

Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**
- **BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund (Class I, Class II, Class III)**
- **BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**
- **BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**
- **BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**
- **BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**
- **BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**
- **BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund (Class I, Class II, Class III)**
- **BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund (Class I)**
- **BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**
- **BlackRock International V.I. Fund (Class I)**
- **BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**
- **BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**
- **BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund (Class I, Class II, Class III)**
- **BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek to provide total return.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.15% | 0.15% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses | 0.24% | 0.25% |
| Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses ² | 0.12% | 0.12% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses ² | 0.51% | 0.77% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,3} | (0.20)% | (0.21)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,3} | 0.31% | 0.56% |

¹ The Management Fee payable by the Fund is based on assets estimated to be attributable to the Fund’s direct investments in fixed-income and equity securities and instruments, including exchange-traded funds advised by BlackRock Fund Advisors (“BFA”) or other investment advisers, other investments and cash and cash equivalents (including money market funds). BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the Management Fee on assets estimated to be attributed to the Fund’s investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² The Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses do not correlate to the ratios of expenses to average net assets given in the Fund’s most recent annual report, which do not include Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses.

³ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.19% (for Class I Shares) and 0.44% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreement may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$32 | \$143 | \$265 | \$621 |
| Class III Shares | \$57 | \$225 | \$407 | \$935 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual

fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 62% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund, which is a fund of funds, seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing in a portfolio of underlying exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") that seek to track equity and fixed-income indices. Under normal circumstances, the Fund seeks to invest at least 80% of its net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes in iShares ETFs.

In general, the Fund invests in two different kinds of underlying ETFs: those that invest primarily in equity securities or certain other instruments described below (referred to as "equity ETFs") and those that invest primarily in fixed-income securities (referred to as "fixed-income ETFs").

The Fund generally expects to invest approximately 60% of its portfolio in equity ETFs and approximately 40% of its portfolio in fixed-income ETFs. Variations in the target asset allocation between equity ETFs and fixed-income ETFs are permitted up to 5%. Therefore, based on a target equity/fixed-income allocation of 60%/40%, the Fund may have an equity/fixed-income allocation that ranges from 65%/35% to 55%/45%. Although variations beyond the 5% range are generally not permitted, BlackRock may determine in light of market conditions or other factors that a greater variation is warranted to protect the Fund or achieve its investment goal.

The Fund's underlying ETFs may invest in securities and other financial instruments of companies of any market capitalization. The underlying ETFs may invest in securities and other financial instruments available in both U.S. and non-U.S. markets, including emerging markets, which can be U.S. dollar-denominated or non-U.S. dollar-denominated and may be currency hedged or unhedged.

Equity ETFs may include ETFs that invest in, among other things, common stock, preferred stock, rights and warrants to purchase common stock, depositary receipts, securities convertible into common and preferred stock and nonconvertible preferred stock, real estate-related securities or instruments and commodity-related securities or instruments. From time to time, the underlying ETFs may invest in shares of companies through initial public offerings ("IPOs").

Fixed-income ETFs may include ETFs that invest in, among other things, government obligations, corporate bonds and notes, including bonds and notes convertible into equity securities, mortgage-backed securities, asset-backed securities, floating or variable rate obligations (including senior secured floating rate loans or debt, and second lien or other subordinated or unsecured floating rate loans or debt), loan assignments and participations, inflation-indexed bonds, municipal obligations, zero coupon debt securities, bank loans, structured products (including, but not limited to, structured notes, credit linked notes and participation notes, or other instruments evidencing interests in special purpose vehicles, trusts, or other entities that hold or represent interests in fixed-income securities), below investment grade securities (commonly known as "junk bonds"), exchange traded notes ("ETNs"), cash or money market instruments. The average portfolio duration of the fixed-income portion of the Fund will vary based on the underlying ETFs' and BlackRock's forecast of interest rates and there are no limits regarding portfolio duration or average maturity. The underlying ETFs may invest in other pooled investment vehicles, including real estate investment trusts ("REITs") and partnership interests, including master limited partnerships ("MLPs").

The Fund's equity allocation may be further diversified by style (including both value and growth ETFs), market capitalization (including both large cap and small cap ETFs), globally (including domestic and international (including emerging market) ETFs), or other factors. The Fund's fixed-income allocation may be further diversified by sector (including government, corporate, agency, mortgage-backed securities, and other sectors), duration (a calculation of the average life of a bond which measures its price risk), credit quality (including non-investment grade debt or "junk bonds"), geographic location, or other factors. The percentage allocation to the various types of equity and fixed-income ETFs are determined at the discretion of the portfolio managers and can be changed to reflect the current market environment.

The underlying ETFs may invest in derivatives, including, but not limited to, interest rate swaps, total return swaps, credit default swaps, variance swaps, options, futures, options on futures and swaps and foreign currency transactions (including swaps), for hedging purposes, as well as to increase the return on their portfolio investments (although the underlying ETFs are not necessarily required to hedge any of their positions or to use derivatives).

The underlying ETFs may invest in indexed and inverse floating rate securities.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of principal risks of investing in the Fund. Through its investments in underlying ETFs, the Fund

will be subject to the risks associated with the underlying ETFs' investments. Please see the "Details About the Funds" section of the Fund's prospectus for a description of these risks. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

■ **Investments in ETFs Risk** — The Fund's net asset value will change with changes in the value of the ETFs and other securities in which it invests. As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market risk and, for non-index strategies, selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ETFs, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies. To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.

One ETF may buy the same securities that another ETF sells. If this happens, an investor in the Fund would indirectly bear the costs of these transactions without accomplishing the intended investment purpose. Certain of the ETFs may hold common portfolio securities, thereby reducing the diversification benefits of the Fund.

■ **Allocation Risk** — The Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective depends upon BlackRock's skill in determining the Fund's strategic asset class allocation and in selecting the best mix of underlying funds and other ETFs. There is a risk that BlackRock's evaluations and assumptions regarding asset classes or underlying funds and/or ETFs may be incorrect in view of actual market conditions.

■ **Conflicts of Interest Risk** — In managing the Fund, BlackRock will have authority to select and substitute ETFs. BlackRock may be subject to potential conflicts of interest in selecting ETFs because the fees paid to BFA, an affiliate of BlackRock and each underlying ETF's investment adviser, by some ETFs are higher than the fees paid by other ETFs. If an ETF holds interests in an affiliated fund, the Fund may be prohibited from purchasing shares of that ETF.

■ **Debt Securities Risk** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve risks, such as credit risk, interest rate risk, credit risk, extension risk, and prepayment risk, each of which are described in detail below:

Credit Risk — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make payments of interest and principal when due. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund's investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation.

Interest Rate Risk — The market value of bonds and other fixed-income securities changes in response to interest rate changes and other factors. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise.

The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. For example, if interest rates increase by 1%, assuming a current portfolio duration of ten years, and all other factors being equal, the value of the Fund's investments would be expected to decrease by 10%. (Duration is a measure of the price sensitivity of a debt security or portfolio of debt securities to relative changes in interest rates.) The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of bonds and other fixed-income securities is generally greater for those securities with longer maturities. Fluctuations in the market price of the Fund's investments will not affect interest income derived from instruments already owned by the Fund, but will be reflected in the Fund's net asset value. The Fund may lose money if short-term or long-term interest rates rise sharply in a manner not anticipated by Fund management.

To the extent the Fund invests in debt securities that may be prepaid at the option of the obligor (such as mortgage-backed securities), the sensitivity of such securities to changes in interest rates may increase (to the detriment of the Fund) when interest rates rise. Moreover, because rates on certain floating rate debt securities typically reset only periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates (and particularly sudden and significant changes) can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the net asset value of the Fund to the extent that it invests in floating rate debt securities.

These basic principles of bond prices also apply to U.S. Government securities. A security backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. Government is guaranteed only as to its stated interest rate and face value at maturity, not its current market price. Just like other fixed-income securities, government-guaranteed securities will fluctuate in value when interest rates change.

A general rise in interest rates has the potential to cause investors to move out of fixed-income securities on a large scale, which may increase redemptions from funds that hold large amounts of fixed-income securities. Heavy redemptions could cause the Fund to sell assets at inopportune times or at a loss or depressed value and could hurt the Fund's performance.

Extension Risk — When interest rates rise, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more slowly than anticipated, causing the value of these obligations to fall.

Prepayment Risk — When interest rates fall, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more quickly than originally anticipated, and the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields.

■ **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company’s financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

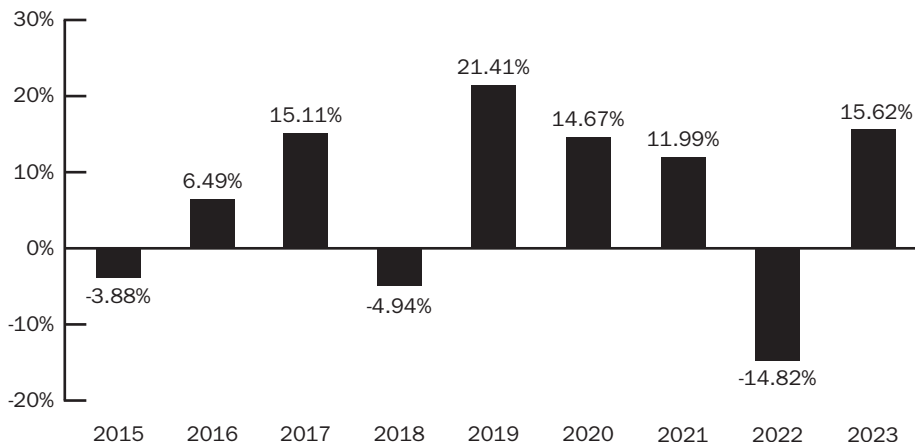
■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.

Performance Information

Effective May 1, 2019, the Fund changed its name and investment strategies. Performance for the periods prior to May 1, 2019 shown below is based on the investment strategies utilized by the Fund at that time under the name “BlackRock iShares® Dynamic Allocation V.I. Fund.”

The information shows you how the Fund’s performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The table compares the Fund’s performance to that of the 60% MSCI All Country World Index/40% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, the MSCI All Country World Index and the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, which are relevant to the Fund because they have characteristics similar to the Fund’s investment strategies. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. If the Fund’s investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund’s returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares
ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS
BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund
As of 12/31



During the periods shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 12.79% (quarter ended June 30, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was –12.00% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

| For the periods ended 12/31/23 Average Annual Total Returns | 1 Year | 5 Years | Since Inception (April 30, 2014) |
|---|---------------|----------------|---|
| BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 15.62% | 8.95% | 5.90% |
| BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 15.32% | 8.69% | 5.64% |
| 60% MSCI All Country World Index/40% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 15.37% | 7.67% | 5.62% |
| MSCI All Country World Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 22.20% | 11.72% | 7.98% |
| Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 5.53% | 1.10% | 1.59% |

Investment Manager

The Fund’s investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as “BlackRock”).

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Paul Whitehead | 2023 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Michael Gates, CFA | 2016 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Greg Savage, CFA | 2018 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the “Insurance Companies”), and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the “Accounts”) to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies and other Variable Insurance Trusts. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company’s website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek to provide total return.

This investment objective is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without 30 days’ prior notice to shareholders.

Investment Process

The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective in a risk-efficient manner. The Fund management team aims to deliver high risk-adjusted returns across market cycles. The Fund management team will seek to accomplish this by using an optimization-based portfolio construction process that engineers the Fund’s exposures to capture the management team’s intended exposures while seeking to minimize unintended exposures and risks. Key decision-making variables into the investment process are (i) risk, (ii) correlation, (iii) yield and (iv) expected return. The inputs are historical data adjusted to reflect expected investment conditions and provide more stable forecasts.

The Fund utilizes a dynamic approach to investment management whereby target asset allocations will be updated or confirmed no less frequently than annually. Portfolio rebalancing is market dependent and will be considered at least on a quarterly basis or more frequently if market conditions warrant.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund, which is a fund of funds, seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing in a portfolio of underlying exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) that seek to track equity and fixed-income indices. Under normal circumstances, the Fund seeks to invest at least 80% of its net assets plus any borrowings for investment purposes in iShares ETFs. The 80% policy is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without 60 days’ prior notice to shareholders.

In general, the Fund invests in two different kinds of underlying ETFs: those that invest primarily in equity securities or certain other instruments described below (referred to as “equity ETFs”) and those that invest primarily in fixed-income securities (referred to as “fixed-income ETFs”).

The Fund generally expects to invest approximately 60% of its portfolio in equity ETFs and approximately 40% of its portfolio in fixed-income ETFs. Variations in the target asset allocation between equity ETFs and fixed-income ETFs are permitted up to 5%. Therefore, based on a target equity/fixed-income allocation of 60%/40%, the Fund may have an equity/fixed-income allocation that ranges from 65%/35% to 55%/45%. Although variations beyond the 5% range are generally not permitted, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) may determine in light of market conditions or other factors that a greater variation is warranted to protect the Fund or achieve its investment goal.

The Fund’s underlying ETFs may invest in securities and other financial instruments of companies of any market capitalization. The underlying ETFs may invest in securities and other financial instruments available in both U.S. and non-U.S. markets, including emerging markets, which can be U.S. dollar-denominated or non-U.S. dollar-denominated and may be currency hedged or unhedged.

Equity ETFs may include ETFs that invest in, among other things, common stock, preferred stock, rights and warrants to purchase common stock, depositary receipts, securities convertible into common and preferred stock and nonconvertible preferred stock, real estate-related securities or instruments and commodity-related securities or instruments. From time to time, the underlying ETFs may invest in shares of companies through initial public offerings (“IPOs”).

Fixed-income ETFs may include ETFs that invest in, among other things, government obligations, corporate bonds and notes, including bonds and notes convertible into equity securities, mortgage-backed securities, asset-backed securities, floating or variable rate obligations (including senior secured floating rate loans or debt, and second lien or other subordinated or unsecured floating rate loans or debt), loan assignments and participations, inflation-indexed bonds, municipal obligations, zero coupon debt securities, bank loans, structured products (including, but not limited to, structured notes, credit linked notes and participation notes, or other instruments evidencing interests in special purpose vehicles, trusts, or other entities that hold or represent interests in fixed-income securities), below investment grade securities (commonly known as “junk bonds”), exchange traded notes (“ETNs”), cash or money market

instruments. The average portfolio duration of the fixed-income portion of the Fund will vary based on the underlying ETFs' and BlackRock's forecast of interest rates and there are no limits regarding portfolio duration or average maturity. The underlying ETFs may invest in other pooled investment vehicles, including real estate investment trusts ("REITs") and partnership interests, including master limited partnerships ("MLPs").

The Fund's equity allocation may be further diversified by style (including both value and growth ETFs), market capitalization (including both large cap and small cap ETFs), globally (including domestic and international (including emerging market) ETFs), or other factors. The Fund's fixed-income allocation may be further diversified by sector (including government, corporate, agency, mortgage-backed securities, and other sectors), duration (a calculation of the average life of a bond which measures its price risk), credit quality (including non-investment grade debt or "junk bonds"), geographic location, or other factors. The percentage allocation to the various types of equity and fixed-income ETFs are determined at the discretion of the portfolio managers and can be changed to reflect the current market environment.

The underlying ETFs may invest in derivatives, including, but not limited to, interest rate swaps, total return swaps, credit default swaps, variance swaps, options, futures, options on futures and swaps and foreign currency transactions (including swaps), for hedging purposes, as well as to increase the return on their portfolio investments (although the underlying ETFs are not necessarily required to hedge any of their positions or to use derivatives).

The underlying ETFs may invest in indexed and inverse floating rate securities.

Although the Fund invests in ETFs, the Fund itself is not an ETF.

The Fund is classified as diversified under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act").

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may use certain other investment strategies. The Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF 60/40 TARGET ALLOCATION ETF V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Paul Whitehead, Michael Gates, CFA, and Greg Savage, CFA are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see "Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information" for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The "Investment Objectives and Policies" section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund's performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency.

The Fund is subject to risks due to its structure as a fund of funds, as well as the same risks as the ETFs in which it invests. The principal risks set forth below are the principal risks of investing in the Fund and the ETFs. In the following discussion, references to the "Fund" or the "ETF" shall mean any one or more of the relevant ETFs and/or the Fund, where applicable. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

- **Allocation Risk** — The Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective depends upon BlackRock's skill in determining the Fund's strategic asset class allocation and in selecting the best mix of ETFs. There is a risk that BlackRock's evaluations and assumptions regarding asset classes or ETFs may be incorrect in view of actual market conditions. In addition, there is no guarantee that the ETFs will achieve their investment objectives, and the ETFs' performance may be lower than the performance of the asset class which they were selected to represent. The ETFs may change their investment objectives or policies without the approval of the Fund. If an ETF were to change its investment objective or policies, the Fund might be forced to withdraw its investment from the ETF at a disadvantageous time and price.

■ **Conflicts of Interest Risk** — In managing the Fund, BlackRock will have authority to select and substitute ETFs. BlackRock may be subject to potential conflicts of interest in selecting ETFs because the fees paid to BlackRock Fund Advisors (“BFA”), an affiliate of BlackRock and each underlying ETF’s investment adviser, by some ETFs are higher than the fees paid by other ETFs. If an ETF holds interests in an affiliated fund, the Fund may be prohibited from purchasing shares of that ETF.

■ **Debt Securities Risk** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve risks, such as credit risk, interest rate risk, extension risk, and prepayment risk, each of which are described in further detail below:

Credit Risk — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make payments of interest and principal when due. Changes in an issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of an issuer’s creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund’s investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation.

Interest Rate Risk — The market value of bonds and other fixed-income securities changes in response to interest rate changes and other factors. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise.

The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. For example, if interest rates increase by 1%, assuming a current portfolio duration of ten years, and all other factors being equal, the value of the Fund’s investments would be expected to decrease by 10%. (Duration is a measure of the price sensitivity of a debt security or portfolio of debt securities to relative changes in interest rates.) The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of bonds and other fixed-income securities is generally greater for those securities with longer maturities. Fluctuations in the market price of the Fund’s investments will not affect interest income derived from instruments already owned by the Fund, but will be reflected in the Fund’s net asset value. The Fund may lose money if short-term or long-term interest rates rise sharply in a manner not anticipated by Fund management.

To the extent the Fund invests in debt securities that may be prepaid at the option of the obligor (such as mortgage-backed securities), the sensitivity of such securities to changes in interest rates may increase (to the detriment of the Fund) when interest rates rise. Moreover, because rates on certain floating rate debt securities typically reset only periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates (and particularly sudden and significant changes) can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the net asset value of the Fund to the extent that it invests in floating rate debt securities.

These basic principles of bond prices also apply to U.S. Government securities. A security backed by the “full faith and credit” of the U.S. Government is guaranteed only as to its stated interest rate and face value at maturity, not its current market price. Just like other fixed-income securities, government-guaranteed securities will fluctuate in value when interest rates change.

The Federal Reserve has recently begun to raise the federal funds rate as part of its efforts to address rising inflation. There is a risk that interest rates will continue to rise, which will likely drive down the prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities. A general rise in interest rates has the potential to cause investors to move out of fixed-income securities on a large scale, which may increase redemptions from mutual funds that hold large amounts of fixed-income securities. Heavy redemptions could cause the Fund to sell assets at inopportune times or at a loss or depressed value and could hurt the Fund’s performance.

During periods of very low or negative interest rates, the Fund may be unable to maintain positive returns. Certain countries have recently experienced negative interest rates on certain fixed-income instruments. Very low or negative interest rates may magnify interest rate risk. Changing interest rates, including rates that fall below zero, may have unpredictable effects on markets, may result in heightened market volatility and may detract from Fund performance to the extent the Fund is exposed to such interest rates.

Extension Risk — When interest rates rise, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more slowly than anticipated, causing the value of these obligations to fall. Rising interest rates tend to extend the duration of securities, making them more sensitive to changes in interest rates. The value of longer-term securities generally changes more in response to changes in interest rates than shorter-term securities. As a result, in a period of rising interest rates, securities may exhibit additional volatility and may lose value.

Prepayment Risk — When interest rates fall, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more quickly than originally anticipated, and the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields. In periods of falling interest rates, the rate of prepayments tends to increase (as does price fluctuation) as borrowers are motivated to pay off debt and refinance at new lower rates. During such periods, reinvestment of the prepayment proceeds by the management team will generally be at lower rates of return than the return on the assets that were prepaid. Prepayment reduces the yield to maturity and the average life of the security.

■ **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 portfolio investing

in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.

- **Investments in ETFs Risk** — The Fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in ETFs, so the Fund’s investment performance is, in part, related to the performance of the ETFs. The Fund’s net asset value will change with changes in the value of the ETFs and other securities in which it invests. As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market risk and, for non-index strategies, selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ETFs, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies. To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.

As the ETFs or the Fund’s allocations among the ETFs change from time to time, or to the extent that the expense ratio of the ETFs changes, the weighted average operating expenses borne by the Fund may increase or decrease.

Investing in an ETF will give the Fund exposure to the securities comprising the index on which the ETF is based. Shares of ETFs are traded on an exchange throughout a trading day, and bought and sold based on market values and not at the ETF’s net asset value. For this reason, shares of an ETF could trade at either a premium or discount to its net asset value. However, the trading prices of index-based ETFs tend to closely track the actual net asset value of the ETF. The Fund will pay brokerage commissions in connection with the purchase and sale of shares of ETFs, in addition to a spread (*i.e.*, the difference between what professional investors are willing to pay for ETF shares (the “bid” price) and the price at which they are willing to sell ETF shares (the “ask” price)).

One ETF may buy the same securities that another ETF sells. In addition, the Fund may buy the same securities that an ETF sells, or vice-versa. If this happens, an investor in the Fund would indirectly bear the costs of these transactions without accomplishing the intended investment purpose. Certain of the ETFs may hold common portfolio securities, thereby reducing the diversification benefits of the Fund.

- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Underlying ETFs

- **Asset Class Risk** — The securities and other assets in an underlying index or in the Fund’s portfolio may underperform in comparison to other securities or indexes that track other countries, groups of countries, regions, industries, groups of industries, markets, asset classes or sectors. Various types of securities, currencies and indexes or assets may experience cycles of outperformance and underperformance in comparison to the general financial markets depending upon a number of factors including, among other things, inflation, interest rates, productivity, global demand for local products or resources, and regulation and governmental controls. This may cause the Fund to underperform other investment vehicles that invest in different asset classes.
- **Authorized Participant Concentration Risk** — Only an authorized participant may engage in creation or redemption transactions directly with an ETF, and none of those authorized participants is obligated to engage in creation and/or redemption transactions. The ETFs have a limited number of institutions that may act as authorized participants on an agency basis (i.e., on behalf of other market participants). To the extent that authorized participants exit the business or are unable to proceed with creation or redemption orders with respect to an ETF and no other authorized participant is able to step forward to create or redeem creation units, the ETF’s shares may be more likely to trade at a premium or discount to net asset value and possibly face trading halts or delisting. Authorized participant concentration risk may be heightened because ETFs that invest in securities issued by non-U.S. issuers or other securities or instruments that are less widely traded often involve greater settlement and operational issues and capital costs for authorized participants, which may limit the availability of authorized participants.
- **Calculation Methodology Risk** — An ETF’s underlying index relies on various sources of information to assess the criteria of issuers included in its underlying index (or its parent index), including information that may be based on assumptions and estimates. Neither an ETF nor BlackRock can offer assurances that an underlying index’s calculation methodology or sources of information will provide an accurate assessment of included issuers.
- **Commodities Investment Risk** — Investing in commodity-linked derivative instruments and equity securities of commodity-related companies may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The commodities markets have experienced periods of extreme volatility. Similar future market conditions may result in rapid and substantial valuation increases or decreases in the Fund’s holdings.

The commodities markets may fluctuate widely based on a variety of factors. Movements in commodity investment prices are outside of the Fund’s control and may not be anticipated by Fund management. Price movements may be influenced by, among other things: governmental, agricultural, trade, fiscal, monetary and exchange control programs and policies; changing market and economic conditions; market liquidity; weather and climate conditions, including droughts and floods; livestock disease; changing supply and demand relationships and levels of domestic production and imported commodities; changes in storage costs; the availability of local, intrastate and interstate transportation systems; energy conservation; the success of exploration projects; changes in international balances of payments and trade; domestic and foreign rates of inflation; currency devaluations and revaluations; domestic and foreign political and economic events; domestic and foreign interest rates and/or investor expectations concerning interest rates; foreign currency/exchange rates; domestic and foreign governmental regulation and taxation; war, acts of terrorism and other political upheaval and conflicts; governmental expropriation; investment and trading activities of mutual funds, hedge funds and commodities funds; changes in philosophies and emotions of market participants. The frequency and magnitude of such changes cannot be predicted.

The prices of commodities can also fluctuate widely due to supply and demand disruptions in major producing or consuming regions. Certain commodities or natural resources may be produced in a limited number of countries and may be controlled by a small number of producers or groups of producers. As a result, political, economic and supply related events in such countries could have a disproportionate impact on the prices of such commodities.

A decrease in the production of a physical commodity or a decrease in the volume of such commodity available for transportation, mining, processing, storage or distribution may adversely impact the financial performance of a commodity or commodity-related company that devotes a portion of its business to that commodity. Production declines and volume decreases could be caused by various factors, including catastrophic events affecting production, depletion of resources, labor difficulties, environmental proceedings, increased regulations, equipment failures and unexpected maintenance problems, import supply disruption, governmental expropriation, political upheaval or conflicts or increased competition from alternative energy sources or commodity prices. Agricultural commodities may be adversely affected by weather or other natural phenomena, such as drought, floods and pests.

A sustained decline in demand for such commodities could also adversely affect the financial performance of commodity-related companies. Factors that could lead to a decline in demand include economic recession or other adverse economic conditions, higher taxes on commodities or increased governmental regulations, increases in fuel economy, consumer shifts to the use of alternative commodities or fuel sources, changes in commodity prices, or weather.

The commodity markets are subject to temporary distortions and other disruptions due to, among other factors, lack of liquidity, the participation of speculators, and government regulation and other actions. U.S. futures exchanges and some foreign exchanges limit the amount of fluctuation in futures contract prices which may occur in a single business day (generally referred to as “daily price fluctuation limits”). The maximum or minimum price of a contract as a result of these limits is referred to as a “limit price.” If the limit price has been reached in a particular contract, no trades may be made beyond the limit price. Limit prices have the effect of precluding trading in a particular contract or forcing the liquidation of contracts at disadvantageous times or prices.

Commodity-related companies may underperform the stock market as a whole. The value of securities issued by commodity-related companies may be affected by factors affecting a particular industry or commodity. The operations and financial performance of commodity-related companies may be directly affected by commodity prices, especially those commodity-related companies that own the underlying commodity. The stock prices of such companies may also experience greater price volatility than other types of common stocks. Securities issued by commodity-related companies are sensitive to changes in the supply and demand for, and thus the prices of, commodities. Volatility of commodity prices, which may lead to a reduction in production or supply, may also negatively impact the performance of commodity-related companies that are solely involved in the transportation, processing, storing, distribution or marketing of commodities. Volatility of commodity prices may also make it more difficult for commodity-related companies to raise capital to the extent the market perceives that their performance may be directly or indirectly tied to commodity prices.

No active trading market may exist for certain commodities investments, which may impair the ability of the Fund to sell or to realize the full value of such investments in the event of the need to liquidate such investments. In addition, adverse market conditions may impair the liquidity of actively traded commodities or natural resources investments.

- **Concentration Risk** — To the extent that the Fund’s or an ETF’s portfolio reflects concentration in the securities of issuers in a particular region, market, industry, group of industries, country, group of countries, sector or asset class, the Fund or an ETF may be adversely affected by the performance of those securities, may be subject to increased price volatility and may be more susceptible to adverse economic, market, political or regulatory occurrences affecting that region, market, industry, group of industries, country, group of countries, sector or asset class.
- **Currency Risk** — Because an ETF’s net asset value is determined on the basis of the U.S. dollar, investors may lose money if the currency of a non-U.S. market in which an ETF invests depreciates against the U.S. dollar or if there are delays or limits on repatriation of such currency, even if such currency value of the ETF’s holdings in that market increases. Currency exchange rates can be very volatile and can change quickly and unpredictably. As a result, an ETF’s net asset value may change quickly and without warning.
- **Custody Risk** — Custody risk refers to the risks inherent in the process of clearing and settling trades, as well as the holding of securities by local banks, agents and depositories. Low trading volumes and volatile prices in less developed markets may make trades harder to complete and settle, and governments or trade groups may compel local agents to hold securities in designated depositories that may not be subject to independent evaluation. Local agents are held only to the standards of care of their local markets. In general, the less developed a country’s securities markets are, the greater the likelihood of custody problems.
- **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives can magnify the Fund’s gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund’s derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives may reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund's distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS").

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps – Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Credit Default Swaps – Credit default swaps may have as reference obligations one or more securities that are not currently held by the Fund, the underlying funds and/or ETFs. The protection "buyer" may be obligated to pay the protection "seller" an up-front payment or a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract, provided generally that no credit event on a reference obligation has occurred. Credit default swaps involve

special risks in addition to those mentioned above because they are difficult to value, are highly susceptible to illiquid investments risk and credit risk, and generally pay a return to the party that has paid the premium only in the event of an actual default by the issuer of the underlying obligation (as opposed to a credit downgrade or other indication of financial difficulty).

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts – Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures – Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Options – An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a "call option") or sell (a "put option") the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the "exercise price") during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or below the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

■ **Dividend-Paying Stock Risk** — Investing in dividend-paying stocks involves the risk that such stocks may fall out of favor with investors and underperform the broader market. Companies that issue dividend-paying stocks are not required to pay or continue paying dividends on such stocks. It is possible that issuers of the stocks held by the Fund will not declare dividends in the future or will reduce or eliminate the payment of dividends (including reducing or eliminating anticipated accelerations or increases in the payment of dividends) in the future.

■ **Emerging Markets Risk** — The risks of foreign investments are usually much greater for emerging markets. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets may include those in countries considered emerging or developing by the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation or the United Nations. Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. They are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets. Since these markets are often small, they may be more likely to suffer sharp and frequent price changes or long-term price depression because of adverse publicity, investor perceptions or the actions of a few large investors. In addition, traditional measures of investment value used in the United States, such as price to earnings ratios, may not apply to certain small markets. Also, there may be less publicly available information about issuers in emerging markets than would be available about issuers in more developed capital markets, and such issuers may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject.

Many emerging markets have histories of political instability and abrupt changes in policies. As a result, their governments are more likely to take actions that are hostile or detrimental to private enterprise or foreign investment than those of more developed countries, including expropriation of assets, confiscatory taxation, high rates of inflation or unfavorable diplomatic developments. In the past, governments of such nations have expropriated substantial amounts of private property, and most claims of the property owners have never been fully settled. There is no assurance that such expropriations will not reoccur. In such an event, it is possible that the Fund could lose the entire value of its investments in the affected market. Some countries have pervasive corruption and crime that may hinder investments. Certain emerging markets may also face other significant internal or external risks, including the risk of war, and ethnic, religious and racial conflicts. In addition, governments in many emerging market countries participate to a significant degree in their economies and securities markets, which may impair investment and economic growth. National policies that may limit the Fund's investment opportunities include restrictions on investment in issuers or industries deemed sensitive to national interests.

Emerging markets may also have differing legal systems and the existence or possible imposition of exchange controls, custodial restrictions or other foreign or U.S. governmental laws or restrictions applicable to such investments. Sometimes, they may lack or be in the relatively early development of legal structures governing private and foreign investments and private property. Many emerging markets do not have income tax treaties with the United States, and as a result, investments by the Fund may be subject to higher withholding taxes in such countries. In addition, some countries with emerging markets may impose differential capital gains taxes on foreign investors. Foreign companies with securities listed on U.S. exchanges may be delisted if they do not meet U.S. accounting standards and auditor oversight requirements, which may significantly decrease the liquidity and value of the securities.

Practices in relation to settlement of securities transactions in emerging markets involve higher risks than those in developed markets, in part because the Fund will need to use brokers and counterparties that are less well capitalized, and custody and registration of assets in some countries may be unreliable. The possibility of fraud, negligence, undue influence being exerted by the issuer or refusal to recognize ownership exists in some emerging markets, and, along with other factors, could result in ownership registration being completely lost. The Fund would absorb any loss resulting from such registration problems and may have no successful claim for compensation. In addition, communications between the United States and emerging market countries may be unreliable, increasing the risk of delayed settlements or losses of security certificates.

- **Foreign Securities Risk** — Securities traded in foreign markets have often (though not always) performed differently from securities traded in the United States. However, such investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. In particular, the Fund is subject to the risk that because there may be fewer investors on foreign exchanges and a smaller number of securities traded each day, it may be more difficult for the Fund to buy and sell securities on those exchanges. In addition, prices of foreign securities may go up and down more than prices of securities traded in the United States.

Certain Risks of Holding Fund Assets Outside the United States — The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories. Some foreign banks and securities depositories may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business. In addition, there may be limited or no regulatory oversight of their operations. Also, the laws of certain countries limit the Fund's ability to recover its assets if a foreign bank, depository or issuer of a security, or any of their agents, goes bankrupt. In addition, it is often more expensive for the Fund to buy, sell and hold securities in certain foreign markets than in the United States. The increased expense of investing in foreign markets reduces the amount the Fund can earn on its investments and typically results in a higher operating expense ratio for the Fund than for investment companies invested only in the United States.

Currency Risk — Securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests may be denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. For this reason, changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more U.S. dollars. This risk, generally known as "currency risk," means that a strong U.S. dollar will reduce returns for U.S. investors while a weak U.S. dollar will increase those returns.

Should the Fund invest in a debt security denominated in U.S. dollars and issued by an issuer whose functional currency is a currency other than the U.S. dollar, and such currency decreases in value against the U.S. dollar, such issuer's ability to repay its obligation under the U.S. dollar-denominated security may be negatively impacted.

Foreign Economy Risk — The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position. Certain foreign economies may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Investments in foreign markets may also be adversely affected by governmental actions such as the imposition of capital controls, nationalization of companies or industries, expropriation of assets or the imposition of punitive taxes. In addition, economic conditions, such as volatile currency exchange rates and interest rates, political events, military action and other conditions may, without prior warning, lead to the governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, prohibiting or imposing substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries. Capital controls and/or sanctions may include the prohibition of, or restrictions on, the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets and may also include retaliatory actions of one government against another government, such as seizure of assets. Any of these actions could severely impair the Fund's ability to purchase, sell, transfer, receive, deliver or otherwise obtain exposure to foreign securities and assets, including the ability to transfer the Fund's assets or income back into the United States, and could negatively impact the value and/or liquidity of such assets or otherwise adversely affect the Fund's operations, causing the Fund to decline in value.

Other potential foreign market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on foreign government securities, difficulties in enforcing legal judgments in foreign courts and political and social instability. Diplomatic and political developments, including rapid and adverse political changes, social instability, regional conflicts, terrorism and war, could affect the economies, industries and securities and currency markets, and the value of the Fund's investments, in non-U.S. countries. These factors are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to predict and take into account with respect to the Fund's investments.

Governmental Supervision and Regulation/Accounting Standards — Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as such regulations exist in the United States. They also may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws. For example, some foreign countries may have no laws or rules against insider trading. Insider trading occurs when a person buys or sells a company's securities based on material non-public information about that company. In addition, some countries may have legal systems that may make it difficult for the Fund to vote proxies, exercise shareholder rights, and pursue legal remedies with respect to its foreign investments. Accounting standards in other countries are not necessarily the same as in the United States. If the accounting standards in another country do not require as much detail as U.S. accounting standards, it may be harder for Fund management to completely and accurately determine a company's financial condition.

Settlement Risk — Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets differ significantly from those in the United States. Foreign settlement and clearance procedures and trade regulations also may involve certain risks (such as delays in payment for or delivery of securities) not typically associated with the settlement of U.S. investments.

At times, settlements in certain foreign countries have not kept pace with the number of securities transactions. These problems may make it difficult for the Fund to carry out transactions. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a purchase of securities, it may miss attractive investment opportunities and certain of its assets may be uninvested with no return earned thereon for some period. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a sale of securities, it may lose money if the value of the security then declines or, if it has contracted to sell the security to another party, the Fund could be liable for any losses incurred.

Withholding Tax Reclaims Risk — The Fund may file claims to recover foreign withholding taxes on dividend and interest income (if any) received from issuers in certain countries and capital gains on the disposition of stocks or securities where such withholding tax reclaim is possible. Whether or when the Fund will receive a withholding tax refund is within the control of the tax authorities in such countries. Where the Fund expects to recover withholding taxes, the net asset value of the Fund generally includes accruals for such tax refunds. The Fund regularly evaluates the probability of recovery. If the likelihood of recovery materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders in the Fund at the time an accrual is written down will bear the impact of the resulting reduction in net asset value regardless of whether they were shareholders during the accrual period. Conversely, if the Fund receives a tax refund that has not been previously accrued, shareholders in the Fund at the time of the successful recovery will benefit from the resulting increase in the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders who sold their shares prior to such time will not benefit from such increase in the Fund's net asset value.

European Economic Risk — The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.

Responses to the financial problems by European governments, central banks and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Further defaults or restructurings by governments and others of their debt could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets and asset valuations around the world.

The United Kingdom has withdrawn from the European Union, and one or more other countries may withdraw from the European Union and/or abandon the Euro, the common currency of the European Union. These events and actions have adversely affected, and may in the future adversely affect, the value and exchange rate of the Euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including countries that do not use the Euro and non-European Union member states. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, is not clear but could be significant and far reaching. In addition, Russia launched a large-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The extent and duration of the military action, resulting sanctions and resulting future market disruptions in the region are impossible to predict, but could be significant and have a severe adverse effect on the region, including significant negative impacts on the economy and the markets for certain securities and commodities, such as oil and natural gas, as well as other sectors.

■ **Frontier Markets Risk** — Frontier markets are those emerging markets that are considered to be among the smallest, least mature and least liquid, and as a result, may be more likely to experience inflation risk, political

turmoil and rapid changes in economic conditions than more developed and traditional emerging markets. Investments in frontier markets may be subject to a greater risk of loss than investments in more developed and traditional emerging markets. Frontier markets often have less uniformity in accounting and reporting requirements, unreliable securities valuation and greater risk associated with custody of securities. Economic, political, illiquidity and currency risks may be more pronounced with respect to investments in frontier markets than in emerging markets.

- **Geographic Risk** — Some of the companies in which the Fund invests are located in parts of the world that have historically been prone to natural disasters, such as earthquakes, tornadoes, volcanic eruptions, droughts, floods, hurricanes or tsunamis, and are economically sensitive to environmental events. Any such event may adversely impact the economies of these geographic areas or business operations of companies in these geographic areas, causing an adverse impact on the value of the Fund.
- **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.
- **High Yield Bonds Risk** — Although junk bonds generally pay higher rates of interest than investment grade bonds, junk bonds are high risk investments that are considered speculative and may cause income and principal losses for the Fund. The major risks of junk bond investments include:
 - Junk bonds may be issued by less creditworthy issuers. Issuers of junk bonds may have a larger amount of outstanding debt relative to their assets than issuers of investment grade bonds. In the event of an issuer's bankruptcy, claims of other creditors may have priority over the claims of junk bond holders, leaving few or no assets available to repay junk bond holders.
 - Prices of junk bonds are subject to extreme price fluctuations. Adverse changes in an issuer's industry and general economic conditions may have a greater impact on the prices of junk bonds than on other higher rated fixed-income securities.
 - Issuers of junk bonds may be unable to meet their interest or principal payment obligations because of an economic downturn, specific issuer developments, or the unavailability of additional financing.
 - Junk bonds frequently have redemption features that permit an issuer to repurchase the security from the Fund before it matures. If the issuer redeems junk bonds, the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in bonds with lower yields and may lose income.
 - Junk bonds may be less liquid than higher rated fixed-income securities, even under normal economic conditions. There are fewer dealers in the junk bond market, and there may be significant differences in the prices quoted for junk bonds by the dealers. Because they are less liquid than higher rated fixed-income securities, judgment may play a greater role in valuing junk bonds than is the case with securities trading in a more liquid market.
 - The Fund may incur expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting issuer.

The credit rating of a high yield security does not necessarily address its market value risk. Ratings and market value may change from time to time, positively or negatively, to reflect new developments regarding the issuer.

- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the reduced number and capacity of traditional market participants to make a market in fixed-income securities or the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash

needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. This may be magnified in a rising interest rate environment or other circumstances where investor redemptions from fixed-income mutual funds may be higher than normal. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.

- **Income Risk** — The Fund's yield will vary as the short-term securities in its portfolio mature and the proceeds are reinvested in securities with different interest rates.
- **Index-Related Risk** — The Fund seeks to achieve a return that corresponds generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the Fund underlying index as published by the index provider. There is no assurance that the index provider or any agents that may act on its behalf will compile the Fund's underlying index accurately, or that the Fund's underlying index will be determined, composed or calculated accurately. While the index provider provides descriptions of what the Fund's underlying index is designed to achieve, neither the index provider nor its agents provide any warranty or accept any liability in relation to the quality, accuracy or completeness of the Underlying Index or its related data, and they do not guarantee that the Fund's underlying index will be in line with the index provider's methodology. BlackRock's mandate as described in this prospectus is to manage the Fund consistently with the underlying index provided by the index provider to the investment adviser. The investment adviser does not provide any warranty or guarantee against the index provider's or any agent's errors. Errors in respect of the quality, accuracy and completeness of the data used to compile the Fund's underlying index may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the index provider for a period of time or at all, particularly where the indices are less commonly used as benchmarks by funds or managers. Such errors may negatively or positively impact the Fund and its shareholders. For example, during a period where the Fund's underlying index contains incorrect constituents, the Fund would have market exposure to such constituents and would be underexposed to the Fund's underlying index's other constituents. Shareholders should understand that any gains from index provider errors will be kept by the Fund and its shareholders and any losses or costs resulting from index provider errors will be borne by the Fund and its shareholders.

Unusual market conditions or other unforeseen circumstances (such as natural disasters, political unrest or war) may impact the index provider or a third-party data provider, and could cause the index provider to postpone a scheduled rebalance. This could cause an underlying index to vary from its normal or expected composition. The postponement of a scheduled rebalance could mean that constituents that would otherwise be removed at rebalance due to changes in market capitalizations, issuer credit ratings, or other reasons may remain, causing the performance and constituents of an underlying index to vary from those expected under normal conditions. Apart from scheduled rebalances, the index provider or its agents may carry out additional ad hoc rebalances to an underlying index due to reaching certain weighting constraints, unusual market conditions or in order, for example, to correct an error in the selection of index constituents. When an underlying index is rebalanced and an underlying fund in turn rebalances its portfolio to attempt to increase the correlation between the underlying fund's portfolio and its underlying index, any transaction costs and market exposure arising from such portfolio rebalancing will be borne directly by an underlying fund and its shareholders. Therefore, errors and additional ad hoc rebalances carried out by the index provider or its agents to an underlying index may increase the costs to and the tracking error risk of the underlying fund.

An index fund has operating and other expenses while an index does not. As a result, while the Fund will attempt to track the Fund underlying index as closely as possible, it will tend to underperform the Fund underlying index to some degree over time. If an index fund is properly correlated to its stated index, the fund will perform poorly when the index performs poorly.

- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, growth investments have performed better during the later stages of economic expansion and value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, these investment styles may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other funds that use different investment styles.
- **Issuer Risk** — The performance of the Fund depends on the performance of individual securities to which the Fund has exposure. Any issuer of these securities may perform poorly, causing the value of its securities to decline. Poor performance may be caused by poor management decisions, competitive pressures, changes in technology, expiration of patent protection, disruptions in supply, labor problems or shortages, corporate restructurings, fraudulent disclosures, credit deterioration of the issuer or other factors. Issuers may, in times of distress or at their own discretion, decide to reduce or eliminate dividends, which may also cause their stock prices to decline.
- **Management Risk** — If a passively managed ETF does not fully replicate the underlying index, it is subject to the risk that the manager's investment management strategy may not produce the intended results.
- **Money Market Securities Risk** — If market conditions improve while the Fund has invested some or all of its assets in high quality money market securities, this strategy could result in reducing the potential gain from the market upswing, thus reducing the Fund's opportunity to achieve its investment objective.
- **National Closed Market Trading Risk** — To the extent that the underlying securities held by the ETF trade on foreign exchanges or in foreign markets that may be closed when the securities exchange on which the ETF's shares trade is

open, there are likely to be deviations between the current price of an underlying security and the last quoted price for the underlying security (*i.e.*, the ETF's quote from the closed foreign market). These deviations could result in premiums or discounts to the ETF's net asset value that may be greater than those experienced by other ETFs.

