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the applicable periods.
 Excludes merger activity.

## **Small Cap Core Fund Class R6 Shares**

Per share operating performance	Period ended	10-31-20	10-31-19	10-31-18	10-31-17 <sup>1</sup>
Net asset value, beginning of period		\$11.79	\$11.43	\$13.83	\$12.86
Net investment income <sup>2</sup>		0.02	0.03	0.04	0.01
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments		0.47	0.89	(0.90)	0.96
Total from investment operations		0.49	0.92	(0.86)	0.97
Less distributions					
From net investment income		_	(0.04)	(0.04)	_
From net realized gain		_	(0.52)	(1.50)	_
Total distributions		_	(0.56)	(1.54)	_
Net asset value, end of period		\$12.28	\$11.79	\$11.43	\$13.83
Total return (%) <sup>3</sup>		4.16	8.83	(7.30)	7.544
Ratios and supplemental data					
Net assets, end of period (in millions)		\$95	\$86	\$82	\$— <sup>5</sup>
Ratios (as a percentage of average net assets):					
Expenses before reductions		0.93	0.94	1.02	1.05 <sup>6</sup>
Expenses including reductions		0.93	0.93	1.01	1.046
Net investment income		0.16	0.25	0.29	0.456
Portfolio turnover (%)		82	72	102 <sup>7</sup>	68 <sup>8</sup>

- The inception date for Class R6 shares is 8-30-17.

  Based on average daily shares outstanding.

  Total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the applicable periods. Not annualized.

  Less than \$500,000.

  Annualized.

- Excludes merger activity.
  Portfolio turnover is shown for the period from 11-1-16 to 10-31-17.

#### **CHOOSING AN ELIGIBLE SHARE CLASS**

Class A shares have a Rule 12b-1 plan that allows the class to pay its fees for the sale, distribution, and service of its shares. Class I and Class R6 shares do not have a Rule 12b-1 plan. Your financial professional can help you decide which share class you are eligible to buy and is best for you. Each class's eligibility guidelines are described below.

#### **Class A shares**

Class A shares are not available to group retirement plans that do not currently hold Class A shares of the fund and that are eligible to invest in Class I shares or any of the R share classes, except as provided below. Such group retirement plans include defined benefit plans, 401(k) plans, 457 plans, 403(b)(7) plans, pension and profit-sharing plans, and nonqualified deferred compensation plans. Individual retirement accounts (IRAs), Roth IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs, individual ("solo" or "single") 401(k) plans, individual profit sharing plans, individual 403(b) plans, individual defined benefit plans, simplified employee pensions (SEPs), SAR-SEPs, 529 tuition programs and Coverdell Educational Savings Accounts are not considered group retirement plans and are not subject to this restriction on the purchase of Class A shares.

Investment in Class A shares by such group retirement plans will be permitted in the following circumstances:

- The plan currently holds assets in Class A shares of the fund or any John Hancock fund;
- Class A shares of the fund or any other John Hancock fund were established as an investment option under the plan prior to January 1, 2013, and the fund's representatives have agreed that the plan may invest in Class A shares after that date:
- Class A shares of the fund or any other John Hancock fund were established
  as a part of an investment model prior to January 1, 2013, and the fund's
  representatives have agreed that plans utilizing such model may invest in
  Class A shares after that date; and
- Such group retirement plans offered through an intermediary brokerage platform that does not require payments relating to the provisions of services to the fund, such as providing omnibus account services, transaction-processing services, or effecting portfolio transactions for the fund, that are specific to assets held in such group retirement plans and vary from such payments otherwise made for such services with respect to assets held in non-group retirement plan accounts.

## Class I shares

Class I shares are offered without any sales charge to the following types of investors if they also meet the minimum initial investment requirement for purchases of Class I shares (see "Opening an account"):

- Clients of financial intermediaries who: (i) charge such clients a fee for advisory, investment, consulting, or similar services; (ii) have entered into an agreement with the distributor to offer Class I shares through a no-load program or investment platform; or (iii) have entered into an agreement with the distributor to offer Class I shares to clients on certain brokerage platforms where the intermediary is acting solely as an agent for the investor who may be required to pay a commission and/or other forms of compensation to the intermediary. Other share classes of the fund have different fees and expenses.
- Retirement and other benefit plans

- Endowment funds and foundations
- Any state, county, or city, or its instrumentality, department, authority, or agency
- Accounts registered to insurance companies, trust companies, and bank trust departments
- Any entity that is considered a corporation for tax purposes
- Investment companies, both affiliated and not affiliated with the advisor
- Fund Trustees and other individuals who are affiliated with the fund and other John Hancock funds

### Class R6 shares

Class R6 shares are offered without any sales charge and are generally made available to the following types of investors if they also meet the minimum initial investment requirement for purchases of Class R6 shares. (See "Opening an account.")

- Qualified 401(a) plans (including 401(k) plans, Keogh plans, profit-sharing pension plans, money purchase pension plans, target benefit plans, defined benefit pension plans, and Taft-Hartley multi-employer pension plans) (collectively, qualified plans)
- Endowment funds and foundations
- Any state, county, or city, or its instrumentality, department, authority, or agency
- 403(b) plans and 457 plans, including 457(a) governmental entity plans and tax-exempt plans
- Accounts registered to insurance companies, trust companies, and bank trust departments
- Investment companies, both affiliated and not affiliated with the advisor
- Any entity that is considered a corporation for tax purposes, including corporate nonqualified deferred compensation plans of such corporations
- Trustees, employees of the advisor or its affiliates, employees of the subadvisor, members of the fund's portfolio management team and the spouses and children (under age 21) of the aforementioned
- Financial intermediaries utilizing fund shares in certain eligible qualifying investment product platforms under a signed agreement with the distributor

Class R6 shares may not be available through certain investment dealers.

The availability of Class R6 shares for qualified plan investors will depend upon the policies of your financial intermediary and/or the recordkeeper for your qualified plan.

Class R6 shares also are generally available only to qualified plan investors where plan level or omnibus accounts are held on the books of the fund.

Class R6 shares are not available to retail non-retirement accounts, Traditional and Roth individual retirement accounts (IRAs), Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, SEPs, SARSEPs, SIMPLE IRAs, and 529 college savings plans.

### **CLASS COST STRUCTURE**

#### Class A shares

- A front-end sales charge, as described in the section "How sales charges for Class A shares are calculated"
- Distribution and service (Rule 12b-1) fees of 0.25%
- A 1.00% CDSC on certain shares sold within one year of purchase

#### Class I shares

- No front-end or deferred sales charges; however, if you purchase Class I shares through a broker acting solely as an agent on behalf of its customers, you may be required to pay a commission to the broker
- No Rule 12b-1 fees

#### Class R6 shares

- No front-end or deferred sales charges; all your money goes to work for you right away
- No Rule 12b-1 fees

#### Rule 12b-1 fees

Rule 12b-1 fees will be paid to the fund's distributor, John Hancock Investment Management Distributors LLC, and may be used by the distributor for expenses relating to the sale, distribution of, and shareholder or administrative services for holders of the shares of the class, and for the payment of service fees that come within Rule 2341 of the Conduct Rules of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

Because Rule 12b-1 fees are paid out of the fund's assets on an ongoing basis, over time they will increase the cost of your investment and may cost shareholders more than other types of sales charges.

Your broker-dealer or agent may charge you a fee to effect transactions in fund shares. Other share classes of the fund, which have their own expense structure, may be offered in separate prospectuses.

### Additional payments to financial intermediaries

Class A shares of the fund are primarily sold through financial intermediaries, such as brokers, banks, registered investment advisors, financial planners, and retirement plan administrators. These firms may be compensated for selling shares of the fund in two principal ways:

- directly, by the payment of sales commissions, if any; and
- indirectly, as a result of the fund paying Rule 12b-1 fees.

Class I shares do not carry sales commissions or pay Rule 12b-1 fees. However, if you purchase Class I shares through a broker acting solely as an agent on behalf of its customers, you may be required to pay a commission to the broker.

No dealer compensation is paid from fund assets on sales of Class R6 shares. Class R6 shares do not carry sales commissions, pay Rule 12b-1 fees, or make payments to financial intermediaries to assist in the distributor's efforts to promote the sale of the fund's shares. Neither the fund nor its affiliates make any type of administrative or service payments in connection with investments in Class R6 shares.

Except with respect to Class R6 shares, certain firms may request, and the distributor may agree to make, payments in addition to sales commissions and Rule 12b-1 fees, if applicable, out of the distributor's own resources.

These additional payments are sometimes referred to as revenue sharing. These payments assist in the distributor's efforts to promote the sale of the fund's shares. The distributor agrees with the firm on the methods for calculating any additional compensation, which may include the level of sales or assets attributable to the firm. Not all firms receive additional compensation, and the amount of compensation varies. These payments could be significant to a firm. The distributor determines which firms to support and the extent of the payments it is willing to make. The distributor generally chooses to compensate

firms that have a strong capability to distribute shares of the fund and that are willing to cooperate with the distributor's promotional efforts.

The distributor hopes to benefit from revenue sharing by increasing the fund's net assets, which, as well as benefiting the fund, would result in additional management and other fees for the advisor and its affiliates. In consideration for revenue sharing, a firm may feature the fund in its sales system or give preferential access to members of its sales force or management. In addition, the firm may agree to participate in the distributor's marketing efforts by allowing the distributor or its affiliates to participate in conferences, seminars, or other programs attended by the intermediary's sales force. Although an intermediary may seek revenue-sharing payments to offset costs incurred by the firm in servicing its clients who have invested in the fund, the intermediary may earn a profit on these payments. Revenue-sharing payments may provide your firm with an incentive to favor the fund.

The SAI discusses the distributor's revenue-sharing arrangements in more detail. Your intermediary may charge you additional fees other than those disclosed in this prospectus. You can ask your firm about any payments it receives from the distributor or the fund, as well as about fees and/or commissions it charges.

The distributor, advisor, and their affiliates may have other relationships with your firm relating to the provisions of services to the fund, such as providing omnibus account services, transaction-processing services, or effecting portfolio transactions for the fund. If your intermediary provides these services, the advisor or the fund may compensate the intermediary for these services. In addition, your intermediary may have other compensated relationships with the advisor or its affiliates that are not related to the fund.

## HOW SALES CHARGES FOR CLASS A SHARES ARE CALCULATED

#### Class A sales charges are as follows:

Your investment (\$)	offering price*	investment
Up to 49,999	5.00	5.26
50,000-99,999	4.50	4.71
100,000–249,999	3.50	3.63
250,000-499,999	2.50	2.56
500,000-999,999	2.00	2.04
1,000,000 and over	See below	

Offering price is the net asset value per share plus any initial sales charge.

You may qualify for a reduced Class A sales charge if you own or are purchasing Class A, Class C, Class I, Class R2, Class R4, Class R5, or Class R6 shares of a John Hancock open-end mutual fund. To receive the reduced sales charge, you must tell your broker or financial professional at the time you purchase the fund's Class A shares about any other John Hancock mutual funds held by you, your spouse, or your children under the age of 21. This includes investments held in an individual retirement account, in an employee benefit plan, or with a broker or financial professional other than the one handling your current purchase. John Hancock will credit the combined value, at the current offering price, of all eligible accounts to determine whether you qualify for a reduced sales charge on your current purchase. You may need to provide documentation for these accounts, such as an account statement. For more information about sales charges, reductions, and waivers, you may visit the fund's website at jhinvestments.com, which includes hyperlinks to facilitate access to this information. You may also consult your broker or financial professional, or refer to the section entitled "Sales Charges on Class A and Class C Shares" in the fund's SAI. You may request an SAI from your broker or financial professional by accessing the fund's website at jhinvestments.com or by calling Signature Services at 800-225-5291.

#### Investments of \$1 million or more

Class A shares are available with no front-end sales charge on investments of \$1 million or more. There is a CDSC on any Class A shares upon which a commission or finder's fee was paid that are sold within one year of purchase, as follows:

#### Class A deferred charges on investments of \$1 million or more

Years after purchase	CDSC (%)
1 <sup>st</sup> year	1.00
After 1st year	None

For purposes of this CDSC, all purchases made during a calendar month are counted as having been made on the first day of that month.