- **Non-U.S. Agency Debt Risk** — The Fund invests in uncollateralized bonds issued by agencies, subdivisions or instrumentalities of foreign governments. Bonds issued by these foreign government agencies, subdivisions or instrumentalities are generally backed only by the creditworthiness and reputation of the entities issuing the bonds and may not be backed by the full faith and credit of the foreign government. Moreover, a foreign government that explicitly provides its full faith and credit to a particular entity may be, due to changed circumstances, unable or unwilling to actually provide that support. If a non-U.S. agency is unable to meet its obligations, the performance of the Fund will be adversely impacted. A non-U.S. agency's operations and financial condition are influenced by the foreign government's economic and other policies. Changes to the financial condition or credit rating of a foreign government may cause the value of debt issued by that particular foreign government's agencies, subdivisions or instrumentalities to decline. During periods of economic uncertainty, the trading of non-U.S. agency bonds may be less liquid while market prices may be more volatile than prices of U.S. agency bonds. Additional risks associated with non-U.S. agency investing include differences in accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, adverse changes in investment or exchange control regulations, political instability, which could affect U.S. investments in foreign countries, and potential restrictions of the flow of international capital.
- **Passive Investment Risk** — The portfolios of certain ETFs are not actively managed and may be affected by a general decline in market segments relating to their respective indices. Such ETFs typically invest in securities included in, or representative of, their respective indices regardless of their investment merits and do not attempt to take defensive positions in declining markets.
- **Privatization Risk** — Some countries in which the Fund invests have privatized, or have begun the process of privatizing, certain entities and industries. Newly privatized companies may face strong competition from government-sponsored competitors that have not been privatized. In some instances, investors in newly privatized entities have suffered losses due to the inability of the newly privatized entities to adjust quickly to a competitive environment or changing regulatory and legal standards or, in some cases, due to re-nationalization of such privatized entities. There is no assurance that similar losses will not recur.
- **Quality Stocks Risk** — The Fund invests in stocks that are deemed by the index provider to be of high quality based on a number of factors, including, among others, historical and expected high returns on equity, stable earnings growth and low debt-to-asset ratio, but there is no guarantee that the past performance of these stocks will continue. The index provider may be unsuccessful in creating an index that reflects the quality of individual stocks. Companies that issue these stocks may not be able to sustain consistently high returns on equity, earnings and growth year after year and may need to borrow money or issue debt despite their prior history. Earnings, growth and other measures of a stock's quality can be adversely affected by market, regulatory, political, environmental and other factors. The price of a stock also may be affected by factors other than those factors considered by the index provider. The degree to which these factors affect a stock's performance can be difficult to predict.
- **Reliance on Trading Partners Risk** — The economies of some countries or regions in which the Fund invests are dependent on trading with certain key trading partners. Reduction in spending on the products and services of these countries or regions, institution of tariffs or other trade barriers by any of their key trading partners or a slowdown in the economies of any of their key trading partners may cause an adverse impact on the economies of such countries or regions.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities, the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available, and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- **Shares of an ETF May Trade at Prices Other Than Net Asset Value** — Shares of an ETF trade on exchanges at prices at, above or below their most recent net asset value. The per share net asset value of an ETF is calculated at the end of each business day and fluctuates with changes in the market value of the ETF's holdings since the most recent calculation. The trading prices of an ETF's shares fluctuate continuously throughout trading hours based on market supply and demand rather than net asset value. The trading prices of an ETF's shares may deviate significantly from net asset value during periods of market volatility. Any of these factors may lead to an ETF's shares trading at a premium or discount to net asset value. However, because shares can be created and redeemed in creation units, which are aggregated blocks of shares that authorized participants who have entered into agreements with the ETF's distributor can purchase or redeem directly from the ETF, at net asset value (unlike shares of many closed-end funds, which frequently trade at appreciable discounts from, and sometimes at

premiums to, their net asset values), large discounts or premiums to the net asset value of an ETF are not likely to be sustained over the long-term. While the creation/redemption feature is designed to make it likely that an ETF's shares normally trade on exchanges at prices close to the ETF's next calculated net asset value, exchange prices are not expected to correlate exactly with an ETF's net asset value due to timing reasons as well as market supply and demand factors. In addition, disruptions to creations and redemptions or the existence of extreme market volatility may result in trading prices that differ significantly from net asset value. If a shareholder purchases at a time when the market price is at a premium to the net asset value or sells at a time when the market price is at a discount to the net asset value, the shareholder may sustain losses. The use of cash creations and redemptions may also cause the ETFs' shares to trade in the market at greater bid-ask spreads or greater premiums or discounts to the ETFs' NAV.

- **Small and Mid-Capitalization Company Risk** — Companies with small or mid-size market capitalizations will normally have more limited product lines, markets and financial resources and will be dependent upon a more limited management group than larger capitalized companies. In addition, it is more difficult to get information on smaller companies, which tend to be less well known, have shorter operating histories, do not have significant ownership by large investors and are followed by relatively few securities analysts.
- **Sovereign and Quasi-Sovereign Obligations Risk** — An investment in sovereign or quasi-sovereign debt obligations involves special risks not present in corporate debt obligations. Sovereign debt includes securities issued by or guaranteed by a foreign sovereign government, and quasi-sovereign debt includes securities issued by or guaranteed by an entity affiliated with or backed by a sovereign government. The issuer of the sovereign debt that controls the repayment of the debt may be unable or unwilling to repay principal or interest when due, and the Fund may have limited recourse in the event of a default. Similar to other issuers, changes to the financial condition or credit rating of a government may cause the value of a sovereign debt obligation to decline. During periods of economic uncertainty, the market prices of sovereign debt may be more volatile than prices of U.S. debt obligations and may affect the Fund's NAV. Quasi-sovereign debt obligations are typically less liquid and less standardized than sovereign debt obligations. In the past, certain emerging market countries have encountered difficulties in servicing their debt obligations, withheld payments of principal and interest and declared moratoria on the payment of principal and interest on their sovereign debts. Several countries in which the Fund invests have defaulted on their sovereign debt obligations in the past or encountered downgrades of their sovereign debt obligations, and those countries (or other countries) may default or risk further downgrades in the future.
- **Thematic Investing Risk** — The Fund relies on the index provider for the identification of securities for inclusion in the underlying index that reflect themes and sub-themes, and its performance may suffer if such securities are not correctly identified or if a theme or sub-theme develops in an unexpected manner. Performance may also suffer if the stocks included in the underlying index do not benefit from the development of such themes or sub-themes. Performance may also be impacted by the inclusion of non-theme-relevant exposures in the underlying index. There is no guarantee that the underlying index will reflect the theme and sub-theme exposures intended.
- **Tracking Error Risk** — Imperfect correlation between a passively managed ETF's portfolio securities and those in its index, rounding of prices, the timing of cash flows, the ETF's size, changes to the index and regulatory requirements may cause tracking error, which is the divergence of an ETF's performance from that of its underlying index. This risk may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or other unusual market conditions. Tracking error also may result because an ETF incurs fees and expenses while its underlying index does not.
- **Treasury Obligations Risk** — Direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury have historically involved little risk of loss of principal if held to maturity. However, due to fluctuations in interest rates, the market value of such securities may vary during the period shareholders own shares of the Fund. In addition, notwithstanding that U.S. Treasury obligations are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, circumstances could arise that could prevent the timely payment of interest or principal, such as reaching the legislative "debt ceiling." Such non-payment could result in losses to the Fund and substantial negative consequences for the U.S. economy and the global financial system.
- **U.S. Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities Risk** — Securities backed by pools of mortgages issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government or one of its agencies or sponsored entities, including Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae"), Government National Mortgage Association ("Ginnie Mae") or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("Freddie Mac"). While securities guaranteed by Ginnie Mae are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, securities issued by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, and there can be no assurance that the U.S. government would provide financial support to its agencies or sponsored entities where it is not obligated to do so. Any actual or potential disruption to these agencies or sponsored entities, or the financial condition or credit of the U.S. government, could cause the value of mortgage-backed securities ("MBS") held by the Fund to decline.

MBS represent interests in "pools" of mortgages and, due to the nature of these loans they represent, are subject to prepayment and extension risk. Prepayment risk is the risk that, during periods of falling interest rates, an issuer

of mortgages and other fixed-income securities may be able to repay principal prior to the security's maturity. This may cause the Fund to have to reinvest in securities with a lower yield or higher risk of default, resulting in a decline in the Fund's income or return potential.

MBS are also subject to extension risk, which is the risk that when interest rates rise, certain MBS will be paid off substantially more slowly than originally anticipated and the value of those securities may fall sharply, resulting in a decline in income and potentially in the value of the investment.

Because of prepayment and extension risks, MBS react differently to changes in interest rates than other bonds. Small movements in interest rates (both increases and decreases) may quickly and significantly reduce the value of certain MBS. These securities are also subject to the risk of default on the underlying mortgage loans, particularly during periods of economic downturn.

The Fund may seek to obtain exposure to the fixed-rate portion of U.S. agency mortgage-pass through securities primarily through to-be-announced ("TBA") securities, or TBA transactions. TBAs refer to a commonly used mechanism for the forward settlement of U.S. agency MBS, and not to a separate type of MBS. Default or bankruptcy of a counterparty to a TBA transaction would expose the Fund to possible losses because of adverse market action, expenses or delays in connection with the purchase or sale of the pools of mortgage pass-through securities specified in the TBA transaction.

The Fund may invest cash pending settlement of TBA transactions in money market instruments, repurchase agreements, or other high quality, liquid short-term instruments, including money market funds advised by BFA. The Fund will pay its *pro rata* share of fees and expenses of any money market fund that it may invest in.

Investment in a Particular Geographic Region or Country Risk

■ **Asia-Pacific Countries** — In addition to the risks of investing in non-U.S. securities and the risks of investing in emerging markets, Asia-Pacific countries are subject to certain additional or specific risks. In many of the developing market Asia-Pacific countries, there is a high concentration of market capitalization and trading volume in a small number of issuers representing a limited number of industries, as well as a high concentration of investors and financial intermediaries. Many developing market Asia-Pacific countries have experienced rapid growth and industrialization in recent years, but there is no assurance that this growth rate will be maintained. Other developing market Asia-Pacific countries, however, have experienced high inflation, high unemployment, currency devaluations and restrictions, and over-extension of credit. Brokers in developing market Asia-Pacific countries typically are fewer in number and less well capitalized than brokers in the United States.

Many of the developing market Asia-Pacific countries may be subject to a greater degree of economic, political and social instability than is the case in the United States and Western European countries. Such instability may result from, among other things: (i) authoritarian governments or military involvement in political and economic decision-making, including changes in government through extra-constitutional means; (ii) popular unrest associated with demands for improved political, economic and social conditions; (iii) internal insurgencies; (iv) hostile relations with neighboring countries; and (v) ethnic, religious and racial disaffection. In addition, the governments of many of such countries, such as Indonesia, have a substantial role in regulating and supervising the economy.

Another risk common to most such countries is that the economy is heavily export oriented and, accordingly, is dependent upon international trade. The existence of overburdened infrastructure and obsolete financial systems also presents risks in certain countries, as do environmental problems. Certain economies also depend to a significant degree upon exports of primary commodities and, therefore, are vulnerable to changes in commodity prices that, in turn, may be affected by a variety of factors.

The rights of investors in developing market Asia-Pacific companies may be more limited than those of shareholders of U.S. corporations. It may be difficult or impossible to obtain and/or enforce a judgment in a developing market Asia-Pacific country.

Some developing Asia-Pacific countries prohibit or impose substantial restrictions on investments in their capital markets, particularly their equity markets, by foreign entities. For example, certain countries may require governmental approval prior to investments by foreign persons or limit the amount of investment by foreign persons in a particular company. Geopolitical hostility, political instability, and economic or environmental events in any one of the Asia-Pacific countries may have a significant economic effect on the entire Asia-Pacific region, as well as on major trading partners outside the Asia-Pacific region. Any adverse event in the Asia-Pacific markets may have a significant adverse effect on some or all of the economies of the Asia-Pacific countries. In particular, China is a key trading partner of many Asia-Pacific countries and any changes in trading relationships between China and other Asia-Pacific countries may affect the region as a whole. Many Asia-Pacific countries are subject to political risk, including political instability, corruption and regional conflict with neighboring countries. North Korea and South Korea each have substantial military capabilities, and historical tensions between the two countries present the risk of war. Escalated tensions involving the two countries and any outbreak of hostilities between the two countries, or even the threat of an outbreak of hostilities, could have a severe adverse effect on the entire Asia-Pacific region.

Certain Asia-Pacific countries have developed increasingly strained relationships with the U.S., and if these relations were to worsen, they could adversely affect Asia-Pacific issuers that rely on the U.S. for trade. In addition, many Asia-Pacific countries are subject to social and labor risks associated with demands for improved political, economic and social conditions.

■ **China** — Investment in Chinese securities subjects the Fund to risks specific to China. China may be subject to considerable degrees of economic, political and social instability. China is an emerging market and demonstrates significantly higher volatility from time to time in comparison to developed markets. Over the last few decades, the Chinese government has undertaken reform of economic and market practices and has expanded the sphere of private ownership of property in China. The market for A-shares, which are equity securities of companies domiciled in China that trade on the Shanghai Stock Exchange and the Shenzhen Stock Exchange, has a higher propensity for trading suspensions than many other global equity markets. Trading suspensions in certain stocks could lead to greater market execution risk and costs for the Fund. The Chinese markets generally continue to experience inefficiency, volatility and pricing anomalies resulting from governmental influence, a lack of publicly available information and/or political and social instability. Internal social unrest or confrontations with other neighboring countries, including military conflicts in response to such events, may also disrupt economic development in China and result in a greater risk of currency fluctuations, currency non-convertibility, interest rate fluctuations and higher rates of inflation. China has experienced security concerns, such as terrorism and strained international relations. Incidents involving China's or the region's security may cause uncertainty in the Chinese markets and may adversely affect the Chinese economy and the Fund's investments. Export growth continues to be a major driver of China's rapid economic growth. Reduction in spending on Chinese products and services, institution of tariffs or other trade barriers or a downturn in any of the economies of China's key trading partners may have an adverse impact on the Chinese economy. The current political climate has intensified concerns about a potential trade war between China and the United States, as each country has imposed tariffs on the other country's products. These actions may trigger a significant reduction in international trade, the oversupply of certain manufactured goods, substantial price reductions of goods and possible failure of individual companies and/or large segments of China's export industry, which could have a negative impact on the Fund's performance. Events such as these and their consequences are difficult to predict and it is unclear whether further tariffs may be imposed or other escalating actions may be taken in the future.

■ **India** — India is an emerging market country and exhibits significantly higher volatility from time to time in comparison to more developed markets. Political and legal uncertainty, greater government control over the economy, currency fluctuations or blockage and the risk of nationalization or expropriation of assets may result in higher potential for losses.

Moreover, governmental actions can have a significant effect on the economic conditions in India, which could adversely affect the value and liquidity of investments. The securities industries in India are comparatively underdeveloped, and stockbrokers and other intermediaries may not perform as well as their counterparts in the United States and other more developed securities markets. The limited liquidity of the Indian securities markets may also affect the Fund's ability to acquire or dispose of securities at the price and time that it desires.

Global factors and foreign actions may inhibit the flow of foreign capital on which India is dependent to sustain its growth. In addition, the Reserve Bank of India ("RBI") has imposed limits on foreign ownership on Indian securities which may decrease the liquidity of the Fund's portfolio and result in extreme volatility in the prices of Indian securities. These factors, coupled with the lack of extensive accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and practices, as compared to the United States, may increase the risk of loss.

Further, certain Indian regulatory approvals, including approvals from the Securities and Exchange Board of India, the RBI, the central government and the tax authorities (to the extent that tax benefits need to be utilized), may be required before the Fund can make investments in the securities of Indian companies. Capital gains from Indian securities may be subject to local taxation.

In addition, India has experienced acts of terrorism and has strained international relations with Pakistan, Bangladesh, China, Sri Lanka and other neighbors due to territorial disputes, historical animosities, terrorism, defense concerns and other security concerns. These situations may cause uncertainty in the Indian market and may adversely affect the performance of the Indian economy.

Tax Risk. The Fund invests in securities of Indian issuers. The Fund is subject to tax in India on the purchase and sale of Indian securities, which will reduce the Fund's returns. For more information regarding the tax implications of investing in Indian securities, please see the section entitled "Indian Tax Disclosure."

Criteria for Residence of Companies in India. A foreign company will be considered a resident in India if its place of effective management ("POEM") (defined as a place where key management and commercial decisions that are necessary for the conduct of the business of an entity as a whole are in substance made) is in India in the relevant financial year. This test is to be applied taking the relevant financial year as a whole into consideration. However, the Fund expects that its place of effective management will be outside of India and, as a result, the Fund does not expect to be considered an Indian resident for tax purposes.

Indirect Transfers. The Indian Income Tax Act, 1961 (“IT Act”) imposes Indian tax and withholding obligations with respect to the transfer of shares and interest in an overseas company that derives its value substantially from assets situated in India (“indirect transfers”). The share or interest of the foreign entity shall be deemed to derive its value substantially from the assets located in India, if the value of such Indian assets exceeds INR 100 million, and represents at least 50% of the value of all the assets owned by the foreign entity. The value of an asset shall be the fair market value as of the specified date, without reduction of liabilities, determined in accordance with Rule 11UB of the Income Tax Rule, 1962 (“IT Rules”). In cases where all the assets of the foreign entity are not located in India, only such part of the income as is reasonably attributable to the Indian assets shall be subject to capital gains tax in India.

If such gains are taxable in India then the purchaser of the securities will be required to withhold applicable Indian taxes. Because the Fund invests in Indian securities, the Fund may be considered to derive “substantial value” from Indian assets, and accordingly, shareholder redemptions and sales of Fund shares may have been subject to Indian tax and withholding obligations. However, the IT Act provides for an exemption to non-resident shareholders in Category I Foreign Portfolio Investors (“FPI”), registered under SEBI (Foreign Portfolio Investors) Regulations, 2019 (“2019 Regulations”) from the applicability of indirect transfer taxation. The Fund is a Category I FPI under the 2019 Regulations. Therefore, any redemptions or transfers by non-resident shareholders in the Fund should not be subject to Indian indirect transfer tax.

Further, the IT Act provides an exemption from the indirect transfer provisions for non-resident shareholders of the Fund who, at any time in the twelve months preceding the year of transfer, neither hold the right of control or management in the Fund, nor hold voting power or share capital or interest exceeding 5% of the total voting power or total share capital or total interest in the Fund.

General Anti-Avoidance Rules. The current legislation provides general anti-avoidance rules (“GAAR”) to curb aggressive tax planning through the use of sophisticated structures. GAAR became applicable with effect from April 1, 2017. The GAAR provides the Indian tax authorities a mechanism to deny any tax benefits in a transaction or any other arrangement that is believed to not have any commercial substance or purpose other than to obtain tax benefit(s) under a treaty. The provisions of GAAR will be applicable to arrangements (including a step in or a part thereof) entered into by a taxpayer, which may be declared as an “impermissible avoidance arrangement”.

As per the provisions of GAAR, an arrangement entered into by a taxpayer may be declared to be an impermissible avoidance arrangement, if the “main purpose” of the arrangement is to obtain a “tax benefit” and the arrangement:

- creates rights, or obligations, which are not ordinarily created between persons dealing at arm’s length;
- results, directly or indirectly, in the misuse, or abuse, of the provisions of IT Act;
- lacks commercial substance; or
- is entered into, or carried out, by means, or in a manner, which are not ordinarily employed for bona fide purposes.

Once an arrangement is declared to be an impermissible avoidance arrangement, wide powers have been granted to tax authorities to deny tax treaty benefits, disregard or re-characterize transactions, re-characterize equity into debt and vice versa, which may have a material adverse effect on the Fund’s business and financial conditions and results of operations.

In this context, it is pertinent to note that provisions of GAAR shall not be applicable to:

- An FPI who has not availed itself of any benefit under a tax treaty and has made investment in accordance with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Foreign Portfolio Investors) Regulations, 2019;
 - An investment made by a non-resident, directly or indirectly, in an FPI; and
 - Any arrangement where the aggregate tax benefit to all the parties of the arrangement in the relevant financial year does not exceed INR 30 million.
- **Japan** — There are special risks associated with investments in Japan. If the Fund invests in Japan, the value of the Fund’s shares may vary widely in response to political and economic factors affecting companies in Japan. Political, social or economic disruptions in Japan or in other countries in the region may adversely affect the values of Japanese securities and thus the Fund’s holdings. Additionally, since securities in Japan are denominated and quoted in yen, the value of the Fund’s Japanese securities as measured in U.S. dollars may be affected by fluctuations in the value of the Japanese yen relative to the U.S. dollar. Japanese securities are also subject to the more general risks associated with foreign securities, which are discussed above.
- **Latin America** — The economies of Latin American countries have experienced high inflation rates, high interest rates, economic volatility, currency devaluations, government debt defaults and high unemployment rates. The emergence of the Latin American economies and securities markets will require continued economic and fiscal

discipline that has been lacking at times in the past, as well as stable political and social conditions. International economic conditions, particularly those in the United States, as well as world prices for oil and other commodities may also influence the development of the Latin American economies.

Some Latin American currencies have experienced steady devaluations relative to the U.S. dollar and certain Latin American countries have had to make major adjustments in their currencies from time to time. In addition, governments of many Latin American countries have exercised and continue to exercise substantial influence over many aspects of the private sector. Governmental actions in the future could have a significant effect on economic conditions in Latin American countries, which could affect the companies in which the Fund invests and, therefore, the value of Fund shares. As noted, in the past, many Latin American countries have experienced substantial, and in some periods extremely high, rates of inflation for many years. For companies that keep accounting records in the local currency, inflation accounting rules in some Latin American countries require, for both tax and accounting purposes, that certain assets and liabilities be restated on the company's balance sheet in order to express items in terms of currency of constant purchasing power. Inflation accounting may indirectly generate losses or profits for certain Latin American companies. Inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates have had, and could, in the future, have very negative effects on the economies and securities markets of certain Latin American countries.

Substantial limitations may exist in certain countries with respect to the Fund's ability to repatriate investment income, capital or the proceeds of sales of securities. The Fund could be adversely affected by delays in, or a refusal to grant, any required governmental approval for repatriation of capital, as well as by the application to the Fund of any restrictions on investments.

Certain Latin American countries have entered into regional trade agreements that are designed to, among other things, reduce barriers between countries, increase competition among companies and reduce government subsidies in certain industries. No assurance can be given that these changes will be successful in the long-term, or that these changes will result in the economic stability intended. There is a possibility that these trade arrangements will not be fully implemented, or will be partially or completely unwound. It is also possible that a significant participant could choose to abandon a trade agreement, which could diminish its credibility and influence. Any of these occurrences could have adverse effects on the markets of both participating and non-participating countries, including sharp appreciation or depreciation of participants' national currencies and a significant increase in exchange rate volatility, a resurgence in economic protectionism, an undermining of confidence in the Latin American markets, an undermining of Latin American economic stability, the collapse or slowdown of the drive towards Latin American economic unity, and/or reversion of the attempts to lower government debt and inflation rates that were introduced in anticipation of such trade agreements. Such developments could have an adverse impact on the Fund's investments in Latin America generally or in specific countries participating in such trade agreements.