The CDSC is based on the lesser of the original purchase cost or the current market value of the shares being sold, and is not charged on shares you acquired by reinvesting your dividends. To keep your CDSC as low as possible, each time you place a request to sell shares, we will first sell any shares in your account that are not subject to a CDSC.

#### **SALES CHARGE REDUCTIONS AND WAIVERS**

The availability of certain sales charge waivers and discounts will depend on whether you purchase your shares directly from the fund or through a financial intermediary. Intermediaries may have different policies and procedures regarding the availability of front-end sales charge waivers or CDSC waivers (See Appendix 1 - Intermediary sales charge waivers, which includes information about specific sales charge waivers applicable to the intermediaries identified therein).

#### **Reducing your Class A sales charges**

There are several ways you can combine multiple purchases of shares of John Hancock funds to take advantage of the breakpoints in the sales charge schedule. The first three ways can be combined in any manner.

- Accumulation privilege—lets you add the value of any class of shares of any
  John Hancock open-end fund you already own to the amount of your next
  Class A investment for purposes of calculating the sales charge. However,
  Class A shares of money market funds will not qualify unless you have
  already paid a sales charge on those shares.
- Letter of intention—lets you purchase Class A shares of a fund over a 13-month period and receive the same sales charge as if all shares had been purchased at once. You can use a letter of intention to qualify for reduced sales charges if you plan to invest at least to the first breakpoint level (generally \$50,000 or \$100,000 depending on the specific fund) in a John Hancock fund's Class A shares during the next 13 months. Completing a letter of intention does not obligate you to purchase additional shares. However, if you do not buy enough shares to qualify for the lower sales charges by the earlier of the end of the 13-month period or when you sell your shares, your sales charges will be recalculated to reflect your actual amount purchased. It is your responsibility to tell John Hancock Signature Services Inc. or your financial professional when you believe you have

- purchased shares totaling an amount eligible for reduced sales charges, as stated in your letter of intention. Further information is provided in the SAI.
- Combination privilege—lets you combine shares of all funds for purposes of calculating the Class A sales charge.

To utilize any reduction, you must complete the appropriate section of your application, or contact your financial professional or Signature Services. Consult the SAI for additional details (see the back cover of this prospectus).

#### **Group investment program**

A group may be treated as a single purchaser under the accumulation and combination privileges. Each investor has an individual account, but the group's investments are lumped together for sales charge purposes, making the investors potentially eligible for reduced sales charges. There is no charge or obligation to invest (although initial investments per account opened must satisfy minimum initial investment requirements specified in the section entitled "Opening an account"), and individual investors may close their accounts at any time.

To utilize this program, you must contact your financial professional or Signature Services to find out how to qualify. Consult the SAI for additional details (see the back cover of this prospectus).

## **CDSC** waivers

As long as Signature Services is notified at the time you sell, any CDSC for Class A shares will be waived in the following cases, as applicable:

- to make payments through certain systematic withdrawal plans
- certain retirement plans participating in PruSolutions<sup>SM</sup> programs
- redemptions pursuant to the fund's right to liquidate an account that is below the minimum account value stated below in "Dividends and account policies," under the subsection "Small accounts"
- redemptions of Class A shares made after one year from the inception of a retirement plan at John Hancock
- redemptions made under certain liquidation, merger or acquisition transactions involving other investment companies or personal holding companies
- to make certain distributions from a retirement plan
- because of shareholder death or disability
- rollovers, contract exchanges, or transfers of John Hancock custodial 403(b)(7) account assets required by John Hancock as a result of its decision to discontinue maintaining and administering 403(b)(7) accounts

To utilize a waiver, you must contact your financial professional or Signature Services. Consult the SAI for additional details (see the back cover of this prospectus). Please note, these waivers are distinct from those described in Appendix 1, "Intermediary sales charge waivers."

## Reinstatement privilege

If you sell shares of a John Hancock fund, you may reinvest some or all of the proceeds back into the same share class of the same fund and account from which it was removed, within 120 days without a sales charge, subject to fund minimums, as long as Signature Services or your financial professional is

notified before you reinvest. If you paid a CDSC when you sold your shares, you will be credited with the amount of the CDSC. Consult the SAI for additional details.

To utilize this privilege, you must contact your financial professional or Signature Services. Consult the SAI for additional details (see the back cover of this prospectus).

#### Waivers for certain investors

Class A shares may be offered without front-end sales charges or CDSCs to the following individuals and institutions:

- Selling brokers and their employees and sales representatives (and their Immediate Family, as defined in the SAI)
- Financial intermediaries utilizing fund shares in eligible retirement platforms, fee-based, or wrap investment products
- Financial intermediaries who offer shares to self-directed investment brokerage accounts that may or may not charge a transaction fee to their customers
- Fund Trustees and other individuals who are affiliated with these or other John Hancock funds, including employees of John Hancock companies or Manulife Financial Corporation (and their Immediate Family, as defined in the SAI)
- Individuals exchanging shares held in an eligible fee-based program for Class A shares, provided however, subsequent purchases in Class A shares will be subject to applicable sales charges
- Individuals transferring assets held in a SIMPLE IRA, SEP, or SARSEP invested in John Hancock funds directly to an IRA
- Individuals converting assets held in an IRA, SIMPLE IRA, SEP, or SARSEP invested in John Hancock funds directly to a Roth IRA
- Individuals recharacterizing assets from an IRA, Roth IRA, SEP, SARSEP, or SIMPLE IRA invested in John Hancock funds back to the original account type from which they were converted
- Participants in group retirement plans that are eligible and permitted to purchase Class A shares as described in the "Choosing an eligible share class" section above. This waiver is contingent upon the group retirement plan being in a recordkeeping arrangement and does not apply to group retirement plans transacting business with the fund through a brokerage relationship in which sales charges are customarily imposed, unless such brokerage relationship qualifies for a sales charge waiver as described. In addition, this waiver does not apply to a group retirement plan that leaves its current recordkeeping arrangement and subsequently transacts business with the fund through a brokerage relationship in which sales charges are customarily imposed. Whether a sales charge waiver is available to your group retirement plan through its record keeper depends upon the policies and procedures of your intermediary. Please consult your financial professional for further information
- Retirement plans participating in PruSolutions<sup>SM</sup> programs
- Terminating participants in a pension, profit-sharing, or other plan qualified under Section 401(a) of the Code, or described in Section 457(b) of the Code, (i) that is funded by certain John Hancock group annuity contracts, (ii) for which John Hancock Trust Company serves as trustee or custodian, or (iii) the trustee or custodian of which has retained John Hancock Retirement Plan Services ("RPS") as a service provider, rolling over assets (directly or within 60 days after distribution) from such a plan (or from a John Hancock

- Managed IRA or John Hancock Annuities IRA into which such assets have already been rolled over) to a John Hancock custodial IRA or John Hancock custodial Roth IRA that invests in John Hancock funds, or the subsequent establishment of or any rollover into a new John Hancock fund account by such terminating participants and/or their Immediate Family (as defined in the SAI), including subsequent investments into such accounts, and that are held directly at John Hancock funds or at the John Hancock Personal Financial Services ("PFS") Financial Center
- Participants in a terminating pension, profit-sharing, or other plan qualified under Section 401(a) of the Code, or described in Section 457(b) of the Code (the assets of which, immediately prior to such plan's termination, were (a) held in certain John Hancock group annuity contracts, (b) in trust or custody by John Hancock Trust Company, or (c) by a trustee or custodian which has retained John Hancock RPS as a service provider, but have been transferred from such contracts or trust funds and are held either: (i) in trust by a distribution processing organization; or (ii) in a custodial IRA or custodial Roth IRA sponsored by an authorized third-party trust company and made available through John Hancock), rolling over assets (directly or within 60 days after distribution) from such a plan to a John Hancock custodial IRA or John Hancock custodial Roth IRA that invests in John Hancock funds, or the subsequent establishment of or any rollover into a new John Hancock fund account by such participants and/or their Immediate Family (as defined in the SAI), including subsequent investments into such accounts, and that are held directly at John Hancock funds or at the PFS Financial Center
- Participants actively enrolled in a John Hancock RPS plan account (or an account the trustee of which has retained John Hancock RPS as a service provider) rolling over or transferring assets into a new John Hancock custodial IRA or John Hancock custodial Roth IRA that invests in John Hancock funds through John Hancock PFS (to the extent such assets are otherwise prohibited from rolling over or transferring into such participant's John Hancock RPS plan account), including subsequent investments into such accounts, and that are held directly at John Hancock funds or at the John Hancock PFS Financial Center
- Individuals rolling over assets held in a John Hancock custodial 403(b)(7) account into a John Hancock custodial IRA account
- Former employees/associates of John Hancock, its affiliates, or agencies rolling over (directly or indirectly within 60 days after distribution) to a new John Hancock custodial IRA or John Hancock custodial Roth IRA from the John Hancock Employee Investment-Incentive Plan (TIP), John Hancock Savings Investment Plan (SIP), or the John Hancock Pension Plan, and such participants and their Immediate Family (as defined in the SAI) subsequently establishing or rolling over assets into a new John Hancock account through the John Hancock PFS Group, including subsequent investments into such accounts, and that are held directly at John Hancock funds or at the John Hancock PFS Financial Center
- A member of a class action lawsuit against insurance companies who is investing settlement proceeds

To utilize a waiver, you must contact your financial professional or Signature Services. Consult the SAI for additional details (see the back cover of this prospectus). Please note, these waivers are distinct from those described in Appendix 1, "Intermediary sales charge waivers."

#### Other waivers

Front-end sales charges and CDSCs are not imposed in connection with the following transactions:

- Exchanges from one John Hancock fund to the same class of any other John Hancock fund (see "Transaction policies" in this prospectus for additional details)
- Dividend reinvestments (see "Dividends and account policies" in this prospectus for additional details)
- In addition, the availability of certain sales charge waivers and discounts will depend on whether you purchase your shares directly from the fund or through a financial intermediary. Intermediaries may have different policies and procedures regarding the availability of front-end sales charge waivers or CDSC waivers (See Appendix 1 Intermediary sales charge waivers, which includes information about specific sales charge waivers applicable to the intermediaries identified therein). In all instances, it is the purchaser's responsibility to notify the fund or the purchaser's financial intermediary at the time of purchase of any relationship or other facts qualifying the purchaser for sales charge waivers or discounts. For waivers and discounts not available through a particular intermediary, shareholders will have to purchase fund shares directly from the fund or through another intermediary to receive these waivers or discounts.

#### **OPENING AN ACCOUNT**

- **1** Read this prospectus carefully.
- **2** Determine if you are eligible by referring to "Choosing an eligible share class."
- **3** Determine how much you want to invest. The minimum initial investments for each share class are described below. There are no subsequent investment requirements for these share classes.

Share Class	Minimum initial investment
Class A	\$1,000 (\$250 for group investments). However, there is no minimum initial investment for certain group retirement plans using salary deduction or similar group methods of payment, for fee-based or wrap accounts of selling firms that have executed a fee-based or wrap agreement with the distributor, or for certain other eligible investment product platforms.
Class I	\$250,000. However, the minimum initial investment requirement may be waived, at the fund's sole discretion, for investors in certain fee-based, wrap, or other investment platform programs, or in certain brokerage platforms where the intermediary is acting solely as an agent for the investor. The fund also may waive the minimum initial investment for other categories of investors at its discretion, including for: (i) Trustees, (ii) employees of the advisor or its affiliates, and (iii) members of the fund's portfolio management team.
Class R6	\$1 million. However, there is no minimum initial investment requirement for: (i) qualified and nonqualified plan investors; (ii) certain eligible qualifying investment product platforms; or (iii) Trustees, employees of the advisor or its affiliates, employees of the subadvisor, members of the fund's portfolio management team and the spouses and children (under age 21) of the aforementioned.

**4** All shareholders must complete the account application, carefully following the instructions. If you have any questions, please contact your financial professional or call Signature Services at 800-225-5291 for Class A shares or 888-972-8696 for Class I and Class R6 shares.

- **5** For Class A shares, complete the appropriate parts of the account privileges application. By applying for privileges now, you can avoid the delay and inconvenience of having to file an additional application if you want to add privileges later.
- **6** Make your initial investment using the instructions under "Buying shares." You and your financial professional can initiate any purchase, exchange, or sale of shares.

## Important information about opening a new account

To help the government fight the funding of terrorism and money laundering activities, the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (USA PATRIOT Act) requires all financial institutions to obtain, verify, and record information that identifies each person or entity that opens an account.

**For individual investors opening an account.** When you open an account, you will be asked for your name, residential address, date of birth, and Social Security number.

For investors other than individuals. When you open an account, you will be asked for the name of the entity, its principal place of business, and taxpayer identification number (TIN), and you may be requested to provide information on persons with authority or control over the account, including, but not limited to, name, residential address, date of birth, and Social Security number. You may also be asked to provide documents, such as articles of incorporation, trust instruments, or partnership agreements, and other information that will help Signature Services identify the entity. Please see the mutual fund account application for more details.

## **BUYING SHARES**

## **Class A shares**

Opening an account	Adding to an account
By check	
<ul> <li>Make out a check for the investment amount, payable to "John Hancock Signature Services, Inc."</li> <li>Deliver the check and your completed application to your financial professional or mail them to Signature Services (address below).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Make out a check for the investment amount, payable to "John Hancock Signature Services, Inc."</li> <li>Fill out the detachable investment slip from an account statement. If no slip is available, include a note specifying the fund name, the share class, your account number, and the name(s) in which the account is registered.</li> <li>Deliver the check and your investment slip or note to your financial professional, or mail them to Signature Services (address below).</li> </ul>
By exchange	
<ul> <li>Call your financial professional or Signature Services to request an exchange.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Log on to the website below to process exchanges between funds.</li> <li>Call EASI-Line for automated service.</li> <li>Call your financial professional or Signature Services to request an exchange.</li> </ul>
By wire	
<ul> <li>Deliver your completed application to your financial professional or mail it to Signature Services.</li> <li>Obtain your account number by calling your financial professional or Signature Services.</li> <li>Obtain wiring instructions by calling Signature Services.</li> <li>Instruct your bank to wire the amount of your investment. Specify the fund name, the share class, your account number, and the name(s) in which the account is registered. Your bank may charge a fee to wire funds.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Obtain wiring instructions by calling Signature Services.</li> <li>Instruct your bank to wire the amount of your investment. Specify the fund name the share class, your account number, and the name(s) in which the account is registered. Your bank may charge a fee to wire funds.</li> </ul>
By Internet	
■ See "By exchange" and "By wire."	<ul> <li>Verify that your bank or credit union is a member of the Automated Clearing House (ACH) system.</li> <li>Complete the "Bank information" section on your account application.</li> <li>Log on to the website below to initiate purchases using your authorized bank account.</li> </ul>
By phone	
See "By exchange" and "By wire."	<ul> <li>Verify that your bank or credit union is a member of the ACH system.</li> <li>Complete the "To purchase, exchange, or redeem shares via telephone" and "Bank information" sections on your account application.</li> <li>Call EASI-Line for automated service.</li> <li>Call your financial professional or call Signature Services between 8:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M., Monday—Thursday, and on Friday, between 8:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M., Eastern time.</li> </ul>
	To add to an account using the Monthly Automatic Accumulation Program, see "Additional investor services."

## Regular mail

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. P.O. Box 219909 Kansas City, MO 64121-9909

## **Express delivery**

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. 430 W 7th Street Suite 219909 Kansas City, MO 64105-1407

## Website

jhinvestments.com

## **EASI-Line** (24/7 automated service) 800-338-8080

Signature Services, Inc. 800-225-5291

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## **BUYING SHARES**

## Class I shares

Opening an account	Adding to an account			
By check				
<ul> <li>Make out a check for the investment amount, payable to "John Hancock Signature Services, Inc."</li> <li>Deliver the check and your completed application to your financial professional or mail them to Signature Services (address below).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Make out a check for the investment amount, payable to "John Hancock Signature Services, Inc."</li> <li>If your account statement has a detachable investment slip, please complete i its entirety. If no slip is available, include a note specifying the fund name, you share class, your account number, and the name(s) in which the account is registered.</li> <li>Deliver the check and your investment slip or note to your financial profession or mail them to Signature Services (address below).</li> </ul>			
By exchange				
<ul> <li>Call your financial professional or Signature Services to request an exchange.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Log on to the website below to process exchanges between funds.</li> <li>Call EASI-Line for account balance, fund inquiry, and transaction processing a some account types.</li> <li>You may exchange Class I shares for other Class I shares or John Hancock M Market Fund Class A shares.</li> <li>Call your financial professional or Signature Services to request an exchange.</li> </ul>			
By wire				
<ul> <li>Deliver your completed application to your financial professional or mail it to Signature Services.</li> <li>Obtain your account number by calling your financial professional or Signature Services.</li> <li>Obtain wiring instructions by calling Signature Services.</li> <li>Instruct your bank to wire the amount of your investment. Specify the fund name, the share class, your account number, and the name(s) in which the account is registered. Your bank may charge a fee to wire funds.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Instruct your bank to wire the amount of your investment. Specify the fund na the share class, your account number, and the name(s) in which the account is registered. Your bank may charge a fee to wire funds.</li> </ul>			
By internet				
See "By exchange" and "By wire."	<ul> <li>Verify that your bank or credit union is a member of the Automated Clearing House (ACH) system.</li> <li>Complete the "Bank information" section on your account application.</li> <li>Log on to the website below to initiate purchases using your authorized bank account.</li> </ul>			
By phone				
■ See "By exchange" and "By wire."	<ul> <li>Verify that your bank or credit union is a member of the ACH system.</li> <li>Complete the "To purchase, exchange, or redeem shares via telephone" and "Bank information" sections on your account application.</li> <li>Call EASI-Line for account balance, fund inquiry, and transaction processing on some account types.</li> <li>Call your financial professional or call Signature Services between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Eastern time, on most business days.</li> </ul>			
Regular mail Express delivery  John Hancock Signature Sources Inc. John Hancock Signature Sources Inc.	Website	EASI-Line	Signature Services, Inc.	

jhinvestments.com

800-597-1897

(24/7 automated service)

430 W 7th Street

Suite 219909

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc.

Kansas City, MO 64105-1407

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc.

Kansas City, MO 64121-9909

P.O. Box 219909

888-972-8696

## **BUYING SHARES**

## Class R6 shares

Class R6 shares			
Opening an account	Adding to an account		
By check			
<ul> <li>Make out a check for the investment amount, payable to "John Hancock Signature Services, Inc."</li> <li>Deliver the check and your completed application to your financial professional or mail them to Signature Services (address below).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Make out a check for the investment amount, payable to "John Hancock Signature Services, Inc."</li> <li>If your account statement has a detachable investment slip, please complete its entirety. If no slip is available, include a note specifying the fund name, the share class, your account number, and the name(s) in which the account is registered.</li> <li>Deliver the check and your investment slip or note to your financial profession or mail them to Signature Services (address below).</li> </ul>		
By exchange			
<ul> <li>Call your financial professional or Signature Services to request an exchange.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Log on to the website below to process exchanges between funds.</li> <li>Call EASI-Line for account balance, fund inquiry, and transaction processin some account types.</li> <li>You may exchange Class R6 shares for other Class R6 shares or John Hand Money Market Fund Class A shares.</li> <li>Call your financial professional or Signature Services to request an exchange and the professional or Signature Services.</li> </ul>		
By wire			
<ul> <li>Deliver your completed application to your financial professional or mail it to Signature Services.</li> <li>Obtain your account number by calling your financial professional or Signature Services.</li> <li>Obtain wiring instructions by calling Signature Services.</li> <li>Instruct your bank to wire the amount of your investment. Specify the fund name, the share class, your account number, and the name(s) in which the account is registered. Your bank may charge a fee to wire funds.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Instruct your bank to wire the amount of your investment. Specify the fund the share class, your account number, and the name(s) in which the accour registered. Your bank may charge a fee to wire funds.</li> </ul> nd		
By internet			
■ See "By exchange"	<ul> <li>Verify that your bank or credit union is a member of the Automated Clearing House (ACH) system.</li> <li>Complete the "Bank information" section on your account application.</li> <li>Log on to the website below to initiate purchases using your authorized bank account.</li> </ul>		
By phone			
■ See "By exchange" and "By wire."	<ul> <li>Verify that your bank or credit union is a member of the Automated Clearing House (ACH) system.</li> <li>Complete the "To purchase, exchange, or redeem shares via telephone" and "Bank information" sections on your account application.</li> <li>Call EASI-Line for account balance, fund inquiry, and transaction processing come account types.</li> <li>Call your financial professional or call Signature Services between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Eastern time, on most business days.</li> </ul>		
Regular mail  Express delivery  John Hancock Signature Services Inc.	Website	EASI-Line	Signature Services, Inc.

(24/7 automated service)

800-597-1897

jhinvestments.com

888-972-8696

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc.

Kansas City, MO 64105-1407

430 W 7th Street

Suite 219909

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc.

Kansas City, MO 64121-9909

P.O. Box 219909

## **SELLING SHARES**

## **Class A shares**

To sell some or all of your shares			
By letter			
<ul><li>Accounts of any type</li><li>Sales of any amount</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Write a letter of instruction or complete a stock power indicating the fund name the share class, your account number, the name(s) in which the account is registered, and the dollar value or number of shares you wish to sell.</li> <li>Include all signatures and any additional documents that may be required (see the next page).</li> <li>Mail the materials to Signature Services (address below).</li> <li>A check will be mailed to the name(s) and address in which the account is registered, or otherwise according to your letter of instruction.</li> </ul>		
By Internet			
<ul><li>Most accounts</li><li>Sales of up to \$100,000</li></ul>	Log on to the website below to initiate redemptions from your fund.		
By phone			
<ul><li>Most accounts</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Call EASI-Line for automated service.</li> </ul>		
<ul><li>Sales of up to \$100,000</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Call your financial professional or call Signature Services between 8:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M., Monday—Thursday, and on Friday, between 8:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M., Eastern time.</li> </ul>		
By wire or electronic funds transfer (EFT)			
<ul> <li>Requests by letter to sell any amount</li> <li>Requests by Internet or phone to sell up to \$100,000</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To verify that the Internet or telephone redemption privilege is in place on an account, or to request the form to add it to an existing account, call Signature Services.</li> <li>A \$4 fee will be deducted from your account. Your bank may also charge a fee for this service.</li> </ul>		
By exchange			
<ul><li>Accounts of any type</li><li>Sales of any amount</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Obtain a current prospectus for the fund into which you are exchanging by accessing the fund's website or by calling your financial professional or Signature Services.</li> <li>Log on to the website below to process exchanges between your funds.</li> <li>Call EASI-Line for automated service.</li> <li>Call your financial professional or Signature Services to request an exchange.</li> </ul>		
	To sell shares through a systematic withdrawal plan, see "Additional investor services."		

Regular mail

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. P.O. Box 219909 Kansas City, MO 64121-9909 Express delivery

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. 430 W 7th Street Suite 219909 Kansas City, MO 64105-1407 Website

jhinvestments.com

EASI-Line (24/7 automated service) 800-338-8080 Signature Services, Inc. 800-225-5291

#### **Class A shares**

### Selling shares in writing

In certain circumstances, you will need to make your request to sell shares in writing. You may need to include additional items with your request, unless they were previously provided to Signature Services and are still accurate. These items are shown in the table below. You may also need to include a signature guarantee, which protects you against fraudulent orders. You will need a signature guarantee if:

- your address or bank of record has changed within the past 30 days, and you would like the payment to be sent to your new address or bank,
- you are selling more than \$100,000 worth of shares (this requirement is waived for certain entities operating under a signed fax trading agreement with John Hancock), or
- you are requesting payment other than by a check mailed to the address/bank of record and payable to the registered owner(s).

You will need to obtain your signature guarantee from a member of the Medallion Signature Guarantee Program. Most broker-dealers, banks, credit unions, and securities exchanges are members of this program. A notary public CANNOT provide a signature guarantee.