Other Latin American market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on sovereign debt, difficulties in enforcing favorable legal judgments in local courts and political and social instability. Legal remedies available to investors in certain Latin American countries may be less extensive than those available to investors in the United States or other foreign countries.

- **Middle East** — Many Middle Eastern countries have little or no democratic tradition, and the political and legal systems in such countries may adversely impact the companies in which the Fund invests and, as a result, the value of the Fund. Middle Eastern governments have exercised and continue to exercise substantial influence over many aspects of the private sector. Many economies in the Middle East are highly reliant on income from the sale of oil and natural gas or trade with countries involved in the sale of oil and natural gas, and their economies are therefore vulnerable to changes in the market for oil and natural gas and foreign currency values. As global demand for oil and natural gas fluctuates, many Middle Eastern economies may be significantly impacted. A sustained decrease in commodity prices could have a significant negative impact on all aspects of the economy in the region. Middle Eastern economies may be subject to acts of terrorism, political strife, religious, ethnic or socioeconomic unrest and sudden outbreaks of hostilities with neighboring countries.

Certain Middle Eastern countries have strained relations with other Middle Eastern countries due to territorial disputes, historical animosities, international alliances, religious tensions or defense concerns, which may adversely affect the economies of these countries. Certain Middle Eastern countries experience significant unemployment, as well as widespread underemployment.

Many Middle Eastern countries periodically have experienced political, economic and social unrest as protestors have called for widespread reform. Some of these protests have resulted in a governmental regime change, internal conflict or civil war. If further regime changes were to occur, internal conflict were to intensify, or a civil war were to continue in any of these countries, such instability could adversely affect the economies of Middle Eastern countries in which the Fund invests and could decrease the value of the Fund's investments.

- **Russia** — Because of the recent formation of the Russian securities markets, the underdeveloped state of Russia's banking and telecommunication system and the legal and regulatory framework in Russia, settlement, clearing and registration of securities transactions are subject to additional risks. Prior to 2013, there was no central registration

system for equity share registration in Russia and registration was carried out either by the issuers themselves or by registrars located throughout Russia. These registrars may not have been subject to effective state supervision or licensed with any governmental entity. In 2013, Russia established the National Settlement Depository (“NSD”) as a recognized central securities depository, and title to Russian equities is now based on the records of the NSD and not on the records of the local registrars. The implementation of the NSD is generally expected to decrease the risk of loss in connection with recording and transferring title to securities; however, loss may still occur. Additionally, issuers and registrars remain prominent in the validation and approval of documentation requirements for corporate action processing in Russia, and there remain inconsistent market standards in the Russian market with respect to the completion and submission of corporate action elections. To the extent that a Fund suffers a loss relating to title or corporate actions relating to its portfolio securities, it may be difficult for the Fund to enforce its rights or otherwise remedy the loss.

In addition, Russia also may attempt to assert its influence in the region through economic or even military measures, as it did with Georgia in the summer of 2008 and the Ukraine in 2014 and 2022. Russia launched a large-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The extent and duration of the military action, resulting sanctions and resulting future market disruptions, including declines in its stock markets and the value of the ruble against the U.S. dollar, are impossible to predict, but could be significant. Any such disruptions caused by Russian military action or other actions (including cyberattacks and espionage) or resulting actual and threatened responses to such activity, including purchasing and financing restrictions, boycotts or changes in consumer or purchaser preferences, sanctions, tariffs or cyberattacks on the Russian government, Russian companies or Russian individuals, including politicians, may impact Russia’s economy and Russian issuers of securities in which the Fund invests. Actual and threatened responses to such military action may also impact the markets for certain Russian commodities, such as oil and natural gas, as well as other sectors of the Russian economy, and may likely have collateral impacts on such sectors globally.

Governments in the United States and many other countries (collectively, the “Sanctioning Bodies”) have imposed economic sanctions on certain Russian individuals, including politicians, and Russian corporate and banking entities. The Sanctioning Bodies, or others, could also institute broader sanctions on Russia, including banning Russia from global payments systems that facilitate cross-border payments. These sanctions, or even the threat of further sanctions, may result in the decline of the value and liquidity of Russian securities, a weakening of the ruble or other adverse consequences to the Russian economy. These sanctions could also result in the immediate freeze of Russian securities and/or funds invested in prohibited assets, impairing the ability of a Fund to buy, sell, receive or deliver those securities and/or assets. Sanctions could also result in Russia taking counter measures or retaliatory actions which may further impair the value and liquidity of Russian securities.

- **Saudi Arabia** — The ability of foreign investors (such as the Fund) to invest in Saudi Arabian issuers is new and untested. Such ability could be restricted or revoked by the Saudi Arabian government at any time, and unforeseen risks could materialize due to foreign ownership in such securities. In addition, the Saudi Arabian government places investment limitations on the ownership of Saudi Arabian issuers by foreign investors, including a limitation on the Fund’s ownership of any single issuer listed on the Saudi Arabian Stock Exchange, which may prevent the Fund from investing in accordance with its strategy and contribute to tracking error against the Underlying Index. Saudi Arabia is highly reliant on income from the sale of petroleum and trade with other countries involved in the sale of petroleum, and its economy is therefore vulnerable to changes in foreign currency values and the market for petroleum. As global demand for petroleum fluctuates, Saudi Arabia may be significantly impacted. Like most Middle Eastern governments, the government of Saudi Arabia exercises substantial influence over many aspects of the private sector. Although liberalization in the wider economy is underway, in many areas it has lagged significantly: restrictions on foreign ownership persists, and the government has an ownership stake in many key industries. The situation is exacerbated by the fact that Saudi Arabia is governed by an absolute monarchy. Saudi Arabia has historically experienced strained relations with economic partners worldwide, including other countries in the Middle East due to geopolitical events. Governmental actions in the future could have a significant effect on economic conditions in Saudi Arabia, which could affect private sector companies and the Fund, as well as the value of securities in the Fund’s portfolio. Any economic sanctions on Saudi Arabian individuals or Saudi Arabian corporate entities, or even the threat of sanctions, may result in the decline of the value and liquidity of Saudi Arabian securities, a weakening of the Saudi riyal or other adverse consequences to the Saudi Arabian economy. In addition, Saudi Arabia’s economy relies heavily on cheap, foreign labor, and changes in the availability of this labor supply could have an adverse effect on the economy.

Investments in securities of Saudi Arabian issuers involves risks not typically associated with investments in securities of issuers in more developed countries that may negatively affect the value of the Fund’s investments. Such heightened risks may include, among others, expropriation and/or nationalization of assets, restrictions on and government intervention in international trade, confiscatory taxation, political instability, including authoritarian and/or military involvement in governmental decision making, armed conflict, crime and instability as a result of religious, ethnic and/or socioeconomic unrest. Although the political situation in Saudi Arabia is largely stable, Saudi Arabia has historically experienced political instability, and there remains the possibility that instability in the larger Middle East region could adversely impact the economy of Saudi Arabia. Political instability in the larger

Middle East region has caused significant disruptions to many industries. Continued political and social unrest in these areas may negatively affect the value of securities in the Fund's portfolio.

There are a number of different ways of conducting transactions in equity securities in the Saudi Arabian market. The Fund generally expects to conduct its transactions in a manner in which the Fund would not be limited by Saudi Arabian regulations to a single broker. However, there may be a limited number of brokers who can provide services to the Fund, which may have an adverse impact on the prices, quantity or timing of Fund transactions. The limited number of brokers may impact the Fund's ability to achieve best execution on securities transactions. In addition, the limited number of brokers available to the Fund may make the Fund more susceptible to credit loss or trading disruptions in the event of a default or business disruption by one or more of the available brokers. Should the Fund's ability to use one or more brokers be affected for any reason, this could disrupt the operations of the Fund and affect the ability of the Fund to track the Underlying Index and/or cause the Fund's shares to trade at a premium or discount to NAV. The Fund may also incur losses due to the acts or omissions of its brokers in the execution or settlement of any transaction or in the transfer of any funds or securities.

- **Taiwan** — Investments in Taiwanese issuers may subject the Fund to risks. Taiwan is a small island state with few raw material resources and limited land area and is reliant on imports for its commodity needs. Any fluctuations or shortages in the commodity markets could have a negative impact on the Taiwanese economy. Also, continued labor outsourcing may adversely affect the Taiwanese economy. Taiwan's economy is intricately linked with economies of Asian countries that have experienced over-extensions of credit, frequent and pronounced currency fluctuations, currency devaluations, currency repatriation, rising unemployment, and fluctuations in inflation. The Taiwanese economy is dependent on the economies of Japan and China, as well as the United States, and negative changes in their economies or a reduction in purchases by any of them of Taiwanese products and services would likely have an adverse impact on the Taiwanese economy. Taiwan's geographic proximity to China and Taiwan's history of political contention with China have resulted in ongoing tensions with China, including the risk of war with China. These tensions may materially affect the Taiwanese economy and securities markets.

Investments in a Particular Market Segment

- **Consumer Discretionary Sector Risk** — The success of consumer product manufacturers and retailers is tied closely to the performance of domestic and international economies, interest rates, exchange rates, supply chains, competition, consumer confidence, changes in demographics and consumer preferences. Companies in the consumer discretionary sector depend heavily on disposable household income and consumer spending, and may be strongly affected by social trends and marketing campaigns. These companies may be subject to severe competition, which may have an adverse impact on their profitability.
- **Energy Sector Risk** — The performance of energy-related commodities is generally cyclical and highly dependent on energy prices. Energy prices may fluctuate significantly due to, among other things, national and international political changes, Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC") and non-OPEC energy exporters, such as the Russian Federation, policies and relationships, and the economies of key energy-consuming countries. The market value of energy-related commodities may decline for many reasons, including, among other things: changes in the levels and volatility of global energy prices, energy supply and demand, and capital expenditures on exploration and production of energy sources; exchange rates, interest rates, economic conditions, and tax treatment; the enactment or cessation of trade sanctions; war or other geopolitical conflicts; terrorism, natural disasters and other catastrophes; and energy conservation efforts, increased competition and technological advances. The energy sector may also be subject to substantial government regulation and contractual fixed pricing. In 2020, in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak and disputes among oil-producing countries regarding potential limits on the production of crude oil, the energy sector has experienced increased volatility. In particular, significant market volatility occurred and is continuing in the crude oil markets as well as the oil futures markets, which resulted in the market price of the front month futures contract falling below zero for a period of time.

Russia's large-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022 has led to further disruptions and increased volatility in the energy and commodity futures markets due to actual and potential disruptions in the supply and demand for certain commodities, including oil and natural gas. In March 2022, the U.S. announced that it would ban imports of oil, natural gas and coal from Russia. The effect of the U.S. ban and any similar bans by other countries, as well as the extent and duration of the Russian military action, resulting sanctions and associated market disruptions on the energy sector, are impossible to predict and depend on a number of factors. The effect of these events or any related developments could be significant and may have a severe adverse effect on the performance of the Fund.

- **Financials Sector Risk** — Companies in the financials sector of an economy are subject to extensive governmental regulation and intervention, which may adversely affect the scope of their activities, the prices they can charge, the amount of capital they must maintain and, potentially, their size. The extent to which the Fund may invest in a company that engages in securities-related activities or banking is limited by applicable law. Governmental regulation may change frequently and may have significant adverse consequences for companies in the financials sector, including effects not intended by such regulation. Increased risk taking by banks may also result in greater overall risk in the United States and global financials sector. The impact of changes in capital requirements, or

recent or future regulation in various countries, on any individual financial company or on the financials sector as a whole cannot be predicted. Certain risks may impact the value of investments in the financials sector more severely than those of investments outside this sector, including the risks associated with companies that operate with substantial financial leverage. Companies in the financials sector are exposed directly to the credit risk of their borrowers and counterparties, who may be leveraged to an unknown degree, including through swaps and other derivatives products. Financial services companies may have significant exposure to the same borrowers and counterparties, with the result that a borrower's or counterparty's inability to meet its obligations to one company may affect other companies with exposure to the same borrower or counterparty. This interconnectedness of risk may result in significant negative impacts to companies with direct exposure to the defaulting counterparty as well as adverse cascading effects in the markets and the financials sector generally. Companies in the financials sector may also be adversely affected by increases in interest rates and loan losses, decreases in the availability of money or asset valuations, credit rating downgrades and adverse conditions in other related markets. Insurance companies, in particular, may be subject to severe price competition and/or rate regulation, which may have an adverse impact on their profitability. The financials sector is particularly sensitive to fluctuations in interest rates. The financials sector is also a target for cyberattacks, and may experience technology malfunctions and disruptions. Cybersecurity incidents and technology malfunctions and failures have become increasingly frequent in this sector and have reportedly caused losses to companies in this sector, which may negatively impact the Fund.

■ **Healthcare Sector Risk** — The profitability of companies in the healthcare sector may be adversely affected by the following factors, among others: extensive government regulations, restrictions on government reimbursement for medical expenses, rising costs of medical products and services, pricing pressure, an increased emphasis on outpatient services, changes in the demand for medical products and services, a limited number of products, industry innovation, changes in technologies and other market developments. Many healthcare companies are heavily dependent on patent protection. The expiration of a company's patents may adversely affect that company's profitability. Many healthcare companies are subject to extensive litigation based on product liability and similar claims. Healthcare companies are subject to competitive forces that may make it difficult to raise prices and, in fact, may result in price discounting. The U.S. Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 allows for the negotiation of prescription drug prices on behalf of Medicare recipients, which may result in reduced prescription prices. This could reduce some healthcare companies' overall profitability. Many new products in the healthcare sector may be subject to regulatory approvals. The process of obtaining such approvals may be long and costly, and such efforts ultimately may be unsuccessful. Companies in the healthcare sector may be thinly capitalized and may be susceptible to product obsolescence. In addition, a number of legislative proposals concerning healthcare have been considered by the U.S. Congress in recent years. It is unclear what proposals will ultimately be enacted, if any, and what effect they may have on companies in the healthcare sector.

■ **Industrials Sector Risk** — The value of securities issued by companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by supply and demand changes related to their specific products or services and industrials sector products in general. The products of manufacturing companies may face obsolescence due to rapid technological developments and frequent new product introduction.

Global events, trade disputes and changes in government regulations, economic conditions and exchange rates may adversely affect the performance of companies in the industrials sector. Companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by liability for environmental damage and product liability claims. The industrials sector may also be adversely affected by changes or trends in commodity prices, which may be influenced by unpredictable factors. Companies in the industrials sector, particularly aerospace and defense companies, may also be adversely affected by government spending policies because companies in this sector tend to rely to a significant extent on government demand for their products and services.

■ **Information Technology Sector Risk** — Information technology companies face intense competition, both domestically and internationally, which may have an adverse effect on their profit margins. Like other technology companies, information technology companies may have limited product lines, markets, financial resources or personnel. The products of information technology companies may face obsolescence due to rapid technological developments, frequent new product introduction, unpredictable changes in growth rates and competition for the services of qualified personnel. Companies in the information technology sector are heavily dependent on patent and intellectual property rights. The loss or impairment of these rights may adversely affect the profitability of these companies. Companies in the information technology sector are facing increased government and regulatory scrutiny and may be subject to adverse government or regulatory action. Companies in the application software industry, in particular, may also be negatively affected by the decline or fluctuation of subscription renewal rates for their products and services, which may have an adverse effect on profit margins. Companies in the systems software industry may be adversely affected by, among other things, actual or perceived security vulnerabilities in their products and services, which may result in individual or class action lawsuits, state or federal enforcement actions and other remediation costs.

■ **Infrastructure Industry Risk** — Companies in the infrastructure industry may be subject to a variety of factors that could adversely affect their business or operations, including high interest costs in connection with capital

construction programs, high degrees of leverage, costs associated with governmental, environmental and other regulations, the effects of economic slowdowns, increased competition from other providers of services, uncertainties concerning costs, the level of government spending on infrastructure projects, and other factors. Infrastructure companies may be adversely affected by commodity price volatility, changes in exchange rates, import controls, depletion of resources, technological developments, and labor relations. There is also the risk that corruption may negatively affect publicly funded infrastructure projects, especially in emerging markets, resulting in delays and cost overruns. Infrastructure issuers can be significantly affected by government spending policies because companies involved in this industry rely to a significant extent on U.S. and other government demand for their products.

Customer Risk. Infrastructure companies can be dependent upon a narrow customer base. Additionally, if these customers fail to pay their obligations, significant revenues could be lost and may not be replaceable.

Inflation Risk. Many infrastructure companies may have fixed income streams. Consequently, their market values may decline in times of higher inflation. Additionally, the prices that an infrastructure company is able to charge users of its assets may be linked to inflation, whether by government regulation, contractual arrangement or other factors. In this case, changes in the rate of inflation may affect the company's profitability.

Interest Rate Risk. Rising interest rates could result in higher costs of capital for infrastructure companies, which could negatively impact their ability to meet payment obligations.

Leverage Risk. Infrastructure companies can be highly leveraged, which increases investment risk and other risks normally associated with debt financing, and could adversely affect an infrastructure company's operations and market value in periods of rising interest rates.

Operations Risk. The failure of an infrastructure company to carry adequate insurance or to operate its assets appropriately could lead to significant losses. Infrastructure may be adversely affected by environmental clean-up costs and catastrophic events such as earthquakes, hurricanes and terrorist acts.

Regulatory Risk. Infrastructure companies may be subject to significant regulation by various governmental authorities and also may be affected by regulation of rates charged to customers, service interruption due to environmental, operational or other events, the imposition of special tariffs and changes in tax laws, regulatory policies and accounting standards.

Strategic Asset Risk. Infrastructure companies may control significant strategic assets (e.g., major pipelines or highways), which are assets that have a national or regional profile, and may have monopolistic characteristics. Given their national or regional profile or irreplaceable nature, strategic assets could generate additional risk not common in other industry sectors and they may be targeted for terrorist acts or adverse political actions.

■ **Materials Sector Risk** — Companies in the materials sector may be adversely affected by commodity price volatility, exchange rate fluctuations, social and political unrest, import controls, increased competition, depletion of resources, technical advances, labor relations, over-production, decreases in the demand for materials, litigation and government regulations, among other factors. Companies in the materials sector are also at risk of liability for environmental damage and product liability claims and may incur significant environmental remediation costs in complying with federal, state and local environmental laws. Production of materials may exceed demand as a result of market imbalances or economic downturns, leading to poor investment returns.

■ **Technology Sector Risk** — Technology companies, including information technology companies, face intense competition, both domestically and internationally, which may have an adverse effect on a company's profit margins. Technology companies may have limited product lines, markets, financial resources or personnel. The products of technology companies may face obsolescence due to rapid technological developments, frequent new product introduction, unpredictable changes in growth rates, aggressive pricing, changes in demand, and competition for the services of qualified personnel. Companies in the technology sector are heavily dependent on patent and other intellectual property rights. A technology company's loss or impairment of these rights may adversely affect the company's profitability. Companies in the technology sector are facing increased government and regulatory scrutiny and may be subject to adverse government or regulatory action. The technology sector may also be adversely affected by changes or trends in commodity prices, which may be influenced or characterized by unpredictable factors.

■ **Utilities Sector Risk** — Companies in the utilities sector may be adversely affected by changes in exchange rates, domestic and international competition, and governmental limitations on rates charged to consumers. The value of regulated utility debt securities (and, to a lesser extent, equity securities) tends to have an inverse relationship to the movement of interest rates. Deregulation may subject utility companies to greater competition and may adversely affect their profitability. As deregulation allows utility companies to diversify outside of their original geographic regions and their traditional lines of business, utility companies may engage in riskier ventures. In addition, deregulation may eliminate restrictions on the profits of certain utility companies, but may also subject these companies to greater risk of loss. Companies in the utilities industry may have difficulty obtaining an adequate return on invested capital, raising capital, or financing large construction projects during periods of

inflation or unsettled capital markets; face restrictions on operations and increased cost and delays attributable to environmental considerations and regulation; find that existing plants, equipment or products have been rendered obsolete by technological innovations; or be subject to increased costs because of the scarcity of certain fuels or the effects of man-made or natural disasters. Existing and future regulations or legislation may make it difficult for utility companies to operate profitably. Government regulators monitor and control utility revenues and costs, and therefore may limit utility profits. There is no assurance that regulatory authorities will grant rate increases in the future or that such increases will be adequate to permit the payment of dividends on stocks issued by a utility company. Energy conservation and changes in climate policy may also have a significant adverse impact on the revenues and expenses of utility companies.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

- **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.
- **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.
- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.
- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund's adviser or an affiliate of the Fund's adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund's liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund's NAV and increase the Fund's brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund's remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund's current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund's expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager's ability to implement a fund's investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund's performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock's parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of

the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock's personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.

■ **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC (“BIM”), the Fund's securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund's securities lending program.

■ **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund's valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund's ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.

Information About the ETFs

The Fund may invest in any of the ETFs listed below. The table sets forth (i) the names of the ETFs, and (ii) brief descriptions of their investment objectives and principal investment strategies. The list of ETFs is subject to change at the discretion of BlackRock without notice to shareholders.

Prospectuses for any of these ETFs can be accessed at www.iShares.com/prospectus or obtained by calling (800) 474-2737.

ETFs

BFA, an affiliate of BlackRock and each underlying ETF's investment adviser, uses a “passive” or indexing approach to try to achieve each ETF's investment objective. Unlike many investment companies, the ETF does not try to “beat” the index it tracks and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued.

Indexing may eliminate the chance that the ETF will substantially outperform the Underlying Index (as defined below) but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by keeping portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

For some ETFs, BFA may invest in all securities included in the Underlying Index in roughly the same proportions as each security is weighted in such Underlying Index in an indexing strategy known as “full replication.” For other ETFs, BFA uses a representative sampling indexing strategy to manage the ETFs. “Representative sampling” is an indexing strategy that involves investing in a representative sample of securities that collectively has an investment profile similar to the Underlying Index. The securities selected are expected to have, in the aggregate, investment characteristics (based on factors such as market capitalization and industry weightings), fundamental characteristics (such as return variability and yield) and liquidity measures similar to those of the Underlying Index. The Fund may or may not hold all of the securities in the Underlying Index. Funds that employ a representative sampling strategy may incur tracking error risk to a greater extent than a fund that seeks to replicate an index.