Seller		Requirements for writte	en requests		
Owners of individual, joint, or UGMA/U minors)	TMA accounts (custodial accounts for				
Owners of corporate, sole proprietorship accounts	o, general partner, or association	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction</li> <li>Corporate business/organization resolution, certified within the past 12 montor or a John Hancock business/organization certification form</li> <li>On the letter and the resolution, the signature of the person(s) authorized to for the account</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> </ul>			
Owners or trustees of trust accounts		<ul> <li>Letter of instruction</li> <li>On the letter, the signature(s) of the trustee(s)</li> <li>Copy of the trust document, certified within the past 12 months, or a John Hancock trust certification form</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> </ul>			
Joint tenancy shareholders with rights c co-tenant(s)	of survivorship with deceased	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction signed by surviving tenant(s)</li> <li>Copy of the death certificate</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> <li>Inheritance tax waiver, if applicable</li> </ul>		ove)	
Executors of shareholder estates		<ul> <li>Letter of instruction signed by the executor</li> <li>Copy of the order appointing executor, certified within the past 12 months</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> <li>Inheritance tax waiver, if applicable</li> </ul>			
Administrators, conservators, guardians, listed above	, and other sellers, or account types not				
Regular mail John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. P.O. Box 219909 Kansas City, MO 64121-9909	Express delivery John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. 430 W 7th Street Suite 219909 Kansas City, MO 64105-1407	<b>Website</b> jhinvestments.com	EASI-Line (24/7 automated service) 800-338-8080	Signature Services, Inc. 800-225-5291	

## **SELLING SHARES**

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc.

Kansas City, MO 64121-9909

P.O. Box 219909

#### Class I shares

Class I shares				
	To sell some or all of you	r shares		
By letter				
Sales of any amount	<ul> <li>Write a letter of instruction or complete a stock power indicating the fund name the share class, your account number, the name(s) in which the account is registered, and the dollar value or number of shares you wish to sell.</li> <li>Include all signatures and any additional documents that may be required (see the next page).</li> <li>Mail the materials to Signature Services (address below).</li> <li>A check will be mailed to the name(s) and address in which the account is registered, or otherwise according to your letter of instruction.</li> <li>Certain requests will require a Medallion signature guarantee. Please refer to "Selling shares in writing" on the next page.</li> </ul>			
By internet	<u>-</u>			
<ul><li>Most accounts</li><li>Sales of up to \$100,000</li></ul>	Log on to the website below to initiate redemptions from your fund.			
By phone				
<ul> <li>Amounts up to \$100,000:</li> <li>Most accounts</li> <li>Amounts up to \$5 million:</li> <li>Available to the following types of accounts: custodial accounts held by banks, trust companies, or broker-dealers; endowments and foundations; corporate accounts; group retirement plans; and pension accounts (excluding IRAs, 403(b) plans, and all John Hancock custodial retirement accounts)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To place your request with a representative at John Hancock, call Signature Services between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Eastern time, on most business da</li> </ul>			
By wire or electronic funds transfer (EFT)	payment by effect. Fred	se refer to selling shares in w	nting.	
<ul> <li>Requests by letter to sell any amount</li> <li>Qualified requests by phone to sell to \$5 million (accounts with telephone redemption privileges)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To verify that the telephone redemption privilege is in place on an account, or request the form to add it to an existing account, call Signature Services.</li> <li>Amounts up to \$100,000 may be sent by EFT or by check. Your bank may charafee for this service.</li> <li>Amounts of \$5 million or more will be sent by wire.</li> </ul>			
By exchange				
■ Sales of any amount	<ul> <li>Obtain a current prospectus for the fund into which you are exchanging by accessing the fund's website, or by calling your financial professional or Signal Services.</li> <li>Call EASI-Line for account balance, general fund inquiry, and transaction processing on some account types.</li> <li>You may only exchange Class I shares for other Class I shares or John Hancock Money Market Fund Class A shares.</li> <li>Call your financial professional or Signature Services to request an exchange.</li> </ul>			
Regular mail Express delivery	Website	EASI-Line	Signature Services, Inc.	

jhinvestments.com

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc.

Kansas City, MO 64105-1407

430 W 7th Street

Suite 219909

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888-972-8696

(24/7 automated service)

800-597-1897

#### Class I shares

## Selling shares in writing

In certain circumstances, you will need to make your request to sell shares in writing. You may need to include additional items with your request, unless they were previously provided to Signature Services and are still accurate. These items are shown in the table below. You may also need to include a signature guarantee, which protects you against fraudulent orders. You will need a signature guarantee if:

- your address or bank of record has changed within the past 30 days, and you would like the payment to be sent to your new address or bank;
- you are selling more than \$100,000 worth of shares and are requesting payment by check (this requirement is waived for certain entities operating under a signed fax trading agreement with John Hancock);
- you are selling more than \$5 million worth of shares from the following types of accounts: custodial accounts held by banks, trust companies, or broker-dealers; endowments and foundations; corporate accounts; group retirement plans; and pension accounts (excluding IRAs, 403(b) plans, and all John Hancock custodial retirement accounts); or
- you are requesting payment other than by a check mailed to the address/bank of record and payable to the registered owner(s).

You will need to obtain your signature guarantee from a member of the Medallion Signature Guarantee Program. Most broker-dealers, banks, credit unions, and securities exchanges are members of this program. A notary public CANNOT provide a signature quarantee.

Seller	Requirements for written requests
Owners of individual, joint, or UGMA/UTMA accounts (custodial accounts for minors)	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction</li> <li>On the letter, the signatures and titles of all persons authorized to sign for the account, exactly as the account is registered</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> </ul>
Owners of corporate, sole proprietorship, general partner, or association accounts	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction</li> <li>Corporate business/organization resolution, certified within the past 12 months, or a John Hancock business/organization certification form</li> <li>On the letter and the resolution, the signature of the person(s) authorized to sign for the account</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> </ul>
Owners or trustees of trust accounts	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction</li> <li>On the letter, the signature(s) of the trustee(s)</li> <li>Copy of the trust document, certified within the past 12 months, or a John Hancock trust certification form</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> </ul>
Joint tenancy shareholders with rights of survivorship with deceased co-tenant(s)	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction signed by surviving tenant(s)</li> <li>Copy of the death certificate</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> <li>Inheritance tax waiver, if applicable</li> </ul>
Executors of shareholder estates	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction signed by the executor</li> <li>Copy of the order appointing executor, certified within the past 12 months</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> <li>Inheritance tax waiver, if applicable</li> </ul>
Administrators, conservators, guardians, and other sellers, or account types not listed above	Call Signature Services for instructions

#### Regular mail

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. P.O. Box 219909 Kansas City, MO 64121-9909

## **Express delivery**

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. 430 W 7th Street Suite 219909 Kansas City, MO 64105-1407

#### Website

ihinvestments.com

## **EASI-Line** (24/7 automated service)

800-597-1897

Signature Services, Inc. 888-972-8696

## **SELLING SHARES**

Class R6 shares				
	To sell some or all of your shares			
By letter				
■ Sales of any amount	<ul> <li>Write a letter of instruction or complete a stock power indicating the fund name the share class, your account number, the name(s) in which the account is registered, and the dollar value or number of shares you wish to sell.</li> <li>Include all signatures and any additional documents that may be required (see the next page).</li> <li>Mail the materials to Signature Services (address below).</li> <li>A check will be mailed to the name(s) and address in which the account is registered, or otherwise according to your letter of instruction.</li> <li>Certain requests will require a Medallion signature guarantee. Please refer to "Selling shares in writing" on the next page.</li> </ul>			
By internet	3 1 3			
<ul><li>Most accounts</li><li>Sales of up to \$100,000</li></ul>	Log on to the website below to initiate redemptions from your fund.			
By phone				
Amounts up to \$5 million:  Available to the following types of accounts: custodial accounts held by	<ul> <li>Call EASI-Line for account balance, general fund inquiry, and transaction processing on some account types.</li> </ul>			
banks, trust companies, or broker-dealers; endowments and foundations; corporate accounts; and group retirement plans	<ul> <li>Redemption proceeds of up to \$100,000 may be sent by wire or by check. A check will be mailed to the exact name(s) and address on the account.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>To place your request with a representative at John Hancock, call Signature Services between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Eastern time, on most business days, or your financial professional.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Redemption proceeds exceeding \$100,000 will be wired to your designated ban account, unless a Medallion signature guaranteed letter is provided requesting payment by check. Please refer to "Selling shares in writing."</li> </ul>			
By wire or electronic funds transfer (EFT)				
<ul><li>Requests by letter to sell any amount</li><li>Qualified requests by phone to sell to \$5 million (accounts with telephone</li></ul>	<ul> <li>To verify that the telephone redemption privilege is in place on an account, or to request the form to add it to an existing account, call Signature Services.</li> </ul>			
redemption privileges)	<ul> <li>Amounts of \$5 million or more will be sent by wire.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Amounts up to \$100,000 may be sent by EFT or by check. Your bank may charg a fee for this service.</li> </ul>			
By exchange				
Sales of any amount	<ul> <li>Obtain a current prospectus for the fund into which you are exchanging by accessing the fund's website, or by calling your financial professional or Signature Services.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Call EASI-Line for account balance, general fund inquiry, and transaction processing on some account types.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>You may only exchange Class R6 shares for other Class R6 shares or John Hancock Money Market Fund Class A shares.</li> </ul>			
	Call your financial professional or Signature Services to request an exchange.			
Regular mail  John Hancock Signature Services, Inc.  P.O. Box 219909  Express delivery  John Hancock Signature Services, Inc.  430 W 7th Street	Website EASI-Line Signature Services, Inc. jhinvestments.com (24/7 automated service) 888-972-8696 800-597-1897			

P.O. Box 219909 Kansas City, MO 64121-9909

430 W 7th Street Suite 219909 Kansas City, MO 64105-1407

800-597-1897

#### Class R6 shares

### Selling shares in writing

In certain circumstances, you will need to make your request to sell shares in writing. You may need to include additional items with your request, unless they were previously provided to Signature Services and are still accurate. These items are shown in the table below. You may also need to include a signature guarantee, which protects you against fraudulent orders. You will need a signature guarantee if:

- your address or bank of record has changed within the past 30 days, and you would like the payment to be sent to your new address or bank;
- you are selling more than \$100,000 worth of shares and are requesting payment by check (this requirement is waived for certain entities operating under a signed fax trading agreement with John Hancock);
- you are selling more than \$5 million worth of shares from the following types of accounts: custodial accounts held by banks, trust companies, or broker-dealers; endowments and foundations; corporate accounts; and group retirement plans; or
- you are requesting payment other than by a check mailed to the address/bank of record and payable to the registered owner(s).

You will need to obtain your signature guarantee from a member of the Medallion Signature Guarantee Program. Most broker-dealers, banks, credit unions, and securities exchanges are members of this program. A notary public CANNOT provide a signature guarantee.

Seller	Requirements for written requests
Owners of individual, joint, or UGMA/UTMA accounts (custodial accounts for minors)	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction</li> <li>On the letter, the signatures and titles of all persons authorized to sign for the account, exactly as the account is registered</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> </ul>
Owners of corporate, sole proprietorship, general partner, or association accounts	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction</li> <li>Corporate business/organization resolution, certified within the past 12 months, or a John Hancock business/organization certification form</li> <li>On the letter and the resolution, the signature of the person(s) authorized to sign for the account</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> </ul>
Owners or trustees of trust accounts	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction</li> <li>On the letter, the signature(s) of the trustee(s)</li> <li>Copy of the trust document, certified within the past 12 months, or a John Hancock trust certification form</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> </ul>
Joint tenancy shareholders with rights of survivorship with deceased co-tenant(s)	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction signed by surviving tenant(s)</li> <li>Copy of the death certificate</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> <li>Inheritance tax waiver, if applicable</li> </ul>
Executors of shareholder estates	<ul> <li>Letter of instruction signed by the executor</li> <li>Copy of the order appointing executor, certified within the past 12 months</li> <li>Medallion signature guarantee, if applicable (see above)</li> <li>Inheritance tax waiver, if applicable</li> </ul>
Administrators, conservators, guardians, and other sellers, or account types not listed above	Call Signature Services for instructions

#### Regular mail

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. P.O. Box 219909 Kansas City, MO 64121-9909

#### **Express delivery**

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. 430 W 7th Street Suite 219909 Kansas City, MO 64105-1407

#### Website

jhinvestments.com

#### EASI-Line (24/7 automated service) 800-597-1897

Signature Services, Inc. 888-972-8696

## **TRANSACTION POLICIES**

#### Valuation of shares

The net asset value (NAV) for each class of shares of the fund is normally determined once daily as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) (typically 4:00 P.M., Eastern time, on each business day that the NYSE is open). In case of emergency or other disruption resulting in the NYSE not opening for trading or the NYSE closing at a time other than the regularly scheduled close, the NAV may be determined as of the regularly scheduled close of the NYSE pursuant to the fund's Valuation Policies and Procedures. The time at which shares and transactions are priced and until which orders are accepted may vary to the extent permitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission and applicable regulations. On holidays or other days when the NYSE is closed, the NAV is not calculated and the fund does not transact purchase or redemption requests. Trading of securities that are primarily listed on foreign exchanges may take place on weekends and U.S. business holidays on which the fund's NAV is not calculated. Consequently, the fund's portfolio securities may trade and the NAV of the fund's shares may be significantly affected on days when a shareholder will not be able to purchase or redeem shares of the fund.

Each class of shares of the fund has its own NAV, which is computed by dividing the total assets, minus liabilities, allocated to each share class by the number of fund shares outstanding for that class. The current NAV of the fund is available on our website at jhinvestments.com.

#### Valuation of securities

Portfolio securities are valued by various methods that are generally described below. Portfolio securities also may be fair valued by the fund's Pricing Committee in certain instances pursuant to procedures established by the Trustees. Equity securities are generally valued at the last sale price or, for certain markets, the official closing price as of the close of the relevant exchange. Securities not traded on a particular day are valued using last available bid prices. A security that is listed or traded on more than one exchange is typically valued at the price on the exchange where the security was acquired or most likely will be sold. In certain instances, the Pricing Committee may determine to value equity securities using prices obtained from another exchange or market if trading on the exchange or market on which prices are typically obtained did not open for trading as scheduled, or if trading closed earlier than scheduled, and trading occurred as normal on another exchange or market. Equity securities traded principally in foreign markets are typically valued using the last sale price or official closing price in the relevant exchange or market, as adjusted by an independent pricing vendor to reflect fair value. On any day a foreign market is closed and the NYSE is open, any foreign securities will typically be valued using the last price or official closing price obtained from the relevant exchange on the prior business day adjusted based on information provided by an independent pricing vendor to reflect fair value. Debt obligations are typically valued based on evaluated prices provided by an independent pricing vendor. The value of securities denominated in foreign currencies is converted into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate supplied by an independent pricing vendor. Forward foreign currency contracts are valued at the prevailing forward rates which are based on foreign currency exchange spot rates and forward points supplied by an independent pricing vendor. Exchange-traded options are valued at the mid-price of the last quoted bid and ask prices. Futures contracts whose settlement prices are determined as of the close of the NYSE are typically valued based on the settlement price

while other futures contracts are typically valued at the last traded price on the exchange on which they trade. Foreign equity index futures that trade in the electronic trading market subsequent to the close of regular trading may be valued at the last traded price in the electronic trading market as of the close of the NYSE, or may be fair valued based on fair value adjustment factors provided by an independent pricing vendor in order to adjust for events that may occur between the close of foreign exchanges or markets and the close of the NYSE. Swaps and unlisted options are generally valued using evaluated prices obtained from an independent pricing vendor. Shares of other open-end investment companies that are not exchange-traded funds (underlying funds) are valued based on the NAVs of such underlying funds.

Pricing vendors may use matrix pricing or valuation models that utilize certain inputs and assumptions to derive values, including transaction data, broker-dealer quotations, credit quality information, general market conditions, news, and other factors and assumptions. The fund may receive different prices when it sells odd-lot positions than it would receive for sales of institutional round lot positions. Pricing vendors generally value securities assuming orderly transactions of institutional round lot sizes, but a fund may hold or transact in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes.

The Pricing Committee engages in oversight activities with respect to pricing vendors, which includes, among other things, monitoring significant or unusual price fluctuations above predetermined tolerance levels from the prior day, back-testing of pricing vendor prices against actual trades, conducting periodic due diligence meetings and reviews, and periodically reviewing the inputs, assumptions and methodologies used by these vendors. Nevertheless, market quotations, official closing prices, or information furnished by a pricing vendor could be inaccurate, which could lead to a security being valued incorrectly.

If market quotations, official closing prices, or information furnished by a pricing vendor are not readily available or are otherwise deemed unreliable or not representative of the fair value of such security because of market- or issuer-specific events, a security will be valued at its fair value as determined in good faith by the Trustees. The Trustees are assisted in their responsibility to fair value securities by the fund's Pricing Committee, and the actual calculation of a security's fair value may be made by the Pricing Committee acting pursuant to the procedures established by the Trustees. In certain instances, therefore, the Pricing Committee may determine that a reported valuation does not reflect fair value, based on additional information available or other factors, and may accordingly determine in good faith the fair value of the assets, which may differ from the reported valuation.

Fair value pricing of securities is intended to help ensure that a fund's NAV reflects the fair market value of the fund's portfolio securities as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE (as opposed to a value that no longer reflects market value as of such close), thus limiting the opportunity for aggressive traders or market timers to purchase shares of the fund at deflated prices reflecting stale security valuations and promptly sell such shares at a gain, thereby diluting the interests of long-term shareholders. However, a security's valuation may differ depending on the method used for determining value, and no assurance can be given that fair value pricing of securities will successfully eliminate all potential opportunities for such trading gains.

The use of fair value pricing has the effect of valuing a security based upon the price the fund might reasonably expect to receive if it sold that security in an orderly transaction between market participants, but does not guarantee that the security can be sold at the fair value price. Further, because of the inherent

uncertainty and subjective nature of fair valuation, a fair valuation price may differ significantly from the value that would have been used had a readily available market price for the investment existed and these differences could be material.

Regarding the fund's investment in an underlying fund that is not an ETF, which (as noted above) is valued at such underlying fund's NAV, the prospectus for such underlying fund explains the circumstances and effects of fair value pricing for that underlying fund.

## Buy and sell prices

When you buy shares, you pay the NAV, plus any applicable sales charges, as described earlier. When you sell shares, you receive the NAV, minus any applicable deferred sales charges.

### **Execution of requests**

The fund is open for business when the NYSE is open, typically 9:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Eastern time, Monday through Friday. A purchase or redemption order received in good order by the fund prior to the close of regular trading on the NYSE, on a day the fund is open for business, will be effected at that day's NAV. An order received in good order after the fund close will generally be effected at the NAV determined on the next business day. In case of emergency or other disruption resulting in the NYSE not opening for trading or the NYSE closing at a time other than the regularly scheduled close, the time until which orders are accepted may vary to the extent permitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission and applicable regulations. This may result in the fund closing for business prior to the time at which the fund's NAV is determined. In this case, orders submitted after the fund closing may receive the NAV determined on the next business day.

At times of peak activity, it may be difficult to place requests by telephone, if available for your share class. During these times, consider using EASI-Line, accessing jhinvestments.com, or sending your request in writing.

The fund typically expects to mail or wire redemption proceeds between 1 and 3 business days following the receipt of the shareholder's redemption request. Processing time is not dependent on the chosen delivery method. In unusual circumstances, the fund may temporarily suspend the processing of sell requests or may postpone payment of proceeds for up to three business days or longer, as allowed by federal securities laws.

Under normal market conditions, the fund typically expects to meet redemption requests through holdings of cash or cash equivalents or through sales of portfolio securities, and may access other available liquidity facilities. In unusual or stressed market conditions, such as, for example, during a period of time in which a foreign securities exchange is closed, in addition to the methods used in normal market conditions, the fund may meet redemption requests through the use of its line of credit, interfund lending facility, redemptions in kind, or such other liquidity means or facilities as the fund may have in place from time to time.

#### **Telephone transactions**

For your protection, telephone requests may be recorded in order to verify their accuracy. Also for your protection, telephone redemption transactions are not permitted on accounts in which a name, mailing address, or recorded bank has changed within the past 30 days. Proceeds from telephone transactions can only be sent to the address or bank on record.

#### **Exchanges and conversions**

You may exchange Class A shares of one John Hancock fund for shares of the same class of any other John Hancock fund that is then offering that class, generally without paying any sales charges, if applicable.

You may exchange Class I or Class R6 shares of one John Hancock fund for shares of the same class of any other John Hancock fund or for John Hancock Money Market Fund Class A shares.

The registration for both accounts involved in an exchange must be identical.

**Note:** Once exchanged into John Hancock Money Market Fund Class A shares, shares may only be exchanged back into the original class from which the shares were exchanged. As applicable, shares acquired in an exchange will be subject to the CDSC rate and holding schedule of the fund in which such shares were originally purchased if and when such shares are redeemed. For purposes of determining the holding period for calculating the CDSC, shares will continue to age from their original purchase date.

Provided the fund's eligibility requirements are met, and to the extent the referenced share class is offered by the fund, an investor in the fund pursuant to a fee-based, wrap, or other investment platform program of certain firms, as determined by the fund, may be afforded an opportunity to make a conversion of (i) Class A shares and/or Class C shares (not subject to a CDSC) also owned by the investor in the same fund to Class I shares or Class R6 shares of that fund; or (ii) Class I shares also owned by the investor to Class R6 shares of the same fund. Investors that no longer participate in a fee-based, wrap, or other investment platform program of certain firms may be afforded an opportunity to make a conversion to Class A shares of the same fund. Class C shares may be converted to Class A at the request of the applicable financial intermediary after the expiration of the CDSC period, provided that the financial intermediary through which a shareholder purchased or holds Class C shares has records verifying that the Class C share CDSC period has expired and the position is held in an omnibus or dealer-controlled account. The fund may in its sole discretion permit a conversion of one share class to another share class of the same fund in certain circumstances other than those described above.

In addition, Trustees, employees of the advisor or its affiliates, employees of the subadvisor, members of the fund's portfolio management team and the spouses and children (under age 21) of the aforementioned, may make a conversion of Class A or Class I shares also owned by the investor in the same fund to Class R6 shares. If Class R6 shares are unavailable, such investors may make a conversion of Class A shares in the same fund to Class I shares.

The conversion of one share class to another share class of the same fund in these particular circumstances should not cause the investor to realize taxable gain or loss. For further details, see "Additional information concerning taxes" in the SAI for information regarding taxation upon the redemption or exchange of shares of the fund (see the back cover of this prospectus).

The fund may change or cancel its exchange policies at any time, upon 60 days' written notice to its shareholders. For further details, see "Additional services and programs" in the SAI (see the back cover of this prospectus).

#### **Excessive trading**

The fund is intended for long-term investment purposes only and does not knowingly accept shareholders who engage in market timing or other types of excessive short-term trading. Short-term trading into and out of the fund can

disrupt portfolio investment strategies and may increase fund expenses for all shareholders, including long-term shareholders who do not generate these costs.

## Right to reject or restrict purchase and exchange orders

Purchases and exchanges should be made primarily for investment purposes. The fund reserves the right to restrict, reject, or cancel (with respect to cancellations within one day of the order), for any reason and without any prior notice, any purchase or exchange order, including transactions representing excessive trading and transactions accepted by any shareholder's financial intermediary. For example, the fund may, in its discretion, restrict, reject, or cancel a purchase or exchange order even if the transaction is not subject to a specific limitation on exchange activity, as described below, if the fund or its agent determines that accepting the order could interfere with the efficient management of the fund's portfolio, or otherwise not be in the fund's best interest in light of unusual trading activity related to your account. In the event that the fund rejects or cancels an exchange request, neither the redemption nor the purchase side of the exchange will be processed. If you would like the redemption request to be processed even if the purchase order is rejected, you should submit separate redemption and purchase orders rather than placing an exchange order. The fund reserves the right to delay for up to one business day, consistent with applicable law, the processing of exchange requests in the event that, in the fund's judgment, such delay would be in the fund's best interest, in which case both the redemption and purchase side of the exchange will receive the fund's NAV at the conclusion of the delay period. The fund, through its agents in their sole discretion, may impose these remedial actions at the account holder level or the underlying shareholder level.