An ETF will at all times invest at least 80% of its assets in the securities of the Underlying Index or in depositary receipts representing securities in its Underlying Index. The ETF may invest the remainder of its assets in other securities, including securities not in the Underlying Index, but which BFA believes will help track the Underlying Index. Certain ETFs may also hold futures contracts, options on futures contracts, other types of options and swaps related to its Underlying Index, as well as cash and cash equivalents, including shares of money market funds advised by BFA or its affiliates.

The Underlying Index is sponsored by an organization (the “Index Provider”) that is independent of the ETF and BFA. The Index Provider determines the composition and relative weightings of the securities in the Underlying Index and publishes information regarding the market value of the Underlying Index.

Each ETF will concentrate its investments (*i.e.*, hold 25% or more of its total assets) in a particular industry or group of industries to approximately the same extent that the Underlying Index is concentrated. For purposes of this limitation, securities of the U.S. Government (including its agencies and instrumentalities) and repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. Government securities are not considered to be issued by members of any industry.

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
|--|---|
| iShares® 0-5 Year High Yield Corporate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, high yield corporate bonds with remaining maturities of less than five years.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Markit iBoxx® USD Liquid High Yield 0-5 Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to reflect the performance of U.S. dollar-denominated high yield (as determined by Markit Indices Limited (the “Index Provider” or “Markit”)) corporate debt. High yield bonds are also known as “junk bonds” and are generally rated below investment-grade. The Underlying Index offers exposure to liquid (according to Markit’s liquidity screens, which could vary from other measures of liquidity) U.S. dollar-denominated high yield corporate bonds maturing between zero and five years and is rebalanced on a monthly basis. Only bonds with \$350 million minimum face value per bond are included in the Underlying Index, provided they are trading at a minimum price in accordance with Markit’s liquidity screens. The Underlying Index uses a market-value weighted methodology with a cap on each issuer of 3%. As of October 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the consumer services and industrials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® 0-5 Year TIPS Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of inflation-protected U.S. Treasury bonds with remaining maturities of less than or equal to five years.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE US Treasury 0-5 Year Inflation Linked Bond Index (the “Underlying Index”), which tracks the performance of inflation-protected public obligations of the U.S. Treasury, commonly known as “TIPS,” that have a remaining maturity of less than or equal to five years. TIPS are securities issued by the U.S. Treasury that are designed to provide inflation protection to investors. TIPS are income-generating instruments whose interest and principal payments are adjusted for inflation — a sustained increase in prices that erodes the purchasing power of money. The inflation adjustment, which is typically applied monthly to the principal of the bond, follows a designated inflation index, the non-seasonally adjusted Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (“CPI”), and TIPS’ principal payments are adjusted according to changes in the CPI. A fixed coupon rate is applied to the inflation-adjusted principal so that, as inflation rises, both the principal value and the interest payments increase. This can provide investors with a hedge against inflation, as it helps preserve the purchasing power of an investment. Because of this inflation adjustment feature, inflation-protected bonds typically have lower yields than conventional fixed-rate bonds.</p> <p>Qualifying securities must have less than or equal to five years remaining to final maturity as of the rebalancing date and at least \$300 million of outstanding face value, excluding amounts held by the Federal Reserve System Open Market Account (“SOMA”). In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must have a fixed coupon schedule and must be denominated in U.S. dollars. Excluded from the Underlying Index are government agency debt with or without a government guarantee, securities issued or marketed primarily to retail investors, floating rate notes, cash management and treasury bills, original issue zero coupon securities and Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal Securities (or “STRIPs”). However, the amounts outstanding of qualifying securities in the Underlying Index are not reduced by any portions of such securities that have been stripped after inclusion in the Underlying Index. Index constituents are market capitalization weighted based on amounts outstanding reduced by amounts held by the Federal Reserve SOMA. The Underlying Index is rebalanced on the last calendar day of each month.</p> |
| iShares® 10+ Year Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated investment-grade corporate bonds with remaining maturities greater than ten years.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE® BofA® 10+ Year US Corporate Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of investment-grade corporate bonds of both U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are U.S. dollar-denominated and publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market and have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to ten years. As of February 28, 2023, there were 3,530 issues in the Underlying Index. As of February 28, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the energy, financials, healthcare and utilities industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. The Underlying Index consists of investment-grade corporate bonds of both U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to ten years, have been publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market, and have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value. The Index Provider deems securities as “investment grade” based on the average rating of Fitch Ratings, Inc. (BBB or better), Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (Baa or better) and/or Standard & Poor’s® Financial Services LLC, a subsidiary of S&P Global (BBB or better). In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be denominated in U.S. dollars and must be fixed-rate. Excluded from the Underlying Index are equity-linked securities, securities in legal default, hybrid securitized corporate bonds, Eurodollar bonds (U.S. dollar-denominated securities not issued in the U.S. domestic market), taxable and tax-exempt U.S. municipal securities and dividends-received-deduction-eligible securities. The Underlying Index is market capitalization-weighted, and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month. Under normal circumstances, the fund will seek to maintain a weighted average maturity that is greater than ten years. Weighted average maturity is a U.S. dollar-weighted average of the remaining term to maturity of the underlying securities in the fund’s portfolio.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
|--|---|
| iShares® 10-20 Year Treasury Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. Treasury bonds with remaining maturities between ten and twenty years.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE® U.S. Treasury 10-20 Year Bond Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of public obligations of the U.S. Treasury that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to ten years and less than twenty years. As of February 28, 2023, there were 34 issues in the Underlying Index. The Underlying Index consists of publicly-issued U.S. Treasury securities that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to ten years and less than twenty years and have \$300 million or more of outstanding face value, excluding amounts held by the Federal Reserve System (the “Fed”). In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be fixed-rate and denominated in U.S. dollars. Excluded from the Underlying Index are inflation-linked securities, Treasury bills, cash management bills, any government agency debt issued with or without a government guarantee and zero-coupon issues that have been stripped from coupon-paying bonds. The Underlying Index is market value weighted, and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month.</p> |
| iShares® 1-3 Year Treasury Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. Treasury bonds with remaining maturities between one and three years.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE® U.S. Treasury 1-3 Year Bond Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of public obligations of the U.S. Treasury that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to one year and less than three years. As of February 28, 2023, there were 94 issues in the Underlying Index. The Underlying Index consists of publicly-issued U.S. Treasury securities that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to one year and less than three years and have \$300 million or more of outstanding face value, excluding amounts held by the Federal Reserve System (the “Fed”). In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be fixed-rate and denominated in U.S. dollars. Excluded from the Underlying Index are inflation-linked securities, Treasury bills, cash management bills, any government agency debt issued with or without a government guarantee and zero-coupon issues that have been stripped from coupon-paying bonds. The Underlying Index is market value weighted, and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month.</p> |
| iShares® 1-5 Year Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, investment-grade corporate bonds with remaining maturities between one and five years.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE® BofA® 1-5 Year US Corporate Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of investment-grade corporate bonds of both U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are U.S. dollar-denominated and publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market and have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to one year and less than five years. As of February 28, 2023, there were 3,667 issues in the Underlying Index. As of February 28, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. The Underlying Index consists of investment-grade corporate bonds of both U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to one year and less than five years, have been publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market, and have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value. The Index Provider deems securities as “investment grade” based on the average rating of Fitch Ratings, Inc. (BBB or better), Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (Baa or better) and/or Standard & Poor’s® Financial Services LLC, a subsidiary of S&P Global (BBB or better). In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be denominated in U.S. dollars and must be fixed-rate. Excluded from the Underlying Index are equity-linked securities, securities in legal default, hybrid securitized corporate bonds, Eurodollar bonds (U.S. dollar-denominated securities not issued in the U.S. domestic market), taxable and tax-exempt U.S. municipal securities and dividends-received-deduction-eligible securities. The Underlying Index is market capitalization-weighted, and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month. Under normal circumstances, the fund will seek to maintain a weighted average maturity that is less than or equal to three years. Weighted average maturity is a U.S. dollar-weighted average of the remaining term to maturity of the underlying securities in the fund’s portfolio.</p> |
| iShares® 20+ Year Treasury Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. Treasury bonds with remaining maturities greater than twenty years.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE® U.S. Treasury 20+ Year Bond Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of public obligations of the U.S. Treasury that have a remaining maturity greater than or equal to twenty years. As of February 28, 2023, there were 40 issues in the Underlying Index. The Underlying Index consists of publicly-issued U.S. Treasury securities that have a remaining maturity greater than or equal to twenty years and have \$300 million or more of outstanding face value, excluding amounts held by the Federal Reserve System (the “Fed”). In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be fixed-rate and denominated in U.S. dollars. Excluded from the Underlying Index are inflation-linked securities, Treasury bills, cash management bills, any government agency debt issued with or without a government guarantee and zero-coupon issues that have been stripped from coupon-paying bonds. The Underlying Index is market value weighted, and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
|---|--|
| iShares® 3-7 Year Treasury Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. Treasury bonds with remaining maturities between three and seven years.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE® U.S. Treasury 3-7 Year Bond Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of public obligations of the U.S. Treasury that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to three years and less than seven years. As of February 28, 2023, there were 96 issues in the Underlying Index. The Underlying Index consists of publicly-issued U.S. Treasury securities that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to three years and less than seven years and have \$300 million or more of outstanding face value, excluding amounts held by the Federal Reserve System (the “Fed”). In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be fixed-rate and denominated in U.S. dollars. Excluded from the Underlying Index are inflation-linked securities, Treasury bills, cash management bills, any government agency debt issued with or without a government guarantee and zero-coupon issues that have been stripped from coupon-paying bonds. The Underlying Index is market value weighted, and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month.</p> |
| iShares® 5-10 Year Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated investment-grade corporate bonds with remaining maturities between five and ten years.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE® BofA® 5-10 Year US Corporate Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of investment-grade corporate bonds of both U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are U.S. dollar-denominated and publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market and have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to five years and less than ten years. As of February 28, 2023, there were 2,634 issues in the Underlying Index. As of February 28, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. The Underlying Index consists of investment-grade corporate bonds of both U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to five years and less than ten years, have been publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market, and have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value. The Index Provider deems securities as “investment grade” based on the average rating of Fitch Ratings, Inc. (BBB or better), Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (Baa or better) and/or Standard & Poor’s® Financial Services LLC, a subsidiary of S&P Global (BBB or better). In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be denominated in U.S. dollars and must be fixed-rate. Excluded from the Underlying Index are equity-linked securities, securities in legal default, hybrid securitized corporate bonds, Eurodollar bonds (U.S. dollar-denominated securities not issued in the U.S. domestic market), taxable and tax-exempt U.S. municipal securities and dividends-received-deduction-eligible securities. The Underlying Index is market capitalization-weighted, and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month. Under normal circumstances, the fund will seek to maintain a weighted average maturity that is greater than three years and lower than 10 years. Weighted average maturity is a U.S. dollar-weighted average of the remaining term to maturity of the underlying securities in the fund’s portfolio.</p> |
| iShares® 7-10 Year Treasury Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. Treasury bonds with remaining maturities between seven and ten years.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE® U.S. Treasury 7-10 Year Bond Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of public obligations of the U.S. Treasury that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to seven years and less than ten years. As of February 28, 2023, there were 14 issues in the Underlying Index. The Underlying Index consists of publicly-issued U.S. Treasury securities that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to seven years and less than ten years and have \$300 million or more of outstanding face value, excluding amounts held by the Federal Reserve System (the “Fed”). In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be fixed-rate and denominated in U.S. dollars. Excluded from the Underlying Index are inflation-linked securities, Treasury bills, cash management bills, any government agency debt issued with or without a government guarantee and zero-coupon issues that have been stripped from coupon-paying bonds. The Underlying Index is market value weighted, and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month.</p> |
| iShares® Aaa — A Rated Corporate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of Aaa to A, or equivalently rated, fixed rate U.S. dollar-denominated bonds issued by U.S. and non-U.S. corporations.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg U.S. Corporate Aaa — A Capped Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is a subset of the Bloomberg U.S. Corporate Index, which measures the performance of the Aaa — A rated range of the fixed-rate, U.S. dollar-denominated taxable, corporate bond market. The Underlying Index is market capitalization-weighted with a 3% cap on any one issuer and a pro rata distribution of any excess weight across the remaining issuers in the Underlying Index. The Underlying Index includes U.S. dollar-denominated securities publicly issued by U.S. and non-U.S. industrials, utility and financial corporate issuers, with maturities of one year or more, that have \$500 million or more of outstanding face value. Each corporate bond must be registered with the SEC, have been exempt from registration at issuance, or have been offered pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”), with registration rights. In addition, only securities rated A3 by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”)</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® Aaa — A Rated Corporate Bond ETF (continued) | <p>or higher (or the equivalent on another rating agency’s scale) will be included in the Underlying Index. When ratings from each of Fitch Ratings, Inc., Moody’s and S&P Global Ratings are available, the median rating is used to determine eligibility. When ratings from only two of the three rating agencies are available, the lower rating is used to determine eligibility. When a rating from only one of these agencies is available, that rating is used to determine eligibility. The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month. The fund will invest in non-U.S. issuers to the extent necessary for it to track the Underlying Index. As of October 31, 2023, 21.11% of the Underlying Index was composed of bonds issued by non U.S. issuers from the following countries or regions: Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, Canada, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”). As of October 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Agency Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of agency securities that are publicly issued by U.S. government agencies, and corporate and non-U.S. debt guaranteed by the U.S. government.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg U.S. Agency Bond Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the agency sector of the U.S. government bond market and is composed of investment-grade (as determined by Bloomberg Index Services Limited (the “Index Provider” or “Bloomberg”)) U.S. dollar-denominated publicly-issued government agency bonds or debentures. As of February 28, 2024, there were 447 issues in the Underlying Index. The Underlying Index includes callable and non-callable securities issued by U.S. government agencies, quasi-federal corporations (as described below), and corporate and non-U.S. debt guaranteed by the U.S. government. A minimum 50% ownership rule is used to classify issuers as government agencies. In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be fixed-rate and non-convertible and have \$300 million or more of outstanding face value. The Underlying Index includes securities of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. government guaranteed securities: corporate and non-U.S. issuances that carry direct guarantees from the U.S. government; • U.S. government owned, not guaranteed, securities: issuances of quasi-federal corporations (i.e., entities that are partially or wholly-owned by the U.S. government); such issuances generally carry no explicit guarantee of repayment from the U.S. government; and • U.S. government sponsored securities: issuances of U.S. government sponsored entities (including the Federal National Mortgage Association (“Fannie Mae”) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”)), which are not 100% government owned, but carry out government policies and benefit from implied involvement of the U.S. government, such as by benefiting from certain government subsidies, credit provisions, or other government support; such issuances generally have no guarantees from the U.S. government. <p>The Underlying Index represents the agency portion of the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index (whose eligible universe is defined by total market issuance) that meets the selection criteria mentioned above. The Underlying Index is market-value weighted, and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month. As of February 28, 2023, approximately 75.53% of the total market value of the bonds represented in the Underlying Index was in the form of U.S. agency debentures issued by the Federal National Mortgage Association (“Fannie Mae”), the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) S-2 and the Federal Home Loan Bank System.</p> |
| iShares® Biotechnology ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S.-listed equities in the biotechnology sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the NYSE Biotechnology Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of U.S.-listed securities of companies that are classified according to the ICE Uniform Sector Classification schema within the Biotechnology Sub-Industry Group (as determined by ICE Data Indices, LLC or its affiliates (collectively “Index Provider” or “IDI”)) and that also meet other eligibility criteria determined by the Index Provider, including minimum market capitalization and liquidity requirements. Companies classified within the Biotechnology Sub-Industry Group include those companies that are engaged in the research and development of therapeutic treatments but that are not focused on the commercialization and mass production of pharmaceutical drugs. The Biotechnology Sub-Industry Group also includes those companies that are engaged in the production of tools or systems that enable biotechnology processes. The Underlying Index includes large-, mid- and small capitalization companies and may change over time. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the biotechnology and healthcare industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
|---|--|
| iShares® Broad USD High Yield Corporate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, high yield corporate bonds.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE BofA US High Yield Constrained Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is a rules-based index consisting of U.S. dollar-denominated, high yield (as determined by ICE Data Indices, LLC (“Index Provider” or “IDI”)) corporate bonds publicly issued and settled in the U.S. The Underlying Index is designed to provide a broad representation of the U.S. dollar-denominated high yield corporate bond market. The Underlying Index is a modified market value-weighted index with a cap on each issuer of 2%. There is no limit to the number of issues in the Underlying Index, but as of October 31, 2023, the Underlying Index included approximately 1,854 constituents and the issuers in the Underlying Index are principally located in the U.S. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. As of the date of this prospectus (the “Prospectus”), the bonds eligible for inclusion in the Underlying Index include U.S. dollar-denominated high yield corporate bonds that: (i) are issued by companies having “risk exposure” to countries (i.e., issuers that are subject to the risks of one or more of these countries as a result of the principal country of domicile of the issuers (as determined by the Index Provider)) that are members of the FX-G10, which include Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the U.K. and the U.S. and their respective territories; (ii) have an average rating of below investment grade (ratings from Fitch Ratings, Inc. (“Fitch”), Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) or S&P Global Ratings are considered; if more than one agency provides a rating, the average rating is attached to the bond); (iii) are registered with the SEC, S-2 exempt from registration at issuance, or offered pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”), with or without registration rights; (iv) have at least \$250 million of outstanding face value; (v) have an original maturity date of at least 18 months; and (vi) have at least one year to maturity.</p> |
| iShares® Broad USD Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated investment-grade corporate bonds.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE® BofA® US Corporate Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of investment-grade corporate bonds of both U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are U.S. dollar-denominated and publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market. As of February 28, 2023, there were 9,831 issues in the Underlying Index. As of February 28, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. The Underlying Index consists of investment-grade corporate bonds of both U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to one year, have been publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market, and have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value. The Index Provider deems securities as “investment grade” based on the average rating of Fitch Ratings, Inc. (BBB or better), Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (Baa or better) and/or Standard & Poor’s® Financial Services LLC, a subsidiary of S&P Global (BBB or better). In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be denominated in U.S. dollars and must be fixed-rate. Excluded from the Underlying Index are equity-linked securities, securities in legal default, hybrid securitized corporate bonds, Eurodollar bonds (U.S. dollar-denominated securities not issued in the U.S. domestic market), taxable and tax-exempt U.S. municipal securities and dividends-received-deduction-eligible securities. The Underlying Index is market capitalization-weighted, and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month.</p> |
| iShares® CMBS ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of investment-grade commercial mortgage-backed securities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg U.S. CMBS (ERISA Only) Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of investment-grade (as determined by Bloomberg Index Services Limited (the “Index Provider” or “Bloomberg”)) commercial mortgage backed securities (“CMBS”), which are classes of securities (known as “certificates”) that represent interests in “pools” of commercial mortgages. The Underlying Index includes only CMBS that are Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”) eligible under the underwriter’s exemption, which will deem ERISA eligible the certificates with the first priority of principal repayment, as long as certain conditions are met, including the requirement that the certificates be rated in one of the three highest rating categories by Fitch Ratings, Inc., Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. or S&P Global Ratings. The Underlying Index includes investment-grade CMBS that are ERISA eligible with \$300 million or more of aggregate outstanding transaction size. In addition, the original aggregate transaction must be \$500 million or more and the tranche size must be \$25 million or more. CMBS certificates must have an expected life of at least one year and must be either fixed-rate or subject to an interest rate cap equal to the weighted average coupon of the underlying asset pool. Excluded from the Underlying Index are non-ERISA eligible securities, agency transactions and privately issued securities, including those which may be resold in accordance with Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”). The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® Convertible Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated convertible securities, specifically cash pay bonds, with outstanding issue sizes greater than \$250 million.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg U.S. Convertible Cash Pay Bond > \$250MM Index (the “Underlying Index”). The Underlying Index is a subset of the Bloomberg U.S. Convertibles: Cash Pay Bonds Index, which is one of the four classes of the Bloomberg U.S. Convertibles Index (the “Parent Index”) (i.e., cash pay, zero coupon, preferred and mandatory convertible bonds) and measures the performance of the U.S. dollar-denominated convertibles market. The Underlying Index is market capitalization-weighted and consists of only cash pay convertible bonds. Cash pay convertible bonds allow the holder of the bond the option to convert into a pre-specified number of shares of the issuer’s common stock, but do not require conversion. The universe of securities that are eligible for inclusion in the Underlying Index includes U.S. dollar-denominated securities with maturities of 31 days or more and \$250 million or more of outstanding face value issued by financials, industrials and utilities corporations. The securities may be investment-grade, high yield (as determined by Bloomberg Index Services Limited (the “Index Provider” or “Bloomberg”)) (i.e., non-investment grade and commonly referred to as “junk bonds”) or non-rated. The Underlying Index is rebalanced on the last business day of each month. Securities eligible for inclusion in the Underlying Index must be convertible tranches registered with the SEC or issued under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”). The fund will invest in only U.S. dollar denominated securities in order to track the Underlying Index. As of October 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the consumer cyclical and technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. The methodology used to construct the Underlying Index does not provide for the conversion of the bonds constituting the Underlying Index into the associated common stock regardless of the current price of the common stock.</p> |