### **Exchange limitation policies**

The Board of Trustees has adopted the following policies and procedures by which the fund, subject to the limitations described below, takes steps reasonably designed to curtail excessive trading practices.

#### Limitation on exchange activity

The fund or its agent may reject or cancel a purchase order, suspend or terminate the exchange privilege, or terminate the ability of an investor to invest in John Hancock funds if the fund or its agent determines that a proposed transaction involves market timing or disruptive trading that it believes is likely to be detrimental to the fund. The fund or its agent cannot ensure that it will be able to identify all cases of market timing or disruptive trading, although it attempts to have adequate procedures in place to do so. The fund or its agent may also reject or cancel any purchase order (including an exchange) from an investor or group of investors for any other reason. Decisions to reject or cancel purchase orders (including exchanges) in the fund are inherently subjective and will be made in a manner believed to be in the best interest of the fund's shareholders. The fund does not have any arrangement to permit market timing or disruptive trading.

Exchanges made on the same day in the same account are aggregated for purposes of counting the number and dollar amount of exchanges made by the account holder. The exchange limits referenced above will not be imposed or may be modified under certain circumstances. For example, these exchange limits may be modified for accounts held by certain retirement plans to conform to plan exchange limits, ERISA considerations, or U.S. Department of Labor regulations. Certain automated or preestablished exchange, asset allocation, and dollar-cost-averaging programs are not subject to these exchange limits.

These programs are excluded from the exchange limitation since the fund believes that they are advantageous to shareholders and do not offer an effective means for market timing or excessive trading strategies. These investment tools involve regular and predetermined purchase or redemption requests made well in advance of any knowledge of events affecting the market on the date of the purchase or redemption.

These exchange limits are subject to the fund's ability to monitor exchange activity, as discussed under "Limitation on the ability to detect and curtail excessive trading practices" below. Depending upon the composition of the fund's shareholder accounts, and in light of the limitations on the ability of the fund to detect and curtail excessive trading practices, a significant percentage of the fund's shareholders may not be subject to the exchange limitation policy described above. In applying the exchange limitation policy, the fund considers information available to it at the time and reserves the right to consider trading activity in a single account or multiple accounts under common ownership, control, or influence.

# Limitation on the ability to detect and curtail excessive trading practices

Shareholders seeking to engage in excessive trading practices sometimes deploy a variety of strategies to avoid detection and, despite the efforts of the fund to prevent excessive trading, there is no guarantee that the fund or its agent will be able to identify such shareholders or curtail their trading practices. The ability of the fund and its agent to detect and curtail excessive trading practices may also be limited by operational systems and technological limitations. Because the fund will not always be able to detect frequent trading activity, investors should not assume that the fund will be able to detect or prevent all frequent trading or other practices that disadvantage the fund. For example, the ability of the fund to monitor trades that are placed by omnibus or other nominee accounts is severely limited in those instances in which the financial intermediary, including a financial advisor, broker, retirement plan administrator, or fee-based program sponsor, maintains the records of the fund's underlying beneficial owners. Omnibus or other nominee account arrangements are common forms of holding shares of the fund, particularly among certain financial intermediaries, such as financial advisors, brokers, retirement plan administrators, or fee-based program sponsors. These arrangements often permit the financial intermediary to aggregate its clients' transactions and ownership positions and do not identify the particular underlying shareholder(s) to the fund. However, the fund will work with financial intermediaries as necessary to discourage shareholders from engaging in abusive trading practices and to impose restrictions on excessive trades. In this regard, the fund has entered into information-sharing agreements with financial intermediaries pursuant to which these intermediaries are required to provide to the fund, at the fund's request, certain information relating to their customers investing in the fund through omnibus or other nominee accounts. The fund will use this information to attempt to identify excessive trading practices. Financial intermediaries are contractually required to follow any instructions from the fund to restrict or prohibit future purchases from shareholders that are found to have engaged in excessive trading in violation of the fund's policies. The fund cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information provided to it from financial intermediaries and so cannot ensure that it will be able to detect abusive trading practices that occur through omnibus or other nominee accounts. As a consequence, the fund's ability to monitor and discourage excessive trading practices in these types of accounts may be limited.

### **Excessive trading risk**

To the extent that the fund or its agent is unable to curtail excessive trading practices in the fund, these practices may interfere with the efficient management of the fund's portfolio and may result in the fund engaging in certain activities to a greater extent than it otherwise would, such as maintaining higher cash balances, using its line of credit, and engaging in increased portfolio transactions. Increased portfolio transactions and use of the line of credit would correspondingly increase the fund's operating costs and decrease the fund's investment performance. Maintenance of higher levels of cash balances would likewise result in lower fund investment performance during periods of rising markets.

While excessive trading can potentially occur in the fund, certain types of funds are more likely than others to be targets of excessive trading. For example:

- A fund that invests a significant portion of its assets in small- or mid-capitalization stocks or securities in particular industries that may trade infrequently or are fair valued as discussed under "Valuation of securities" entails a greater risk of excessive trading, as investors may seek to trade fund shares in an effort to benefit from their understanding of the value of those types of securities (referred to as price arbitrage).
- A fund that invests a material portion of its assets in securities of foreign
  issuers may be a potential target for excessive trading if investors seek to
  engage in price arbitrage based upon general trends in the securities markets
  that occur subsequent to the close of the primary market for such securities.
- A fund that invests a significant portion of its assets in below-investment-grade (junk) bonds that may trade infrequently or are fair valued as discussed under "Valuation of securities" incurs a greater risk of excessive trading, as investors may seek to trade fund shares in an effort to benefit from their understanding of the value of those types of securities (referred to as price arbitrage).

Any frequent trading strategies may interfere with efficient management of a fund's portfolio and raise costs. A fund that invests in the types of securities discussed above may be exposed to this risk to a greater degree than a fund that invests in highly liquid securities. These risks would be less significant, for example, in a fund that primarily invests in U.S. government securities, money market instruments, investment-grade corporate issuers, or large-capitalization U.S. equity securities. Any successful price arbitrage may cause dilution in the value of the fund shares held by other shareholders.

### **Account information**

The fund is required by law to obtain information for verifying an account holder's identity. For example, an individual will be required to supply his or her name, residential address, date of birth, and Social Security number. If you do not provide the required information, we may not be able to open your account. If verification is unsuccessful, the fund may close your account, redeem your shares at the next NAV, minus any applicable sales charges, and take any other steps that it deems reasonable.

## **Certificated shares**

The fund does not issue share certificates. Shares are electronically recorded.

### Sales in advance of purchase payments

When you place a request to sell shares for which the purchase money has not yet been collected, the request will be executed in a timely fashion, but the

fund will not release the proceeds to you until your purchase payment clears. This may take up to 10 business days after the purchase.

#### **DIVIDENDS AND ACCOUNT POLICIES**

#### Account statements

For Class A shares, in general, you will receive account statements as follows:

- after every transaction (except a dividend reinvestment, automatic investment, or systematic withdrawal) that affects your account balance
- after any changes of name or address of the registered owner(s)
- in all other circumstances, every quarter

For Class I and Class R6 shares, in general, you will receive account statements as follows:

- after every transaction (except a dividend reinvestment) that affects your account balance
- after any changes of name or address of the registered owner(s)
- in all other circumstances, every quarter

Every year you should also receive, if applicable, a Form 1099 tax information statement, mailed by February 15.

#### Dividends

The fund typically declares and pays income dividends and capital gains, if any, at least annually.

#### **Dividend reinvestments**

Most investors have their dividends reinvested in additional shares of the same class of the same fund. If you choose this option, or if you do not indicate any choice, your dividends will be reinvested. Alternatively, you may choose to have your dividends and capital gains sent directly to your bank account or a check may be mailed if your combined dividend and capital gains amount is \$10 or more. However, if the check is not deliverable or the combined dividend and capital gains amount is less than \$10, your proceeds will be reinvested. If five or more of your dividend or capital gains checks remain uncashed after 180 days, all subsequent dividends and capital gains will be reinvested. No front-end sales charge or CDSC will be imposed on shares derived from reinvestment of dividends or capital gains distributions.

#### Taxability of dividends

For investors who are not exempt from federal income taxes, dividends you receive from the fund, whether reinvested or taken as cash, are generally considered taxable. Dividends from the fund's short-term capital gains are taxable as ordinary income. Dividends from the fund's long-term capital gains are taxable at a lower rate. Whether gains are short term or long term depends on the fund's holding period. Some dividends paid in January may be taxable as if they had been paid the previous December.

The Form 1099 that is mailed to you every February, if applicable, details your dividends and their federal tax category, although you should verify your tax liability with your tax professional.

## **Returns of capital**

If the fund's distributions exceed its taxable income and capital gains realized during a taxable year, all or a portion of the distributions made in the same taxable year may be recharacterized as a return of capital to shareholders. A return of capital distribution will generally not be taxable, but will reduce each

shareholder's cost basis in the fund and result in a higher reported capital gain or lower reported capital loss when those shares on which the distribution was received are sold.

## **Taxability of transactions**

Any time you sell or exchange shares, it is considered a taxable event for you if you are not exempt from federal income taxes. Depending on the purchase price and the sale price of the shares you sell or exchange, you may have a gain or a loss on the transaction. You are responsible for any tax liabilities generated by your transactions.

#### **Small accounts**

If the value of your account of Class A shares is less than \$1,000, you may be asked to purchase more shares within 30 days. If you do not take action, the fund may close out your account and mail you the proceeds. Alternatively, the fund may charge you \$20 a year to maintain your account. You will not be charged a CDSC if your account is closed for this reason.

#### **ADDITIONAL INVESTOR SERVICES**

## **Monthly Automatic Accumulation Program (MAAP)**

MAAP lets you set up regular investments from paychecks or bank accounts to the John Hancock fund(s) to purchase Class A and Class C shares. Investors determine the frequency and amount of investments (\$25 minimum per month), and they can terminate the program at any time. To establish, you must satisfy the minimum initial investment requirements specified in the section "Opening an account" and complete the appropriate parts of the account application.

### Systematic withdrawal plan

This plan may be used for routine bill payments or periodic withdrawals from your account of Class A shares. To establish:

- Make sure you have at least \$5,000 worth of shares in your account.
- Make sure you are not planning to invest more money in this account (buying shares during a period when you are also selling shares of the same fund is not advantageous to you because of sales charges).
- Specify the payee(s). The payee may be yourself or any other party, and there
  is no limit to the number of payees you may have, as long as they are all on
  the same payment schedule.
- Determine the schedule: monthly, quarterly, semiannually, annually, or in certain selected months.
- Fill out the relevant part of the account application. To add a systematic withdrawal plan to an existing account, contact your financial professional or Signature Services.

### **Retirement plans**

John Hancock funds offer a range of retirement plans, including Traditional and Roth IRAs, Coverdell ESAs, SIMPLE plans, and SEPs. Using these plans, you can invest in any John Hancock fund (except tax-free income funds). To find out more, call Signature Services at 800-225-5291.

John Hancock does not accept requests to establish new John Hancock custodial 403(b)(7) accounts, does not accept requests for exchanges or transfers into your existing John Hancock custodial 403(b)(7) accounts, and requires additional disclosure documentation if you direct John Hancock to exchange or transfer some or all of your John Hancock custodial 403(b)(7)

account assets to another 403(b)(7) contract or account. In addition, the fund no longer accepts salary deferrals into 403(b)(7) accounts. Please refer to the SAI for more information regarding these restrictions.

### Disclosure of fund holdings

The following information for the fund is posted on the website, jhinvestments.com, generally on the fifth business day after month end: top 10 holdings; top 10 sector analysis; total return/yield; top 10 countries; average quality/maturity; beta/alpha; and top 10 portfolio composition. All of the holdings of the fund will be posted to the website no earlier than 15 days after each calendar month end, and will remain posted on the website for six months. All of the fund's holdings as of the end of the third month of every fiscal quarter will be disclosed on Form N-PORT within 60 days of the end of the fiscal quarters. All of the fund's holdings as of the end of the second and fourth fiscal quarters will be disclosed on Form N-CSR within 70 days of the end of such fiscal quarters. A description of the fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of its portfolio securities is available in the SAI.