| iShares® Core Dividend Growth ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. equities with a history of consistently growing dividends.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Morningstar® US Dividend Growth IndexSM (the “Underlying Index”), which is a dividend dollar-weighted index that seeks to measure the performance of U.S. companies selected based on a consistent history of growing dividends. The Underlying Index is a subset of the Morningstar® US Market IndexSM, which is a broad market index that represents approximately 97% of the market capitalization of publicly-traded U.S. stocks. Eligible companies must pay a qualified dividend, must have at least five years of uninterrupted annual dividend growth and their earnings payout ratio must be less than 75%. Companies that are in the top decile based on dividend yield are excluded from the Underlying Index prior to the dividend growth and payout ratio screens. The Underlying Index may include large-, mid- and small-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of April 30, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials, healthcare and technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Core High Dividend ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of relatively high dividend paying U.S. equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Morningstar® Dividend Yield Focus IndexSM (the “Underlying Index”), which offers exposure to high quality U.S.-domiciled companies that have had strong financial health and an ability to sustain above average dividend payouts. The Underlying Index is a subset of the Morningstar® US Market IndexSM, a broad market index that represents approximately 97% of the market capitalization of publicly-traded U.S. stocks. The Underlying Index is composed of qualified income-paying securities that are screened for superior company quality and financial health as determined by Morningstar, Inc.’s (“Morningstar” or the “Index Provider”) proprietary index methodology. Stocks in the Underlying Index represent the top 75 high-yielding stocks meeting the screening requirements. The Morningstar index methodology determines “company quality” in accordance with the Morningstar Economic Moat TM rating system, in which companies are assigned a moat rating of “none,” “narrow” or “wide” based on the prospect of earning above average returns on capital and the strength of the company’s competitive advantage. Additionally, companies are screened for “financial health” using Morningstar’s Distance to Default measure, a quantitative option pricing approach that estimates a company’s probability of default. To qualify for inclusion in the Underlying Index, constituents must have a Morningstar Economic Moat rating of “narrow” or “wide” and have a Morningstar Distance to Default score in the top 50% of eligible dividend-paying companies within their sector. Companies that are not assigned a Morningstar Economic Moat rating must have a Morningstar Distance to Default score in the top 30% of eligible dividend-paying companies within their sector. Additionally, each constituent’s dividend must be deemed to be qualified income. The Underlying Index may include large-, mid- and small-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of April 30, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the energy and healthcare industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® Core International Aggregate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global non-U.S. dollar-denominated investment-grade bonds that mitigates exposure to fluctuations between the value of the component currencies and the U.S. dollar.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg Global Aggregate ex USD 10% Issuer Capped (Hedged) Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the global investment-grade (as determined by Bloomberg Index Services Limited (the “Index Provider” or “Bloomberg”)) bond market. As of October 31, 2023, there were 12,903 issues in the Underlying Index. The Underlying Index includes investment-grade fixed-rate sovereign and government-related debt, corporate and securitized bonds from both developed and emerging market issuers. Securities included in the Underlying Index are issued in currencies other than the U.S. dollar, must have maturities of at least one year and are required to meet minimum outstanding issue size criteria. The Underlying Index is market capitalization-weighted with a cap on each issuer of 10%. Debt that is publicly issued in the global and regional markets is included in the Underlying Index. Certain types of securities, such as USD-denominated bonds, contingent capital securities, inflation-linked bonds, floating-rate issues, fixed-rate perpetuals, retail bonds, structured notes, pass-through certificates, private placements (other than those offered pursuant to Rule 144A or Regulation S promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”)) and securities where reliable pricing is unavailable are excluded from the Underlying Index. The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month, and the currency risk of the securities in the Underlying Index are hedged to the U.S. dollar on a monthly basis. As of October 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by non U.S. government-related bonds. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. The Underlying Index was comprised of securities issued by governments in 61 countries or regions as well as securities issued or guaranteed by supranational entities as of October 31, 2023.</p> |
| iShares® Core MSCI EAFE ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large-, mid- and small-capitalization developed market equities, excluding the U.S. and Canada.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI EAFE IMI Index (the “Underlying Index”), which has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”). The Underlying Index is a free float-adjusted, market capitalization-weighted index designed to measure large-, mid- and small-capitalization equity market performance and includes stocks from Europe, Australasia and the Far East. As of July 31, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of securities from the following 21 developed market countries or regions: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”). As of July 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and industrials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Core MSCI Emerging Markets ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large-, mid- and small-capitalization emerging market equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI Emerging Markets Investable Market Index (IMI) (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to measure large-, mid- and small-capitalization equity market performance in the global emerging markets. As of August 31, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of securities from the following 24 emerging market countries: Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. As of August 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was comprised of 3,326 constituents. As of August 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Core MSCI Pacific ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large-, mid- and small-capitalization Pacific region equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI Pacific IMI (the “Underlying Index”), a free float-adjusted market capitalization-weighted index which consists of securities from the following five countries or regions: Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand and Singapore. The Underlying Index includes large-, mid- and small-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of July 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and industrials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Core S&P 500 ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large-capitalization U.S. equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P 500 (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the large-capitalization sector of the U.S. equity market, as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”). As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index included approximately 85% of the market capitalization of all publicly-traded U.S.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® Core S&P 500 ETF (continued) | equity securities. The securities in the Underlying Index are weighted based on the float-adjusted market value of their outstanding shares. The Underlying Index consists of securities from a broad range of industries. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the information technology industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. |
| iShares® Core S&P Mid-Cap ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of mid-capitalization U.S. equities.</p> <p>The Fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P MidCap 400 (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the mid-capitalization sector of the U.S. equity market, as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”). As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index included approximately 5.31% of the market capitalization of all publicly traded U.S. equity securities. The securities in the Underlying Index are weighted based on the float-adjusted market value of their outstanding shares, and have, as of March 31, 2023, a market capitalization between \$4.6 billion and \$12.7 billion at the time of inclusion in the Underlying Index, which may fluctuate depending on the overall level of the equity markets. The securities are selected by SPDJI based on certain factors including the Index Provider’s liquidity measures. The Underlying Index consists of securities from a broad range of industries. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the consumer discretionary and industrials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Core S&P Small-Cap ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of small-capitalization U.S. equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P SmallCap 400 (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the small-capitalization sector of the U.S. equity market, as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”). As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index included approximately 5.31% of the market capitalization of all publicly-traded U.S. equity securities. The securities in the Underlying Index are weighted based on the float-adjusted market value of their outstanding shares, and have, as of March 31, 2023, a market capitalization between \$4.6 billion and \$12.7 billion at the time of inclusion in the Underlying Index, which may fluctuate depending on the overall level of the equity markets. The securities are selected by SPDJI based on certain factors including the Index Provider’s liquidity measures. The Underlying Index consists of securities from a broad range of industries. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the consumer discretionary and industrials industries or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Core S&P Total U.S. Stock Market ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of a broad-based index composed of U.S. equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Total Market Index™ (TMI) (the “Underlying Index”), which is comprised of the common equities included in the S&P 500® and the S&P Completion Index™. The Underlying Index consists of all U.S. common equities listed on the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) (including NYSE Arca, Inc. (“NYSE Arca”) and NYSE American), the Nasdaq Global Select Market, the Nasdaq Select Market, the Nasdaq Capital Market, Cboe BZX, Cboe BYX, Cboe EDGA and Cboe EDGX, Inc. The securities in the Underlying Index are weighted based on the float-adjusted market value of their outstanding shares. Securities with higher float-adjusted market value have a larger representation in the Underlying Index. The S&P 500 measures the performance of the large-capitalization sector of the U.S. equity market. The S&P Completion Index measures the performance of the U.S. mid-, small- and micro-capitalization sector of the U.S. equity market excluding S&P 500 constituents. As of March 31, 2023, the S&P 500 and the S&P Completion Index included approximately 85% and 15%, respectively, of the market capitalization of the Underlying Index. The Underlying Index includes large-, mid-, small- and micro-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the information technology or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Core S&P U.S. Growth ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large- and mid-capitalization U.S. equities that exhibit growth characteristics.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P 900 Growth Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the large and mid- capitalization growth sector of the U.S. equity market, as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”). The Index Provider measures “growth” using three factors: sales growth, the ratio of earnings change to price, and momentum. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P 900, which combines the S&P 500® and the S&P MidCap 400®, and consists of those stocks in the S&P 900 exhibiting strong growth characteristics, as determined by SPDJI. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index represented approximately 53% of the total market capitalization of the S&P 900. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the healthcare and information technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® Core S&P U.S. Value ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large- and mid-capitalization U.S. equities that exhibit value characteristics.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P 900 Value Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the large- and mid-capitalization value sector of the U.S. equity market, as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”). The Index Provider measures “value” using three factors: the ratios of book value, earnings, and sales to price. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P 900, which combines the S&P 500® and the S&P MidCap 400®, and consists of those stocks in the S&P 900 exhibiting strong value characteristics, as determined by SPDJ. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index represented approximately 47% of the total market capitalization of the S&P 900. The Underlying Index includes large- and mid-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and information technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Core Total USD Bond Market ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated bonds that are rated either investment-grade or high yield.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg U.S. Universal Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of U.S. dollar-denominated taxable bonds that are rated either investment-grade or high yield (as determined by Bloomberg Index Services Limited (the “Index Provider” or “Bloomberg”). The Underlying Index includes U.S. Treasury bonds, government-related bonds (i.e., U.S. and non-U.S. agencies, sovereign, quasi-sovereign, supranational and local authority debt), investment-grade and high yield U.S. corporate bonds, mortgage-backed pass-through securities (“MBS”), commercial mortgage-backed securities, asset-backed securities, Eurodollar bonds, bonds registered with the SEC or exempt from registration at the time of issuance or offered pursuant to Rule 144A with or without registration rights and U.S. dollar-denominated emerging market bonds. The securities in the Underlying Index must be denominated in U.S. dollars. The Underlying Index consisted of securities from 106 countries or regions as of October 31, 2023. As of October 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by U.S. agency mortgage-backed securities and U.S. Treasury bonds. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® ESG Aware 1-5 Year USD Corporate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, investment-grade corporate bonds having remaining maturities between one and five years and issued by companies that have positive environmental, social and governance characteristics while seeking to exhibit risk and return characteristics similar to those of the parent index of such index.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg MSCI US Corporate 1-5 Year ESG Focus Index (the “Underlying Index”), which has been developed by Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (the “Index Provider” or “Bloomberg”) with environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) rating inputs from MSCI ESG Research LLC (“MSCI ESG Research”) pursuant to an agreement between MSCI ESG Research and Bloomberg Index Services Limited, a subsidiary of Bloomberg. The Underlying Index is an optimized fixed-income index designed to reflect the performance of U.S. dollar-denominated, investment-grade (as determined by Bloomberg) corporate bonds having remaining maturities between one and five years and issued by companies that have positive ESG characteristics (as determined by MSCI ESG Research ratings), while seeking to exhibit risk and return characteristics similar to those of the Bloomberg US Corporate 1-5 Years Index (the “Parent Index”). As of February 28, 2023, the Underlying Index included issuers from the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”), and the U.S. The Index Provider begins with the Parent Index and excludes companies involved in the business of tobacco, companies involved with controversial weapons, producers and retailers of civilian firearms, companies involved in certain fossil fuels-related activity (such as the production of thermal coal, thermal coal-based power generation and extraction of oil sands) based on revenue or percentage of revenue thresholds for certain categories (e.g., \$20 million or 5%) and categorical exclusions for others (e.g., controversial weapons). The Index Provider also excludes companies involved in very severe business controversies (in each case as determined by MSCI ESG Research), as well as securities of companies without an MSCI ESG Research rating, and then follows a quantitative process in an effort to determine optimal weights for securities to maximize exposure to securities of companies with higher ESG ratings subject to seeking to maintain risk and return characteristics similar to the Parent Index. For each industry, MSCI ESG Research identifies key ESG issues that can lead to substantial costs or opportunities for companies (e.g., climate change, resource scarcity, demographic shifts). MSCI ESG Research then rates each company’s exposure to each key issue based on the company’s business segment and geographic risk and analyzes the extent to which companies have developed robust strategies and programs to manage ESG risks and opportunities. MSCI ESG Research S-2 scores companies based on both their risk exposure and risk management. To score well on a key issue, MSCI ESG Research assesses management practices, management performance (through demonstrated track record and other quantitative performance indicators), governance structures, and/or implications in controversies, which all may be taken as a proxy for overall management</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® ESG Aware 1-5 Year USD Corporate Bond ETF (continued) | <p>quality. Controversies, including, among other things, issues involving anti-competitive practices, toxic emissions and waste, and health and safety, occurring within the last three years lead to a deduction from the overall management score on each issue. Using a sector-specific key issue weighting model, companies are rated and ranked in comparison to their industry peers. Key issues and weights are reviewed at the end of each calendar year. Corporate governance is always weighted and analyzed for all companies. As of February 28, 2023, there were 1,416 issues in the Underlying Index. As of February 28, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. The Underlying Index consists of U.S. dollar-denominated corporate bonds that are investment-grade, fixed-rate and taxable and have remaining effective maturities between one and five years. As of February 28, 2023, the average maturity of the securities in the Underlying Index was 2.9 years and the average credit rating was A3/Baa1. The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month.</p> |
| iShares® ESG Aware MSCI EAFE ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large- and mid-capitalization developed market equities, excluding the U.S. and Canada that have positive environmental, social and governance characteristics as identified by the index provider while exhibiting risk and return characteristics similar to those of the parent index.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI EAFE Extended ESG Focus Index (the “Underlying Index”), which has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”). The Underlying Index is an optimized index that is designed to reflect the equity performance of developed market companies (excluding the U.S. and Canada) that have favorable environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) characteristics (as determined by the Index Provider), while exhibiting risk and return characteristics similar to those of the MSCI EAFE Index (the “Parent Index”). The Index Provider begins with the Parent Index and excludes securities of companies involved in the business of tobacco, companies involved with controversial weapons, producers and retailers of civilian firearms, and companies involved in certain fossil fuels-related activity such as the production of thermal coal, thermal coal-based power generation and extraction of oil sands based on revenue or percentage of revenue thresholds for certain categories (e.g., \$20 million or 5%) and categorical exclusions for others (e.g., controversial weapons). The Index Provider also excludes companies that are directly involved in very severe, ongoing business controversies (in each case as determined by the Index Provider), and then follows a quantitative process that is designed to determine optimal weights for securities to maximize exposure to securities of companies with higher ESG ratings, subject to maintaining risk and return characteristics similar to the Parent Index. For each industry, the Index Provider identifies key ESG issues that can lead to unexpected costs for companies in the medium to long term. The Index Provider then calculates the size of each company’s exposure to each key issue based on the company’s business segment and geographic risk and analyzes the extent to which companies have developed robust strategies and programs to manage ESG risks and opportunities. Using a sector-specific key issue weighting model, companies are rated and ranked in comparison to their industry peers. As of August 31, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of securities from the following 21 developed market countries or regions: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”). The Underlying Index includes large- and mid-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of August 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and industrials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® ESG Aware MSCI EM ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large- and mid-capitalization emerging market equities that have positive environmental, social and governance characteristics as identified by the index provider while exhibiting risk and return characteristics similar to those of the parent index.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI Emerging Markets Extended ESG Focus Index (the “Underlying Index”), which has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”). The Underlying Index is an optimized equity index designed to reflect the equity performance of companies that have favorable environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) characteristics (as determined by the Index Provider), while exhibiting risk and return characteristics similar to those of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index (the “Parent Index”). The Index Provider begins with the Parent Index and excludes securities of companies involved in the business of tobacco, companies involved with controversial weapons, producers and retailers of civilian firearms, companies involved in certain fossil fuels-related activity such as the production of thermal coal, thermal coal-based power generation and extraction of oil sands based on revenue or percentage of revenue thresholds for certain categories (e.g. \$20 million or 5%) and categorical exclusions for others (e.g. controversial weapons). The Index Provider also excludes companies that are directly involved in very severe, ongoing business controversies (in each case as determined by the Index Provider), and then follows a quantitative process that is designed to determine optimal weights for securities to maximize exposure to securities of companies with higher ESG ratings, subject to maintaining risk and return characteristics similar to the Parent Index.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® ESG Aware MSCI EM ETF (continued) | <p>For each industry, the Index Provider identifies key ESG issues that can lead to unexpected costs for companies in the medium to long term. The Index Provider then calculates the size of each company's exposure to each key issue based on the company's business segment and geographic risk, and analyzes the extent to which companies have developed robust strategies and programs to manage ESG risks and opportunities. Using a sector-specific key issue weighting model, companies are rated and ranked in comparison to their industry peers. As of August 31, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of securities from the following 23 countries: Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Egypt, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. The Underlying Index includes large- and mid-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of August 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and technology industries or sectors.</p> <p>The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® ESG Aware MSCI USA ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. companies that have positive environmental, social and governance characteristics as identified by the index provider while exhibiting risk and return characteristics similar to those of the parent index.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI USA Extended ESG Focus Index (the "Underlying Index"), which has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the "Index Provider" or "MSCI"). The Underlying Index is an optimized equity index that is designed to reflect the equity performance of U.S. companies that have favorable environmental, social and governance ("ESG") characteristics (as determined by the Index Provider), while exhibiting risk and return characteristics similar to those of the MSCI USA Index (the "Parent Index"). The Index Provider begins with the Parent Index and excludes securities of companies involved in the business of tobacco, companies involved with controversial weapons, producers and retailers of civilian firearms, and companies included in certain fossil fuels-related activity such as the production of thermal coal, thermal coal-based power generation and extraction of oil sands based on revenue or percentage of revenue thresholds for certain categories (e.g., \$20 million or 5%) and categorical exclusions for others (e.g., controversial weapons). The Index Provider also excludes companies that are directly involved in very severe, ongoing business controversies (in each case as determined by the Index Provider), and then follows a quantitative process that is designed to determine optimal weights for securities to maximize exposure to securities of companies with higher ESG ratings, subject to maintaining risk and return characteristics similar to the Parent Index.</p> <p>For each industry, the Index Provider identifies key ESG issues that can lead to unexpected costs for companies in the medium- to long-term. The Index Provider then calculates the size of each company's exposure to each key issue based on the company's business segment and geographic risk and analyzes the extent to which companies have developed robust strategies and programs to manage ESG risks and opportunities. Using a sector-specific key issue weighting model, companies are rated and ranked in comparison to their industry peers. The Underlying Index includes large- and mid-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of August 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the technology industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® ESG Aware U.S. Aggregate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of the total U.S. investment-grade bond market.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg MSCI US Aggregate ESG Focus Index (the "Underlying Index"), which has been developed by Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (the "Index Provider" or "Bloomberg") with environmental, social and governance ("ESG") rating inputs from MSCI ESG Research LLC ("MSCI ESG Research") pursuant to an agreement between MSCI ESG Research and Bloomberg Index Services Limited (a subsidiary of Bloomberg) or an affiliate. The Underlying Index is an optimized fixed-income index designed to reflect the performance of U.S. dollar-denominated, investment-grade (as determined by the Index Provider) bonds from issuers generally evaluated for favorable ESG practices (as determined by MSCI ESG Research), while seeking to exhibit risk and return characteristics similar to those of the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index (the "Parent Index").</p> <p>The Underlying Index includes investment-grade U.S. Treasury bonds, non-securitized government-related bonds ("government-related bonds"), corporate bonds, mortgage-backed pass-through securities ("MBS"), commercial mortgage-backed securities ("CMBS") and asset-backed securities ("ABS") that are publicly offered for sale in the U.S.</p> <p>To construct the Underlying Index, the Index Provider begins with the Parent Index and replicates its U.S. Treasury bond, MBS, CMBS and ABS exposures. These exposures are preserved at the weights of the Parent Index and are not subject to the Index Provider's optimization process, which is a quantitative process that seeks to determine optimal weights for securities to maximize exposure to securities of entities with higher MSCI ESG Research ratings subject to seeking to maintain risk and return characteristics similar to the Parent Index. For the remaining constituents of the Parent Index (i.e., corporate bonds and government related bonds), the Index Provider excludes securities of entities involved in the business of tobacco, entities involved with controversial weapons, producers</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® ESG Aware U.S. Aggregate Bond ETF (continued) | <p>and retailers of civilian firearms, companies involved in certain fossil fuels-related activity (such as the production of thermal coal, thermal coal-based power generation and extraction of oil sands) based on revenue or percentage of revenue thresholds for certain categories (e.g., \$20 million or 5%) and categorical exclusions for others (e.g., controversial weapons). The Index Provider also excludes entities involved in very severe business controversies (in each case as determined by MSCI ESG Research), and securities of entities without an MSCI ESG Research rating, and then follows the Index Provider’s optimization process.</p> <p>For each industry, MSCI ESG Research identifies key ESG issues that can lead to substantial costs or opportunities for entities (e.g., climate change, resource scarcity, demographic shifts). MSCI ESG Research then rates each entity’s exposure to each key issue based on the entity’s business segment and geographic risk and analyzes the extent to which entities have developed robust strategies and programs to manage ESG risks and opportunities. MSCI ESG Research scores entities based on both their risk exposure and risk management. To score well on a key issue, MSCI ESG Research assesses management practices, management performance (through demonstrated track record and other quantitative performance indicators), governance structures, and/or implications in controversies, which all may be taken as a proxy for overall management quality. Controversies, including, among other things, issues involving anticompetitive practices, toxic emissions and waste, and health and safety, occurring within the last three years lead to a deduction from the overall management score on each issue. Using a sector-specific key issue weighting model, entities are rated and ranked in comparison to their industry peers. Key issues and weights are reviewed at the end of each calendar year. Corporate governance is always weighted and analyzed for all entities.</p> <p>The securities in the Underlying Index must have at least one year remaining to maturity, with the exception of amortizing securities such as ABS and MBS, which have lower thresholds as defined by the Index Provider. In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be denominated in U.S. dollars and must be fixed-rate and nonconvertible. Certain types of securities, such as state and local government series bonds, structured notes with embedded swaps or other special features, private placements (other than those offered pursuant to Rule 144A or Regulation S promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”)), floating rate securities and bonds that have been issued in one country’s currency but are traded outside of that country in a different monetary and regulatory system (e.g., Eurobonds), are excluded from the Underlying Index. The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month.</p> <p>As of February 28, 2023, bonds that are subject to the Index Provider’s optimization process, which composed approximately 29.52% of the bonds in the Underlying Index, received an MSCI ESG Research weighted average score of 7.99 on a scale from 0 to 10, with 10 being the highest score. As of February 28, 2023, U.S. Treasury bonds, which composed approximately 40.75% of the bonds in the Underlying Index, received an MSCI ESG Research score of 7.99. As of February 28, 2023, there were 8,031 issues in the Underlying Index. As of February 28, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by MBS and U.S. Treasury securities. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> <p>As of February 28, 2023, approximately 27.46% of the bonds in the Underlying Index were U.S. fixed-rate agency MBS. U.S. fixed-rate agency MBS are securities issued by entities such as the Government National Mortgage Association (“Ginnie Mae”), the Federal National Mortgage Association (“Fannie Mae”), and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) and are backed by pools of mortgages. U.S. fixed-rate agency MBS exposure does not receive any MSCI ESG Research rating as the Index Provider believes that U.S. fixed-rate agency MBS exposure is neither additive nor decremental to the Underlying Index’s ESG rating profile. As such, based on currently available data, the Index Provider believes U.S. fixed-rate agency MBS exposure is ESG neutral and not inconsistent with an ESG focused exposure. Most transactions in fixed rate MBS occur through standardized contracts for future delivery in which the exact mortgage pools to be delivered are not specified until a few days prior to settlement (to-be-announced (“TBA”) transactions). The fund may enter into such contracts on a regular basis. The fund, pending settlement of such contracts, will invest its assets in high quality, liquid short-term instruments, including shares of money market funds advised by BFA or its affiliates. The fund will assume its pro rata share of the fees and expenses of any money market fund that it may invest in, in addition to the fund’s own fees and expenses. The fund may also acquire interests in mortgage pools through means other than such standardized contracts for future delivery.</p> |
| iShares® ESG Aware USD Corporate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, investment-grade corporate bonds issued by companies that have positive environmental, social and governance characteristics while seeking to exhibit risk and return characteristics similar to those of the parent index of such index.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg MSCI US Corporate ESG Focus Index (the “Underlying Index”), which has been developed by Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (the “Index Provider” or “Bloomberg”) with environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) rating inputs from MSCI ESG Research LLC (“MSCI ESG Research”) pursuant to an agreement between MSCI ESG Research and Bloomberg Index Services Limited, a subsidiary of Bloomberg. The Underlying Index is an optimized fixed income index designed to reflect the performance of U.S. dollar denominated,</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® ESG Aware USD Corporate Bond ETF (continued) | <p>investment-grade (as determined by Bloomberg) corporate bonds issued by companies that have positive ESG characteristics (as determined by MSCI ESG Research ratings), while seeking to exhibit risk and return characteristics similar to those of the Bloomberg US Corporate Index (the “Parent Index”). As of February 28, 2023, the Underlying</p> <p>Index included issuers from the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”), and the U.S.</p> <p>The Index Provider begins with the Parent Index and excludes companies involved in the business of tobacco, companies involved with controversial weapons, producers and retailers of civilian firearms, companies involved in certain fossil fuels-related activity (such as the production of thermal coal, thermal coal-based power generation and extraction of oil sands) based on revenue or percentage of revenue thresholds for certain categories (e.g., \$20 million or 5%) and categorical exclusions for others (e.g., controversial weapons). The Index Provider also excludes companies involved in severe business controversies (in each case as determined by MSCI ESG Research), as well as securities of companies without an MSCI ESG Research rating, and then follows a quantitative process in an effort to determine optimal weights for securities to maximize exposure to securities of companies with higher ESG ratings subject to seeking to maintain risk and return characteristics similar to the Parent Index.</p> <p>For each industry, MSCI ESG Research identifies key ESG issues that can lead to substantial costs or opportunities for companies (e.g., climate change, resource scarcity, demographic shifts). MSCI ESG Research then rates each company’s exposure to each key issue based on the company’s business segment and geographic risk and analyzes the extent to which companies have developed robust strategies and programs to manage ESG risks and opportunities. MSCI ESG Research scores companies based on both their risk exposure and risk management. To score well on a key issue, MSCI ESG Research assesses management practices, management performance (through demonstrated track record and other quantitative performance indicators), governance structures, and/or implications in controversies, which all may be taken as a proxy for overall management quality. Controversies, including, among other things, issues involving anti-competitive practices, toxic emissions and waste, and health and safety, occurring within the last three years lead to a deduction from the overall management score on each issue. Using a sector-specific key issue weighting model, companies are rated and ranked in comparison to their industry peers. Key issues and weights are reviewed at the end of each calendar year. Corporate governance is always weighted and analyzed for all companies.</p> <p>As of February 28, 2023, there were 3,738 issues in the Underlying Index. As of February 28, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the consumer staples and financials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> <p>The Underlying Index consists of U.S. dollar-denominated corporate bonds that are investment-grade, fixed-rate and taxable and have remaining maturities of greater than or equal to one year. As of February 28, 2023, the average maturity of the securities in the Underlying Index was 10.95 years and the average credit rating was A3/Baa1. The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month.</p> |
| iShares® Europe ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of European equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Europe 350 TM (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the securities of leading companies in the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”). The market capitalization of constituent companies is adjusted to reflect the available float and, if necessary, any foreign investment restrictions. The stocks in the Underlying Index are chosen by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”) for market size, liquidity, industry group representation and geographic diversity. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P Global 1200, which is designed to measure the performance of large capitalization stocks from major global markets, as determined by SPDJI. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and healthcare industries or sectors.</p> <p>The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Fallen Angels USD Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, high yield corporate bonds that were previously rated investment grade.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg US High Yield Fallen Angel 3% Capped Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to reflect the performance of U.S. dollar denominated, high yield (as determined by Bloomberg Index Services Limited (the “Index Provider” or “Bloomberg”)) corporate bonds that were previously rated investment grade. Bonds are market value weighted with a 3% cap on each issuer.</p> <p>The bonds eligible for inclusion in the Underlying Index are U.S. dollar denominated corporate bonds that: (i) are issued by companies domiciled in countries classified as developed markets by the Index</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® Fallen Angels USD Bond ETF (continued) | <p>Provider (based primarily on World Bank income classifications); (ii) have an average rating of below-investment grade (as determined by the Index Provider); (iii) previously had an average rating of investment grade; (iv) have at least \$150 million of outstanding face value; (v) have a fixed-rate coupon; and (vi) have at least one year to maturity. In determining whether a bond has an average rating of investment grade or below-investment grade, ratings from Moody’s Investors Services, Inc. (“Moody’s”), S&P Global Ratings and Fitch Ratings, Inc. (“Fitch”) are considered. Securities in the Underlying Index must be rated below-investment grade (lower than “BBB-” by S&P Global Ratings and Fitch, or “Baa3” by Moody’s) using the middle rating of Moody’s, S&P Global Ratings, or Fitch after dropping the highest and lowest available ratings. When a rating from only two agencies is available, the lower “more conservative” rating is used. When a rating from only one agency is available, that rating is used to determine eligibility in the Underlying Index. If an issue is unrated, the Index Provider may consider expected ratings and/or issuer-level ratings adopted by a ratings agency. There is no limit to the number of issues in the Underlying Index, but as of October 31, 2023, the Underlying Index included approximately 212 constituents. As of October 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the consumer cyclical and financials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Floating Rate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, investment-grade floating rate bonds with remaining maturities between one month and five years.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg US Floating Rate Note < 5 Years Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of U.S. dollar denominated, investment-grade (as determined by Bloomberg Index Services Limited (the “Index Provider” or “Bloomberg”)) floating rate notes. Securities in the Underlying Index have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to one month and less than five years, and have \$300 million or more of outstanding face value. As of October 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. As of October 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was composed of securities of companies in the following countries or regions: Australia, Canada, China, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”) and the U.S. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> <p>The Underlying Index consists of debt instruments that pay a variable coupon rate, based on a reference rate such as the 3-month London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) or the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (“SOFR”) and a fixed spread. The Underlying Index is market capitalization-weighted and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month. The Underlying Index may include U.S. registered, dollar denominated bonds of non-U.S. corporations, governments and supranational entities.</p> |
| iShares® Global Comm Services ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global equities in the communication services sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Global 1200 Communication Services 4.5/22.5/45 Capped Index™ (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to measure the performance of global equities in the communication services sector (as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”)). The Underlying Index uses a capping methodology to limit the weight of the securities of any single issuer (as determined by SPDJI) to a maximum of 25% of the Underlying Index. Additionally, the capping methodology limits the sum of the weights of the securities of all issuers that individually constitute more than 5% of the weight of the Underlying Index to a maximum of 50% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. In order to implement this capping methodology, the Underlying Index constrains at quarterly rebalance: (i) the weight of any single issuer to a maximum of 22.5%, and (ii) the aggregate weight of all issuers that individually exceed 4.5% of the index weight to maximum of 45%. In implementing this capping methodology, SPDJI may consider two or more companies as belonging to the same issuer where there is reasonable evidence of common control. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P Global 1200TM. The Underlying Index includes large-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the communication services industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was composed of securities of companies in the following countries: Australia, Canada, China, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”) and the U.S.</p> |
| iShares® Global Consumer Discretionary ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global equities in the consumer discretionary sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Global 1200 Consumer Discretionary (Sector) Capped Index™ (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to measure the performance of global equities in the consumer discretionary sector. The Underlying Index uses a capping methodology to limit the weight of the securities of any single issuer (as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”)) to a maximum of 10% of the Underlying Index. Additionally, the capping methodology limits the sum of the weights of the securities of all issuers</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® Global Consumer Discretionary ETF (continued) | <p>that individually constitute more than 5% of the weight of the Underlying Index to a maximum of 25% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. In order to implement this capping methodology, the Underlying Index rebalances quarterly to limit: (i) the weight of any single issuer to a maximum of 10%, and (ii) the aggregate weight of all issuers that individually exceed 4.50% of the Underlying Index weight to maximum of 22.50%. Between scheduled quarterly reviews, the Underlying Index is rebalanced at the end of any day on which issuers that individually constitute more than 5% of the weight of the Underlying Index collectively represent more than 25% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. In implementing this capping methodology, SPDJI may consider two or more companies as belonging to the same issuer where there is reasonable evidence of common control. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P Global 1200 TM , which is designed to measure the performance of large-capitalization stocks from major global markets, as determined by SPDJI. Component companies include consumer product manufacturing, service and retail companies. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the consumer discretionary industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was composed of securities of companies in the following countries or regions: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”) and the U.S.</p> |
| iShares® Global Consumer Staples ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global equities in the consumer staples sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Global 1200 Consumer Staples (Sector) Capped Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to measure the performance of global equities in the consumer staples sector (as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJI”). The Underlying Index uses a capping methodology to limit the weight of the securities of any single issuer (as determined by SPDJI) to a maximum of 10% of the Underlying Index. Additionally, the capping methodology limits the sum of the weights of the securities of all issuers that individually constitute more than 5% of the weight of the Underlying Index to a maximum of 25% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. In order to implement this capping methodology, the Underlying Index rebalances quarterly to limit: (i) the weight of any single issuer to a maximum of 10%, and (ii) the aggregate weight of all issuers that individually exceed 4.50% of the Underlying Index weight to maximum of 22.50%. Between scheduled quarterly index reviews, the Underlying Index is rebalanced at the end of any day on which all issuers that individually constitute more than 5% of the weight of the Underlying Index collectively represent more than 25% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. In implementing this capping methodology, SPDJI may consider two or more companies as belonging to the same issuer where there is reasonable evidence of common control. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P Global 1200 TM , which is designed to measure the performance of large-capitalization stocks from major global markets, as determined by SPDJI. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the consumer staples industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was composed of securities of companies in the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”) and the U.S.</p> |
| iShares® Global Energy ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global equities in the energy sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Global 1200 Energy 4.5/22.5/45 Capped Index TM (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to measure the performance of global equities in the energy sector. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P Global 1200, which is designed to measure the performance of large capitalization stocks from major global markets, as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJI”).</p> <p>The Underlying Index uses a capping methodology to limit the weight of the securities of any single issuer (as determined by SPDJI) to a maximum of 25% of the Underlying Index. Additionally, the capping methodology limits the sum of the weights of the securities of all issuers that individually constitute more than 5% of the weight of the Underlying Index to a maximum of 50% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. In order to implement this capping methodology, the Underlying Index constrains at quarterly rebalance: (i) the weight of any single issuer to a maximum of 22.5%, and (ii) the aggregate weight of all issuers that individually exceed 4.5% of the index weight to a maximum of 45%. In implementing this capping methodology, SPDJI may consider two or more companies as belonging to the same issuer where there is reasonable evidence of common control.</p> <p>As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the energy industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was composed of securities of companies in the following countries: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Finland, France, Italy, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”) and the U.S.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® Global Financials ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global equities in the financials sector. The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Global 1200 Financials Index TM (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of companies that S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”), a subsidiary of S&P Global, Inc., deems to be part of the financials sector of the economy and that SPDJ believes are important to global markets. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P Global 1200, which is designed to measure the performance of large-capitalization stocks from major global markets, as determined by SPDJ. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was comprised of securities of companies in the following countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”) and the U.S.</p> |
| iShares® Global Healthcare ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global equities in the healthcare sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Global 1200 Health Care Index TM (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of companies that S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”), a subsidiary of S&P Global, Inc., deems to be a part of the healthcare sector of the economy and that SPDJ believes are important to global markets. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P Global 1200, which is designed to measure the performance of large capitalization stocks from major global markets, as determined by SPDJ. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the healthcare industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was composed of securities of companies in the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”) and the U.S.</p> |
| iShares® Global Infrastructure ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of developed market equities in the infrastructure industry.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Global Infrastructure Index TM (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to track performance of the stocks of large infrastructure companies in developed or emerging markets (only developed market listings are eligible for stocks of issuers domiciled in emerging markets). The Underlying Index includes companies involved in utilities, energy and transportation infrastructure, such as the management or ownership of oil and gas storage and transportation; airport services; highways and rail tracks; marine ports and services; and electric, gas and water utilities. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was comprised of securities of companies in the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”) and the U.S. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the energy, industrials, infrastructure and utilities industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Global Materials ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global equities in the materials sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Global 1200 Materials Index TM (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of companies that S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”), a subsidiary of S&P Global, Inc., deems to be part of the materials sector of the economy and that SPDJ believes are important to global markets. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P Global 1200, which is designed to measure the performance of large-capitalization stocks from major global markets, as determined by SPDJ. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the materials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was composed of securities of companies in the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”) and the U.S.</p> |
| iShares® Global Tech ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global equities in the technology sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Global 1200 Information Technology 4.5/22.5/45 Capped Index TM (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to measure the performance of global equities in the information technology sector. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P Global 1200, which is designed to measure the performance of large capitalization stocks from major global markets, as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”).</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® Global Tech ETF (continued) | <p>The Underlying Index uses a capping methodology to limit the weight of the securities of any single issuer (as determined by SPDJI) to a maximum of 25% of the Underlying Index. Additionally, the capping methodology limits the sum of the weights of the securities of all issuers that individually constitute more than 5% of the weight of the Underlying Index to a maximum of 50% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. In order to implement this capping methodology, the Underlying Index constrains at quarterly rebalance: (i) the weight of any single issuer to a maximum of 22.5%, and (ii) the aggregate weight of all issuers that individually exceed 4.5% of the index weight to a maximum of 45%. In implementing this capping methodology, SPDJI may consider two or more companies as belonging to the same issuer where there is reasonable evidence of common control.</p> <p>As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the information technology and technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was composed of securities of companies in the following countries: Canada, China, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”) and the U.S.</p> |
| iShares® Global Utilities ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global equities in the utilities sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Global 1200 Utilities (Sector) Capped Index TM (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of companies that S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJI”), a subsidiary of S&P Global, Inc., deems to be part of the utilities sector of the economy. The Underlying Index is a subset of the S&P Global 1200, which is designed to measure the performance of large- capitalization stocks from major global markets, as determined by SPDJI. The Underlying Index uses a capping methodology to limit the weight of the securities of any single issuer (as determined by SPDJI) to a maximum of 10% of the Underlying Index. Additionally, the capping methodology limits the sum of the weights of the securities of all issuers that individually constitute more than 5% of the weight of the Underlying Index to a maximum of 25% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. In order to implement this capping methodology, the Underlying Index constrains at quarterly rebalance: (i) the weight of any single issuer to a maximum of 10%, and (ii) the aggregate weight of all issuers that individually exceed 4.5% of the index weight to a maximum of 22.5%. Between scheduled quarterly index reviews, the Underlying Index is rebalanced at the end of any day on which all issuers that individually constitute more than 5% of the weight of the Underlying Index constitute more than 25% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. In implementing this capping methodology, SPDJI considers two or more companies as belonging to the same issuer where more than 20% of all voting shares in a subsidiary are controlled by the same issuer control group.</p> <p>As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the utilities industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was comprised of securities of companies in the following countries or regions: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”) and the U.S.</p> |
| iShares® GSCI Commodity Dynamic Roll Strategy ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of a broad range of commodity exposures with enhanced roll selection, on a total return basis.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P GSCI Dynamic Roll (USD) Total Return Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of futures contracts such as aluminum, Brent crude oil, cocoa, coffee, copper, corn, cotton, gas oil, feeder cattle, gold, heating oil, lean hogs, lead, live cattle, natural gas, nickel, silver, soybeans, sugar, unleaded gasoline, wheat, West Texas Intermediate crude oil and zinc. The Underlying Index is rebalanced on an annual basis.</p> <p>In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the fund will invest in a combination of exchange-traded commodity futures contracts, exchange traded options on commodity-related futures contracts and exchange-cleared commodity related swaps (together, “Commodity-Linked Investments”), thereby obtaining exposure to the commodities markets. Commodity Linked Investments may also include exchange-cleared swaps on commodities and exchange-traded options on futures that provide exposure to the investment returns of the commodities markets, without investing directly in physical commodities. Investing in Commodity Linked Investments may have a leveraging effect on the fund.</p> <p>The fund also seeks to generate interest income and capital appreciation on the cash balances arising from its investment in Commodity-Linked Investments through a cash management strategy consisting primarily of investments in short-term, investment-grade fixed-income securities that include U.S. government and agency securities, treasury inflation-protected securities, sovereign debt obligations of non-U.S. countries, and repurchase agreements, money market instruments and cash and other cash equivalents (collectively, “Fixed Income Investments”). The fund uses Fixed-Income Investments as investments and to provide sufficient assets to account for (or “cover”) mark-to-market changes and to collateralize the Subsidiary’s (as defined below) Commodity-Linked Investments exposure on a day-to-day basis. As of October 31, 2023, the Underlying Index was comprised of 24 components.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® iBoxx \$ High Yield Corporate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, high yield corporate bonds.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Markit iBoxx® USD Liquid High Yield Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is a rules-based index consisting of U.S. dollar-denominated, high yield (as determined by Markit Indices Limited (the “Index Provider” or “Markit”)) corporate bonds for sale in the U.S. The Underlying Index is designed to provide a broad representation of the U.S. dollar denominated liquid high yield corporate bond market. The Underlying Index is a modified market-value weighted index with a cap on each issuer of 3%. There is no limit to the number of issues in the Underlying Index. As of February 28, 2023, the Underlying Index included approximately 1,175 constituents. As of February 28, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the consumer services industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> <p>Bonds in the Underlying Index are selected from the universe of eligible bonds in the Markit iBoxx USD Corporate Bond Index using defined rules. As of the date of this prospectus (the “Prospectus”), the bonds eligible for inclusion in the Underlying Index include U.S. dollar-denominated high yield corporate bonds that: (i) are issued by companies domiciled in countries classified as developed markets by Markit; (ii) have an average rating of sub-investment grade (ratings from Fitch Ratings, Inc. (“Fitch”), Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) or Standard & Poor’s® Global Ratings, a subsidiary of S&P Global (“S&P Global Ratings”) are considered; if more than one agency provides a rating, the average rating is attached to the bond); (iii) are from issuers with at least \$1 billion outstanding face value; (iv) have at least \$400 million of outstanding face value; (v) have an original maturity date of less than 15 years; (vi) have at least one year to maturity; and (vii) have at least one year and 6 months to maturity for new index insertions.</p> |
| iShares® iBoxx \$ Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, investment-grade corporate bonds.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Markit iBoxx® USD Liquid Investment Grade Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is a rules based index consisting of U.S. dollar denominated, investment-grade (as determined by Markit Indices Limited (the “Index Provider” or “Markit”)) corporate bonds for sale in the U.S. The Underlying Index is designed to provide a broad representation of the U.S. dollar-denominated liquid investment grade corporate bond market. The Underlying Index is a modified market value weighted index with a cap on each issuer of 3%. There is no limit to the number of issues in the Underlying Index. As of February 28, 2023, the Underlying Index included approximately 2,570 constituents. As of February 28, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time</p> <p>The Underlying Index is a subset of the Markit iBoxx USD Corporate Bond Index, which as of February 28, 2023 is an index of 7,573 investment-grade bonds. Bonds in the Underlying Index are selected from the universe of eligible bonds in the Markit iBoxx USD Corporate Bond Index using defined rules. As of the date of this prospectus (the “Prospectus”), the bonds eligible for inclusion in the Underlying Index consist of U.S. dollar-denominated corporate bonds that: (i) are issued by companies domiciled in countries classified as developed markets by Markit; (ii) have an average rating of investment grade (ratings from Fitch Ratings, Inc., Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. or Standard & Poor’s® Global Ratings, a subsidiary of S&P Global (“S&P Global Ratings”) are considered; if more than one agency provides a rating, the average rating is attached to the bond); (iii) are from issuers with at least \$2 billion outstanding face value; (iv) have at least \$750 million of outstanding face value; (v) have at least three years to maturity; and (vi) have at least three years and 6 months to maturity for new index insertions.</p> |