#### **APPENDIX 1 - INTERMEDIARY SALES CHARGE WAIVERS**

### Intermediary sales charge waivers

### Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (Merrill Lynch)

Effective May 1, 2020, shareholders purchasing fund shares through a Merrill Lynch platform or account are eligible only for the following load waivers (front-end sales charge waivers and contingent deferred, or back-end, sales charge waivers) and discounts, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this fund's prospectus or SAI:

# Front-end Sales Load Waivers on Class A shares available at Merrill Lynch

- Employer-sponsored retirement, deferred compensation and employee benefit plans (including health savings accounts) and trusts used to fund those plans, provided that the shares are not held in a commission-based brokerage account and shares are held for the benefit of the plan
- Shares purchased by a 529 Plan (does not include 529 Plan units or 529-specific share classes or equivalents)
- Shares purchased through a Merrill Lynch affiliated investment advisory program
- Shares exchanged due to the holdings moving from a Merrill Lynch affiliated investment advisory program to a Merrill Lynch brokerage (non-advisory) account pursuant to Merrill Lynch's policies relating to sales load discounts and waivers
- Shares purchased by third party investment advisors on behalf of their advisory clients through Merrill Lynch's platform
- Shares of funds purchased through the Merrill Edge Self-Directed platform (if applicable)
- Shares purchased through reinvestment of capital gains distributions and dividend reinvestment when purchasing shares of the same fund (but not any other fund within the fund family)
- Shares exchanged from Class C (i.e. level-load) shares of the same fund pursuant to Merrill Lynch's policies relating to sales load discounts and waivers
- Employees and registered representatives of Merrill Lynch or its affiliates and their family members
- Directors or Trustees of the fund, and employees of the fund's investment adviser or any of its affiliates, as described in the prospectus
- Eligible shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions within the same fund family, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end or deferred sales load (known as Rights of Reinstatement). Automated transactions (i.e. systematic purchases and withdrawals) and purchases made after shares are automatically sold to pay Merrill Lynch's account maintenance fees are not eligible for reinstatement

# CDSC Waivers on Class A and Class C shares available at Merrill Lynch

- Death or disability of the shareholder
- Shares sold as part of a systematic withdrawal plan as described in the fund's prospectus
- Return of excess contributions from an IRA Account

- Shares sold as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code
- Shares sold to pay Merrill Lynch fees but only if the transaction is initiated by Merrill Lynch
- Shares acquired through a Right of Reinstatement
- Shares held in retirement brokerage accounts, that are exchanged for a lower cost share class due to transfer to certain fee based accounts or platforms (applicable to Class A and Class C shares only)
- Shares received through an exchange due to the holdings moving from a
   Merrill Lynch affiliated investment advisory program to a Merrill Lynch
   brokerage (non-advisory) account pursuant to Merrill Lynch's policies relating
   to sales load discounts and waivers

# Front-end Load Discounts Available at Merrill Lynch; Breakpoints, Rights of Accumulation & Letters of Intent

- Breakpoints as described in the fund's prospectus
- Rights of Accumulation (ROA) which entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts as described in the fund's prospectus will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holding of fund family assets held by accounts (including 529 program holdings where applicable) within the purchaser's household at Merrill Lynch. Eligible fund family assets not held at Merrill Lynch may be included in the ROA calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial professional about such assets
- Letters of Intent (LOI) which allow for breakpoint discounts based on anticipated purchases within a fund family, through Merrill Lynch, over a 13-month period of time (if applicable)

#### Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. (Ameriprise Financial)

The following information applies to Class A shares purchases if you have an account with or otherwise purchase fund shares through Ameriprise Financial:

Shareholders purchasing fund shares through an Ameriprise Financial retail brokerage account are eligible for the following front-end sales charge waivers, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this fund's prospectus or SAI:

# Class A Shares Front-End Sales Charge Waivers Available at Ameriprise Financial

- Employer-sponsored retirement plans (e.g., 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans). For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs or SAR-SEPs
- Shares purchased through reinvestment of capital gains distributions and dividend reinvestment when purchasing shares of the same fund (but not any other fund within the same fund family)
- Shares exchanged from Class C shares of the same fund in the month of or following the 7-year anniversary of the purchase date. To the extent that this prospectus elsewhere provides for a waiver with respect to exchanges of Class C shares or conversion of Class C shares following a shorter holding period, that waiver will apply
- Employees and registered representatives of Ameriprise Financial or its affiliates and their immediate family members
- Shares purchased by or through qualified accounts (including IRAs, Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, 401(k)s, 403(b) TSCAs subject to ERISA and

defined benefit plans) that are held by a covered family member, defined as an Ameriprise financial advisor and/or the advisor's spouse, advisor's lineal ascendant (mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, great grandmother, great grandfather), advisor's lineal descendant (son, step-son, daughter, step-daughter, grandson, granddaughter, great grandson, great granddaughter) or any spouse of a covered family member who is a lineal descendant

 Shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions within the same fund family, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end or deferred sales load (i.e. Rights of Reinstatement)

In addition, shareholders purchasing fund shares that are available through an Ameriprise Financial Advisory account are eligible for front-end sales charge waivers, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this fund's prospectus or SAI.

### Morgan Stanley Smith Barney (Morgan Stanley)

Effective July 1, 2018, shareholders purchasing fund shares through a Morgan Stanley Wealth Management transactional brokerage account which is not held directly at the fund are eligible only for the following front-end sales charge waivers with respect to Class A shares, which may differ from and may be more limited than those disclosed elsewhere in this fund's Prospectus or SAI:

# Front-end Sales Charge Waivers on Class A Shares available at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management

- Employer-sponsored retirement plans (e.g., 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans). For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs, SAR-SEPs or Keogh plans
- Morgan Stanley employee and employee-related accounts according to Morgan Stanley's account linking rules
- Shares purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions when purchasing shares of the same fund
- Shares purchased through a Morgan Stanley self-directed brokerage account
- Class C (i.e., level-load) shares that are no longer subject to a contingent deferred sales charge and are converted to Class A shares of the same fund by Morgan Stanley Wealth Management pursuant to its share class conversion program
- Shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions within the same fund family, provided (i) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (ii) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (iii) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end or deferred sales charge

# Raymond James & Associates, Inc., Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. and each entity's affiliates (Raymond James)

Shareholders purchasing fund shares through a Raymond James platform or account, or through an introducing broker-dealer or independent registered investment adviser for which Raymond James provides trade execution, clearance, and/or custody services, are eligible only for the following load waivers (front-end sales charge waivers and contingent deferred, or back-end, sales charge waivers) and discounts, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this fund's prospectus or SAI.

# Front-end sales load waivers on Class A shares available at Raymond James

- Shares purchased in an investment advisory program
- Shares purchased within the same fund family through a systematic reinvestment of capital gains distributions and dividend reinvestment when purchasing shares of the same fund
- Employees and registered representatives of Raymond James or its affiliates and their family members as designated by Raymond James
- Shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions within the same fund family, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end or deferred sales load (known as Rights of Reinstatement)
- A shareholder in the fund's Class C shares will have their shares converted at net asset value to Class A shares (or the appropriate share class) of the fund if the shares are no longer subject to a CDSC and the conversion is in line with the policies and procedures of Raymond James

## CDSC Waivers on Class A and Class C shares available at Raymond James

- Death or disability of the shareholder
- Shares sold as part of a systematic withdrawal plan as described in the fund's prospectus
- Return of excess contributions from an IRA Account
- Shares sold as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts due to the shareholder reaching the qualified age based on applicable IRS regulations as described in the fund's prospectus
- Shares sold to pay Raymond James fees but only if the transaction is initiated by Raymond James
- Shares acquired through a right of reinstatement

# Front-end load discounts available at Raymond James: breakpoints, and/or rights of accumulation, and/or letters of intent

- Breakpoints as described in the fund's prospectus
- Rights of accumulation which entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holding of fund family assets held by accounts within the purchaser's household at Raymond James. Eligible fund family assets not held at Raymond James may be included in the calculation of rights of accumulation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial professional about such assets
- Letters of intent which allow for breakpoint discounts based on anticipated purchases within a fund family, over a 13-month time period. Eligible fund family assets not held at Raymond James may be included in the calculation of letters of intent only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial professional about such assets

### Edward D. Jones & Co., L.P. (Edward Jones)

Effective on or after January 15, 2021, the following information supersedes prior information with respect to transactions and positions held in fund shares through an Edward Jones system. Shareholders purchasing fund shares through an Edward Jones platform or account are eligible only for the following load waivers (front-end sales charge waivers and contingent deferred, or back-end sales charge waivers) and discounts, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this fund's prospectus or Statement of Additional Information

(SAI). In all instances, it is the shareholder's responsibility to inform Edward Jones at the time of purchase of any relationship, holdings of fund family or other facts qualifying the purchaser for discounts or waivers. Edward Jones can ask for documentation of such circumstance. Shareholders should contact Edward Jones if they have questions regarding their eligibility for these discounts and waivers.

## Front-end Sales Charge Waivers on Class A shares available at Edward Jones

Sales charges are waived for the following shareholders and in the following situations:

- Associates of Edward Jones and its affiliates and their family members who
  are in the same pricing group (as determined by Edward Jones under its
  policies and procedures) as the associate. This waiver will continue for the
  remainder of the associate's life if the associate retires from Edward Jones in
  good-standing and remains in good standing pursuant to Edward Jones'
  policies and procedures
- Shares purchased in an Edward Jones fee-based program
- Shares purchased through reinvestment of capital gains distributions and dividend reinvestment
- Shares purchased from the proceeds of redeemed shares of the same fund family so long as the following conditions are met: 1) the proceeds are from the sale of shares within 60 days of the purchase, and 2) the sale and purchase are made in the same share class and the same account or the purchase is made in an individual retirement account with proceeds from liquidations in a non-retirement account
- Shares exchanged into Class A shares from another share class so long as the exchange is into the same fund and was initiated at the discretion of Edward Jones. Edward Jones is responsible for any remaining CDSC due to the fund company, if applicable. Any future purchases are subject to the applicable sales charge as disclosed in the prospectus
- Exchanges from Class C shares to Class A shares of the same fund, generally, in the 84th month following the anniversary of the purchase date or earlier at the discretion of Edward Jones

## CDSC Waivers on Class A and Class C shares available at Edward Jones

If the shareholder purchases shares that are subject to a CDSC and those shares are redeemed before the CDSC is expired, the shareholder is responsible to pay the CDSC except in the following conditions:

- Shares sold upon the death or disability of the shareholder
- Shares sold as part of a systematic withdrawal plan (limited to up to 10% per year of the account value)
- Return of excess contributions from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA)
- Shares sold as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts if the redemption is taken in or after the year the shareholder reaches qualified age based on applicable IRS regulations
- Shares sold to pay Edward Jones fees or costs in such cases where the transaction is initiated by Edward Jones
- Shares exchanged at Edward Jones' discretion in an Edward Jones fee-based program. In such circumstances, Edward Jones is responsible for any remaining CDSC due to the fund company, if applicable
- Shares acquired through a right of reinstatement

 Shares redeemed at the discretion of Edward Jones for Minimum Balances, as described below

# Front-end Load Discounts Available at Edward Jones; Breakpoints, Rights of Accumulation & Letter of Intent

- Breakpoint pricing, otherwise known as volume pricing, at dollar thresholds, as described in this prospectus
- Rights of Accumulation (ROA). The applicable sales charge on a purchase of Class A shares is determined by taking into account all share classes (except certain money market funds and any assets held in group retirement plans) of the fund family held by the shareholder or in an account grouped by Edward Jones with other accounts for the purpose of providing certain pricing considerations (pricing groups). If grouping assets as a shareholder, this includes all share classes held on the Edward Jones platform and/or held on another platform. The inclusion of eligible fund family assets in the ROA calculation is dependent on the shareholder notifying Edward Jones of such assets at the time of calculation. The employer maintaining a SEP IRA plan and/or SIMPLE IRA plan may elect to establish or change ROA for the IRA accounts associated with the plan to a plan-level grouping as opposed to including all share classes at a shareholder or pricing group level. ROA is determined by calculating the higher of cost minus redemptions or market value (current shares x NAV). Money market funds are included only if such shares were sold with a sales charge at the time of purchase or acquired in exchange for shares purchased with a sales charge
- Letter of Intent (LOI). Through a LOI, shareholders can receive the sales charge and breakpoint discounts for purchases shareholders intend to make over a 13-month period from the date Edward Jones receives the LOI. The LOI is determined by calculating the higher of cost or market value of qualifying holdings at LOI initiation in combination with the value that the shareholder intends to buy over a 13-month period to calculate the front-end sales charge and any breakpoint discounts. Each purchase the shareholder makes during that 13-month period will receive the sales charge and breakpoint discount that applies to the total amount. The inclusion of eligible fund family assets in the LOI calculation is dependent on the shareholder notifying Edward Jones of such assets at the time of calculation. Purchases made before the LOI is received by Edward Jones are not adjusted under the LOI and will not reduce the sales charge previously paid. Sales charges will be adjusted if LOI is not met. If the employer maintaining a SEP IRA plan and/or SIMPLE IRA plan has elected to establish or change ROA for the IRA accounts associated with the plan to a plan-level grouping, LOIs will also be at the plan-level and may only be established by the employer

# Other Important Information Regarding Transactions Through Edward Jones

#### **Minimum Purchase Amounts**

Initial purchase minimum: \$250

Subsequent purchase minimum: none

#### **Minimum Balances**

- Edward Jones has the right to redeem at its discretion fund holdings with a balance of \$250 or less. The following are examples of accounts that are not included in this policy:
- $\,\blacksquare\,$  A fee-based account held on an Edward Jones platform
- A 529 account held on an Edward Jones platform
- An account with an active systematic investment plan or LOI

#### **Exchanging Share Classes**

 At any time it deems necessary, Edward Jones has the authority to exchange at NAV a shareholder's holdings in a fund to Class A shares of the same fund

## Janney Montgomery Scott LLC (Janney)

Effective May 1, 2020, if you purchase fund shares through a Janney brokerage account, you will be eligible for the following load waivers (front-end sales charge waivers and contingent deferred sales charge (CDSC), or back-end sales charge, waivers) and discounts, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this fund's prospectus or SAI.

# Front-end sales charge\* waivers on Class A shares available at Janney

- Shares purchased through reinvestment of capital gains distributions and dividend reinvestment when purchasing shares of the same fund (but not any other fund within the fund family)
- Shares purchased by employees and registered representatives of Janney or its affiliates and their family members as designated by Janney
- Shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions within the same fund family, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within ninety (90) days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end or deferred sales load (i.e., right of reinstatement)
- Employer-sponsored retirement plans (e.g., 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans). For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs, SAR-SEPs or Keogh plans
- Shares acquired through a right of reinstatement
- Class C shares that are no longer subject to a contingent deferred sales charge and are converted to Class A shares of the same fund pursuant to Janney's policies and procedures

#### CDSC waivers on Class A and Class C shares available at Janney

- Shares sold upon the death or disability of the shareholder
- Shares sold as part of a systematic withdrawal plan as described in the fund's prospectus
- Shares purchased in connection with a return of excess contributions from an IRA account
- Shares sold as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and other retirement accounts due to the shareholder reaching age 70½ as described in the fund's prospectus
- Shares sold to pay Janney fees but only if the transaction is initiated by Janney
- Shares acquired through a right of reinstatement
- Shares exchanged into the same share class of a different fund

# Front-end sales charge\* discounts available at Janney: breakpoints, rights of accumulation, and/or letters of intent

- Breakpoints as described in the fund's prospectus
- Rights of accumulation (ROA), which entitle shareholders to breakpoint
  discounts, will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holding
  of fund family assets held by accounts within the purchaser's household at

- Janney. Eligible fund family assets not held at Janney may be included in the ROA calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial professional about such assets
- Letters of intent which allow for breakpoint discounts based on anticipated purchases within a fund family, over a 13-month time period. Eligible fund family assets not held at Janney may be included in the calculation of letters of intent only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial professional about such assets
- \*Also referred to as an "initial sales charge."

### Robert W. Baird & Co. (Baird)

Effective June 15, 2020, shareholders purchasing fund shares through a Baird platform or account will only be eligible for the following sales charge waivers (front-end sales charge waivers and contingent deferred sales charge (CDSC) waivers) and discounts, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI.

## Front-End Sales Charge Waivers on Class A shares Available at Baird

- Shares purchased through reinvestment of capital gains distributions and dividend reinvestment when purchasing shares of the same fund
- Shares purchased by employees and registered representatives of Baird or its affiliates and their family members as designated by Baird
- Shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions within the same fund family, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end or deferred sales charge (known as rights of reinstatement)
- Class C shares will be converted at net asset value to Class A shares of the same fund if the shares are no longer subject to CDSC and the conversion is in line with the policies and procedures of Baird
- Employer-sponsored retirement plans or charitable accounts in a transactional brokerage account at Baird, including 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans. For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs or SAR-SEPs

### CDSC Waivers on Class A and Class C shares Available at Baird

- Shares sold due to death or disability of the shareholder
- Shares sold as part of a systematic withdrawal plan as described in the fund's prospectus
- Shares bought due to returns of excess contributions from an IRA Account
- Shares sold as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts due to the shareholder reaching the qualified age based on applicable IRS regulations as described in the fund's prospectus
- Shares sold to pay Baird fees but only if the transaction is initiated by Baird
- Shares acquired through a right of reinstatement

# Front-End Sales Charge Discounts Available at Baird: Breakpoints and/or Rights of Accumulations

- Breakpoints as described in this prospectus
- Rights of accumulations which entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holdings of fund family assets held by accounts within the purchaser's household at Baird.

Eligible fund family assets not held at Baird may be included in the rights of accumulations calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial advisor about such assets

 Letters of Intent (LOI) allow for breakpoint discounts based on anticipated purchases within the fund family through Baird, over a 13-month period of time

## Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated (Stifel)

Effective July 1, 2020, shareholders purchasing fund shares through a Stifel platform or account or who own shares for which Stifel or an affiliate is the broker-dealer of record are eligible for the following additional sales charge waiver.

### Front-end Sales Load Waiver on Class A Shares

 Class C shares that have been held for more than seven (7) years converted to Class A shares of the same fund pursuant to Stifel's policies and procedures.

All other sales charge waivers and reductions described elsewhere in the fund's prospectus or SAI still apply.

#### **APPENDIX 2 - RELATED PERFORMANCE INFORMATION**

### Historical performance of Manulife Investment Management (US) U.S. Small Cap Core Composite<sup>1</sup>

John Hancock Small Cap Core Fund (the fund) commenced operations on December 20, 2013. The fund is subadvised by Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC (Manulife IM (US)). Manulife IM (US) manages a portfolio with an investment style, objective, policies, and strategies substantially similar to those that are used to manage the fund. This portfolio is included in a composite, the performance of which is presented in this Appendix (the Composite). The fund's performance is also included in the Composite. The portfolio and the fund are managed by entities that are subsidiaries of a single parent company and include all such portfolios managed by Manulife IM (US) and its affiliates. The Composite includes separately managed accounts and private funds. The same portfolio management team has been responsible for the day-to-day management of the portfolios for all periods shown in the Appendix. Performance presented in the Composite has been generated on a performance asset-weighted basis and includes the reinvestment of dividends.

This Appendix presents historical performance information for the Composite as a whole. Because of the similarities between the fund and the Composite, this information may help provide an indication of the fund's risks by showing how a similar Composite has performed historically. The performance of the Composite, however, is not the performance of the fund, and you should not assume that the fund will have the same performance as the Composite. The performance of the fund may be greater or less than the performance of the Composite due to, among other things, the number of the holdings in and composition of the fund's portfolio, as well as the asset size and cash flow differences between the fund and Composite. The inception date of the Composite is March 31, 2004. The portfolio in the Composite is not subject to the investment limitations, diversification requirements, and other restrictions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and the Internal Revenue Code, which, if they had applied, might have adversely affected the portfolio's performance results.

This Appendix includes an index for the purpose of comparing performance of the Composite. The Russell 2000 Index, the Composite's benchmark (the Benchmark), reflects the investment strategies and performance target of the accounts underlying the Composite.

Performance information—bar chart and table—is presented on the following page for the Composite as of December 31, 2020. The bar chart shows how the Composite's total return has varied over time, and the table shows the Composite's performance over the last year, three (3) years, five (5) years, and ten (10) years as of December 31, 2020 (as compared with a broad-based market index for reference).

The past performance of the Composite is no guarantee of future results in managing the fund. The information in this Appendix does not represent the performance of the fund or any predecessor to it and is no indication of how it would have performed in the past or will perform in the future.

The past performance of the Composite has been calculated net of actual fees and expenses. The Composite's returns would be lower if it reflected the fees and expenses of the fund. Class A shares of the fund have front-end or deferred sales charges. The Composite does not have such charges or expenses. The other expenses of each share class of the fund, including any Rule 12b-1 fees, are higher than those of the Composite. The performance of the Composite would be lower if adjusted to reflect the sales charges of Class A shares of the fund, or the overall expenses of a class of shares.

An index is unmanaged and it is not possible to invest directly in an index. As such, year-by-year index figures do not account for any sales charges, fees, or fund expenses. As indicated above, past performance does not indicate future results.

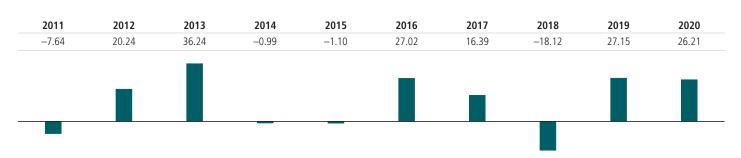
The composite performance information presented herein has been calculated and provided by the fund's subadvisor. Although the performance is believed to be reliable, John Hancock Investment Management LLC does not guarantee or make any warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of such information. To the extent permitted by federal securities laws and/or other applicable law, John Hancock Investment Management LLC shall not have any liability arising out of reliance by any person on the performance information. The foregoing disclosure should not be read to suggest any waiver of any rights conferred by federal or state securities laws.

<sup>1</sup>The Composite is composed of all portfolios (including the fund) with an investment style, objectives, policies, and strategies substantially similar to those that are used to manage the fund by Manulife IM (US).

## MANULIFE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT (US) U.S. SMALL CAP CORE COMPOSITE

Net assets of Composite as of December 31, 2020: \$1,020.87 million

## Calendar year total returns—Composite (%)



**Best quarter:** Q2 2020, 26.04% **Worst quarter:** Q1 2020, -26.25%

Composite annualized total returns (%)	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
For period ended December 31, 2020				
Composite	26.21	9.53	14.20	11.15
Russell 2000 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes)	19.96	10.25	13.26	11.20

Russell 2000 Index measures the performance of the 2,000 smallest companies in the Russell 3000 Index.

## For more information

Two documents are available that offer further information on the fund:

### Annual/semiannual reports to shareholders

Additional information about the fund's investments is available in the fund's annual and semiannual reports to shareholders. In the fund's annual report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the fund's performance during its last fiscal year.

As of January 1, 2021, paper copies of the fund's shareholder reports are no longer sent by mail. Instead, the reports are made available on jhinvestments.com, and you will be notified and provided with a link each time a report is posted to the website. You may request to receive paper reports from the fund or from your financial intermediary, free of charge, at any time. You may also request to receive documents through eDelivery.

#### Statement of Additional Information (SAI)

The SAI contains more detailed information on all aspects of the fund and includes a summary of the fund's policy regarding disclosure of its portfolio holdings, as well as legal and regulatory matters. A current SAI has been filed with the SEC and is incorporated by reference into (and is legally a part of) this prospectus.

## To obtain a free copy of these documents or request other information

There are several ways you can get a current annual/semiannual report, prospectus, or SAI from John Hancock, request other information, or make inquiries:

Online: jhinvestments.com

By mail:

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. P.O. Box 219909

Kansas City, MO 64121-9909

By EASI-Line: 800-338-8080 for Class A shares; 800-597-1897 for Class I and

Class R6 shares

By phone: 800-225-5291 for Class A shares; 888-972-8696 for Class I and

Class R6 shares

By TTY: 800-231-5469

You can also view or obtain copies of these documents through the SEC:

Online: sec.gov

By email (duplicating fee required): publicinfo@sec.gov

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