| iShares® International Developed Real Estate ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of real estate equities in developed non-U.S. markets.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the FTSE EPRA Nareit Developed ex US Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of companies engaged in the ownership, trading and development of income-producing real estate in the developed real estate markets (except for the U.S.) as defined by FTSE EPRA Nareit. As of April 30, 2023, the Underlying Index was composed of securities of companies in the following countries or regions: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”). As of April 30, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index includes companies offering various real estate services, real estate operating companies and real estate investment trusts (“REITs”). The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® International Select Dividend ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of relatively high dividend paying equities in non-U.S. developed markets.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Dow Jones EPAC Select Dividend Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is provided by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJI”). The Underlying Index measures the performance of 100 high dividend-paying companies in the EPAC</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® International Select Dividend ETF (continued) | <p>(Europe, Pacific, Asia and Canada) region, which covers developed markets excluding the U.S. Constituents are selected according to indicated annual dividend (“IAD”) yield, subject to screening criteria and weighting constraints. IAD yield is defined as a stock’s IAD (not including any special dividends) divided by its price. The starting universe for the Underlying Index is the S&P EPAC BMI and the S&P Canada BMI indexes, excluding real estate investment trusts. To be eligible for the Underlying Index as a new constituent, an issuer must (i) have paid dividends in each of the previous three years; (ii) have a current year trailing 12-month dividend-per-share ratio that is greater than or equal to its three-year average dividend-per-share ratio; and (iii) have a five-year average dividend coverage ratio that is greater than or equal to two-thirds of the five-year average dividend coverage ratio of the corresponding S&P BMI country index, or greater than 118%, whichever is greater. In addition, the security must have (x) a non-negative trailing 12-month earnings per share; (y) a float adjusted market capitalization of at least \$1 billion, or at least \$750 million for current constituents; and (z) a three month average daily trading value of at least \$3 million. Current constituents are included in the eligible universe regardless of their dividend growth rate, coverage ratio, current year earnings per share or average daily trading value. To select the 100 constituents, the Index Provider ranks the eligible securities by IAD yield and first includes all existing constituents that are ranked in the top 200 and then selects non constituent stocks in rank order until the count reaches 100. The Underlying Index is reconstituted annually with constituent weights determined based on tilted IAD yield, which is calculated by multiplying the constituent’s IAD yield (capped at 20%) by the square root of its fair market capitalization. The weight of individual securities is capped at the lower of 10% or five times the constituent’s fair market capitalization weight within the Underlying Index. In addition, there is a 30% cap on the aggregate weight of constituents within each Global Industry Classification Standard sector and each country of domicile. The Underlying Index is reviewed daily based on each constituent’s weight. Daily capping is performed if the aggregate weight of constituents with an individual weight greater than 4.8% exceeds 24% of the Underlying Index’s total weight. If that threshold is breached, the current constituent weights are recapped, with the weights of individual constituents capped at 10% and the aggregate weight of constituents with an individual weight greater than 4.5% capped at 22.5% of the Underlying Index’s total weight. IAD yields and tilted yield weights are not recalculated if the capping thresholds are breached throughout the year. A freeze period on the daily capping is implemented during the annual index reconstitution.</p> <p>As of January 22, 2024, the Underlying Index was composed of securities of companies in the following countries or regions: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”). The fund invests in non U.S. securities, which may in some cases not produce qualifying dividend income. The Underlying Index includes large-, mid- and small-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of January 22, 2024, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials, industrials, and materials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® J.P. Morgan EM Local Currency Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of local currency denominated, emerging market sovereign bonds.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the J.P. Morgan GBI-EM Global Diversified 15% Cap 4.5% Floor Index (the “Underlying Index”), which tracks the performance of local currency denominated sovereign bond markets of emerging market countries. All bonds included in the Underlying Index are selected according to a set of rule based inclusion criteria regarding issue size, bond type, maturity, and liquidity. The securities included in the Underlying Index are rebalanced on the last weekday of the month. Eligible countries included in the Underlying Index are determined by JPMorgan Chase & Co. or its affiliates (the “Index Provider” or “J.P. Morgan”) based on the Index Provider’s definition of emerging market countries.</p> <p>Eligible issuer countries must have (1) gross national income (“GNI”) below the Index Income Ceiling (“IIC”) for three consecutive years or (2) an Index Purchasing Power Parity Ratio (the “IPR”) below the EM IPR threshold, each as defined by the Index Provider, for three consecutive years. An existing country may be considered for removal from the Underlying Index if its GNI per capita is above the IIC for three consecutive years and its long-term sovereign credit rating from Standard & Poor’s Global Ratings (“S&P Global”), Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”), and Fitch Ratings, Inc. (“Fitch”) is A-/A3/A- or above for three consecutive years. For purposes of compiling the Underlying Index, individual country weights are capped at maximum 15% and floored at minimum 4.5%. Eligible individual securities must have a minimum face amount outstanding of U.S. \$1 billion equivalent for onshore local currency bonds and U.S. \$500 million for global bonds (offshore currency linked bonds). All component securities must have at least 2.5 years to maturity from the inclusion date and a remaining maturity of 6 months or greater at the time of rebalancing to remain eligible for the Underlying Index.</p> <p>Floating-rate issues, capitalization/ amortizing bonds, and bonds with callable, puttable or convertible features are not eligible for inclusion in the Underlying Index.</p> <p>As of October 31, 2023, the Underlying Index included securities issued by Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Hungary, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Romania, Serbia, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey and Uruguay.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® J.P. Morgan USD Emerging Markets Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, emerging market bonds.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the J.P. Morgan EMBI® Global Core Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is a broad, diverse U.S. dollar denominated emerging markets debt benchmark that tracks the total return of actively traded external debt instruments in emerging market countries. The methodology is designed to distribute the weight of each country within the Underlying Index by limiting the weights of countries with higher debt outstanding and reallocating this excess to countries with lower debt outstanding.</p> <p>The Underlying Index was composed of 54 countries as of October 31, 2023. As of October 31, 2023, the Underlying Index’s five highest weighted countries were Indonesia, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates.</p> <p>The Underlying Index may change its composition and weighting monthly upon rebalancing. The Underlying Index includes both fixed-rate and floating rate instruments issued by sovereign and quasi-sovereign entities from index eligible countries. Quasi-sovereign entities are defined as entities that are 100% guaranteed or 100% owned by the national government and reside in the index-eligible country. To be considered for inclusion in the Underlying Index, instruments must (i) be denominated in U.S. dollars, (ii) have a current face amount outstanding of \$1 billion or more, (iii) have at least 2.5 years until maturity to be eligible for inclusion and, at each subsequent rebalance, have at least one year until maturity to remain in the index, (iv) be able to settle internationally through Euroclear or another institution domiciled outside the issuing country and (v) have bid and offer prices that are available on a daily and timely basis sourced from a third party valuation vendor. As of October 31, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of both investment-grade and non-investment-grade bonds (commonly referred to as “junk bonds”), each as defined by JPMorgan Chase & Co. (the “Index Provider” or “J.P. Morgan”). Convertible bonds are not eligible for inclusion in the Underlying Index. The Underlying Index is market value weighted and is rebalanced monthly on the last business day of the month. Eligible issuer countries must have (1) gross national income (“GNI”) below the Index Income Ceiling (“IIC”) for three consecutive years or (2) an Index Purchasing Power Parity Ratio (the “IPR”) below the emerging market IPR threshold, each as defined by the Index Provider, for three consecutive years.</p> |
| iShares® MBS ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of investment-grade mortgage-backed pass-through securities issued and/or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg U.S. MBS Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of investment-grade (as determined by Bloomberg Index Services Limited (the “Index Provider” or “Bloomberg”)) mortgage-backed pass-through securities (“MBS”) issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies or sponsored entities. The Underlying Index includes fixed-rate MBS issued by the Government National Mortgage Association (“GNMA” or “Ginnie Mae”), Federal National Mortgage Association (“Fannie Mae”) and Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) that have 30-, 20-, or 15-year maturities. All securities in the Underlying Index must have a remaining weighted average maturity of at least one year. In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be denominated in U.S. dollars and must be non-convertible. The Underlying Index is market capitalization-weighted and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month.</p> <p>As of February 28, 2023, approximately 100% of the bonds represented in the Underlying Index were U.S. agency MBS. Most transactions in MBS occur through standardized contracts for future delivery in which the exact mortgage pools to be delivered are not specified until a few days prior to settlement (to-be-announced (“TBA”) transactions). The fund may enter into such contracts for fixed-rate pass through securities on a regular basis. The fund, pending settlement of such contracts, will invest its assets in liquid, short-term instruments, including shares of money market funds advised by BFA or its affiliates. The fund will assume its pro rata share of the fees and expenses of any money market fund that it may invest in, in addition to the fund’s own fees and expenses. The fund may also acquire interests in mortgage pools through means other than such standardized contracts for future delivery.</p> |
| iShares® Micro-Cap ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of micro-capitalization U.S. equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Russell Microcap Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the microcap sector of the U.S. equity market, as defined by FTSE Russell (the “Index Provider” or “Russell”). The Underlying Index is a float-adjusted capitalization-weighted index and includes equity securities issued by issuers with total market capitalizations ranging from approximately \$4 million to \$4.6 billion, although this range may change from time to time. The Underlying Index consists of approximately the 1,000 smallest issuers in the Russell 3000® Index plus the next 1,000 smallest issuers in the equity universe as determined by Russell. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and healthcare industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® MSCI Canada ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of Canadian equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI Canada Custom Capped Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to measure broad based equity performance in Canada. The Underlying Index constrains at quarterly rebalance the weight of any single issuer to a maximum of 22.5% of the Underlying Index. Additionally, the sum of the issuers that individually constitute more than 4.75% of the weight of the Underlying Index will not exceed a maximum of 22.5% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. Between quarterly rebalances, the Underlying Index constrains weight of any single issuer to a maximum of 22.5% of the Underlying Index and constrains the sum of the issuers that individually constitute more than 5% of the weight of the Underlying Index to maximum of 24% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. The Underlying Index is a variation of the MSCI Canada Index, designed to take into account the investment diversification requirements applicable to RICs pursuant to Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code. The Underlying Index includes large- and mid-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of August 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the energy and financials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI EAFE ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large- and mid-capitalization developed market equities, excluding the U.S. and Canada.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI EAFE Index (the “Underlying Index”), which has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”). The Underlying Index is a free float-adjusted, market capitalization-weighted index designed to measure large- and mid-capitalization equity market performance of developed markets outside of the U.S. and Canada. The Underlying Index includes stocks from Europe, Australasia and the Far East and, as of July 31, 2023, consisted of securities from the following 21 developed market countries or regions: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”). As of July 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and industrials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI EAFE Growth ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of developed market equities, excluding the U.S. and Canada, that exhibit growth characteristics.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI EAFE Growth Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is a subset of the MSCI EAFE Index. The MSCI EAFE Index has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”) to measure the equity market performance of developed markets outside of the U.S. and Canada.</p> <p>Constituents of the Underlying Index include securities of companies located in Europe, Australasia and the Far East. The Underlying Index generally represents approximately 50% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization of the MSCI EAFE Index and consists of those securities classified by MSCI as most representing the growth style. MSCI uses five variables to identify growth style securities: long-term forward earnings per share (“EPS”) growth rate, short-term forward EPS growth rate, current internal growth rate, long-term historical EPS growth trend and long-term historical sales per share growth trend. MSCI uses a specialized framework to attribute both value and growth style characteristics to each security within the MSCI EAFE Index. Each security is evaluated based on certain value factors and growth factors, which are then used to calculate a value score and a growth score. Based upon these two scores, MSCI determines the extent to which each security is assigned to the value or growth style. It is possible for a single security to have representation in both the value and growth style indexes; however, no more than 100% of a security’s float-adjusted market capitalization will be included within the combined style framework. The Underlying Index includes large- and mid-capitalization companies and may change over time.</p> <p>As of July 31, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of securities from the following countries or regions: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”). As of July 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the consumer discretionary, healthcare and industrials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI EAFE Min Vol Factor ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of developed market equities that, in the aggregate, have lower volatility characteristics relative to the broader developed equity markets, excluding the U.S. and Canada.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI EAFE Minimum Volatility (USD) Index (the “Underlying Index”), which has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”) to measure the performance of international equity securities (excluding the U.S. and Canada) that in the aggregate have lower volatility relative to the MSCI EAFE Index (the “Parent Index”), which is a capitalization-weighted index. In constructing the Underlying Index, MSCI uses a rules-based methodology to select securities from the Parent Index and to determine their weightings. In order to</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® MSCI EAFE Min Vol Factor ETF (continued) | <p>determine weightings of securities within the Underlying Index, MSCI seeks to optimize the Parent Index such that the resulting portfolio exhibits the lowest absolute volatility, as measured by MSCI, while applying constraints based on turnover, minimum and maximum weightings of index constituents, sectors, and countries as well as factor constraints (for example, liquidity and financial leverage) as measured by MSCI</p> <p>The Underlying Index includes stocks from Europe, Australasia, the Middle East and the Far East and, as of July 31, 2023, consisted of securities from the following 20 developed market countries or regions: Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”). The Underlying Index includes large- and mid-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of July 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials, industrials and healthcare industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI EAFE Small-Cap ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of small-capitalization developed market equities, excluding the U.S. and Canada.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI EAFE Small Cap Index (the “Underlying Index”), which represents the small-capitalization segment of the MSCI EAFE IMI Index. The MSCI EAFE IMI Index is an equity index developed by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”) that captures large-, mid- and smallcapitalization representation across developed markets outside of the U.S. and Canada. Constituents of the Underlying Index include securities from Europe, Australasia and the Far East. Under MSCI’s Global Investable Market Index (IMI) methodology, the small capitalization universe consists of securities of those companies not included in the large-capitalization or mid-capitalization segments of a particular market, which together comprise approximately 85% of each market’s free float-adjusted market capitalization. The small-cap segment covers the 85%-99% range of each market’s free float-adjusted market capitalization.</p> <p>As of July 31, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of securities from the following 21 developed market countries or regions: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”). As of July 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the industrials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI EAFE Value ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of developed market equities, excluding the U.S. and Canada, that exhibit value characteristics.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI EAFE Value Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is a subset of the MSCI EAFE Index. The MSCI EAFE Index has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”) to measure the equity market performance of developed markets outside of the U.S. and Canada.</p> <p>Constituents of the Underlying Index include securities from Europe, Australasia and the Far East. The Underlying Index targets approximately 50% coverage of the free float-adjusted market capitalization of the MSCI EAFE Index and consists of those securities classified by MSCI as most representing the value style of investing. Securities classified in this style generally tend to have higher value characteristics (i.e., higher book value to price, 12-month forward earnings to price and dividend yield). MSCI uses a specialized framework to attribute both value and growth style characteristics to each security within the MSCI EAFE Index. Each security is evaluated based on certain value factors and growth factors, which are then used to calculate a value score and growth score. Based upon these two scores, MSCI determines the extent to which each security is assigned to the value or growth style. It is possible for a single security to have representation in both the value and growth style indexes; however, no more than 100% of a security’s float-adjusted market capitalization will be included within the combined style framework. The Underlying Index includes large and mid-capitalization companies and may change over time.</p> <p>As of July 31, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of securities from the following countries or regions: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”). As of July 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets Min Vol Factor ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of emerging market equities that, in the aggregate, have lower volatility characteristics relative to the broader emerging equity markets.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI Emerging Markets Minimum Volatility (USD) Index (the “Underlying Index”), which has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”) to measure the performance of equity securities in global emerging markets that, in the aggregate, have lower volatility relative to the broader large- and mid capitalization global emerging market equities. The Underlying Index is designed by selecting securities from the MSCI Emerging</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets Min Vol Factor ETF (continued) | <p>Markets Index (the “Parent Index”), which is a capitalization-weighted index, and then follows a rules-based methodology to optimize the Underlying Index and determine weights for securities in the index having the lowest total risk. Under a rules-based methodology, securities and weighting of the index are established based on pre-established parameters and discretionary factors are not relied on. Generally, rules-based methodologies include specified requirements for security eligibility, maximum and minimum weightings by security and, in some cases by sector and country, established rules relating to handling of special dividends and other distributions, and treatment of corporate events. In order to determine weightings by security within the Underlying Index, MSCI seeks to construct a portfolio of lowest absolute volatility using its multi-factor risk model. The portfolio is then further refined by an optimization tool that aims to determine the lowest absolute volatility based on the projected “riskiness” of securities in the Parent Index while subjected to constraints based on established minimum and maximum weightings of index constituents and sectors as well as factor constraints (for example, liquidity and financial leverage) as measured by MSCI. As of August 31, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of securities of companies in the following 21 countries: Brazil, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Egypt, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. As of August 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Frontier and Select EM ETF | <p>The fund seeks to provide exposure to frontier market equities along with select emerging market equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of the value of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of issuers economically tied to frontier markets and issuers economically tied to emerging markets, or in depositary receipts representing such securities.</p> <p>Frontier markets are those markets that are considered to be among the smallest, least mature and least liquid investable equity markets. Additionally, the emerging markets in which the fund seeks to invest are those markets selected from the lower size spectrum of emerging markets (i.e., emerging market countries with lower gross national income per capita and total stock market capitalizations relative to those of the full spectrum of emerging market countries). For this purpose, frontier markets and select emerging markets include, but are not limited to, the markets included in the MSCI Frontier and Emerging Markets Select Index (the “Benchmark”). As of August 31, 2023, the Benchmark consisted of large-, mid- and small-capitalization securities in the following countries or regions: Bahrain, Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, Estonia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lithuania, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Romania, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. BFA determines that an issuer is economically tied to a frontier market or an emerging market if such investment satisfies one or more of the following conditions: (1) the issuer’s primary trading market is in such market; (2) the issuer is organized under the laws of, derives at least 50% of its revenue from, or has at least 50% of its assets in such market; and (3) the issuer has been classified as being in such market by MSCI Inc., the Benchmark provider. To the extent that markets restrict or delay repatriation of the applicable local currency, the fund may choose not to invest in, or limit their investments in, such markets. As of August 31, 2023, a significant portion of the fund is invested in securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The holdings of the fund are likely to change over time.</p> <p>The fund is an actively managed exchange-traded fund (“ETF”) and does not seek to replicate the performance of a specified index. In selecting investments for the fund, BFA uses optimization techniques relative to the Benchmark in order to provide exposure to frontier markets and select emerging markets while taking into account, among other things, regulatory requirements, market limitations, and repatriation restrictions as determined by BFA. As a result of the optimization techniques, the performance of the S-2 fund may materially differ from that of the Benchmark.</p> <p>The fund may also invest in other securities and instruments, including but not limited to, certain futures, options and swap contracts, cash and cash equivalents, including shares of money market funds advised by BFA or its affiliates. In certain situations or market conditions, the fund may temporarily depart from its normal investment process, provided that the alternative, in the opinion of BFA, is consistent with the fund’s investment objective and is in the best interest of the fund.</p> <p>The fund may lend securities representing up to one-third of the value of the fund’s total assets (including the value of any collateral received).</p> |
| iShares® MSCI Global Gold Miners ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global equities of companies primarily engaged in the business of gold mining.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI ACWI Select Gold Miners Investable Market Index (IMI) (the “Underlying Index”), which has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”) to target a minimum of 30 companies in developed and emerging markets that are involved in the business of gold mining. MSCI begins with the MSCI ACWI Investable Market Index (IMI), and then selects securities of companies that are primarily focused on the extraction and production of gold, and state as a general policy that they do not hedge their exposure to gold prices</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® MSCI Global Gold Miners ETF (continued) | <p>as long as no indication of hedging activities is found in their annual reports or such hedging activities are identified but represent less than 10% of the business. If the number of constituents from the selection universe is less than 30, MSCI will include additional securities from the selection universe according to a criteria based on a company's hedging activities. If after that application there remains less than 30 constituents, MSCI will select securities outside of the selection universe from the MSCI ACWI Investable Market Index (IMI) in the following order: (i) companies in the gold sector that do not generate revenues from gold but are involved in gold exploration, (ii) companies in the precious metals and minerals sectors that do not generate revenues from gold but are involved in gold exploration and (iii) certain gold companies of the MSCI World Micro Cap Index. The price of the equity securities of these companies and the price of gold may not always be closely correlated. The Underlying Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization-weighted index with a capping methodology that limits all issuer weights so that no single issuer of a component exceeds 25% of the Underlying Index weight, and all issuers with a weight above 5% do not cumulatively exceed 50% of the Underlying Index weight. The Underlying Index includes large-, mid-and small capitalization companies and may change over time. As of August 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the materials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. As of August 31, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of securities of companies in the following nine countries or regions: Australia, Canada, China, Indonesia, Peru, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom (the "U.K.") and the U.S. The fund, under normal market conditions, will invest at least 40% of its assets in issuers organized or located outside the U.S. or doing business outside the U.S.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI Global Min Vol Factor ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of developed and emerging market equities that, in the aggregate, have lower volatility characteristics relative to the broader developed and emerging equity markets.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI ACWI Minimum Volatility (USD) Index (the "Underlying Index"), which has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the "Index Provider" or "MSCI") to measure the combined performance of equity securities in both developed and emerging markets that, in the aggregate, have lower volatility relative to the broader large- and mid-capitalization developed and emerging markets. The Underlying Index is designed by selecting securities from the MSCI All Country World Index (the "Parent Index"), which is a capitalization-weighted index, and then follows a rules-based methodology to optimize the Underlying Index and determine weights for securities in the index having the lowest total risk. Under a rules-based methodology, securities and weighting of the index are established based on pre-established parameters and discretionary factors are not relied on. Generally, rules-based methodologies include specified requirements for security eligibility, maximum and minimum weightings by security and, in some cases by sector and country, established rules relating to handling of special dividends and other distributions, and treatment of corporate events. In order to determine weightings by security within the Underlying Index, MSCI seeks to construct a portfolio of lowest absolute volatility using its multi-factor risk model. The portfolio is then further refined by an optimization tool that aims to determine the lowest absolute volatility based on the projected "riskiness" of securities in the Parent Index while subjected to constraints based on established minimum and maximum weightings of index constituents and sectors as well as factor constraints (for example, liquidity and financial leverage) as measured by MSCI. As of August 31, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of securities of companies in 26 countries or regions. As of August 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the health care and technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI KLD 400 Social ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. companies that have positive environmental, social and governance characteristics as identified by the index provider.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI KLD 400 Social Index (the "Underlying Index"), which is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index designed to provide exposure to U.S. companies that have positive environmental, social and governance ("ESG") characteristics. As of April 30, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of 401 securities identified by MSCI Inc. (the "Index Provider" or "MSCI") from the universe of companies included in the MSCI USA IMI Index, which targets 99% of the market coverage of stocks that are listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") and the Nasdaq Stock Market. MSCI analyzes each eligible company's ESG performance using proprietary ratings covering ESG criteria. When selecting companies for the Underlying Index, MSCI also considers market capitalization and liquidity. Companies that MSCI determines have significant involvement in the following businesses are not eligible for the Underlying Index: fossil fuel extraction, fossil fuel reserve ownership, unconventional oil and gas extraction, thermal coal-based power generation, alcohol, tobacco, gambling, civilian firearms, nuclear power, controversial weapons, nuclear weapons, conventional weapons, adult entertainment and genetically modified organisms. The Underlying Index includes large-, mid- and small capitalization companies and may change over time.</p> <p>As of April 30, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the technology industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® MSCI USA ESG Select ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. companies that have positive environmental, social and governance characteristics as identified by the index provider.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI USA Extended ESG Select Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is an optimized index designed to maximize exposure to positive environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) characteristics, while exhibiting risk and return characteristics similar to the MSCI USA Index. As of April 30, 2023, the Underlying Index consisted of 172 securities included in the MSCI USA Index. MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”) analyzes each eligible company’s ESG performance using proprietary ratings covering ESG and ethics criteria. The index methodology is designed so that companies with relatively high overall ratings have a higher representation in the Underlying Index than in the MSCI USA Index and companies with relatively low overall ratings have a lower representation in the Underlying Index than in the MSCI USA Index. Exceptions may result from the Underlying Index’s objective of having risk and return characteristics similar to the MSCI USA Index. The Index Provider excludes securities of companies involved in the business of tobacco, alcohol, gambling, nuclear power and weapons, fossil fuel extraction, thermal coal power and unconventional oil and gas businesses (e.g., thermal coal extraction and generation or oil sands extraction), companies involved with conventional and controversial weapons, producers and major retailers of civilian firearms, as well as companies involved in very severe business controversies. The Index Provider defines a controversy as an instance or ongoing situation in which company operations and/or products allegedly have a negative environmental, social and/or governance impact. Each controversy case is assessed for the severity of its impact on society. The Index Provider generally classifies companies as “involved” in a particular business based on revenue or percentage of revenue thresholds (e.g., 10%) for certain products and activities in an excluded industry. The securities of certain companies will be excluded regardless of revenue measures (e.g., all companies involved in the manufacturing of controversial weapons are excluded). The Underlying Index includes large- and mid-capitalization companies and may change over time.</p> <p>As of April 30, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the technology industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI USA Min Vol Factor ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. equities that, in the aggregate, have lower volatility characteristics relative to the broader U.S. equity market.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI USA Minimum Volatility (USD) Index (the “Underlying Index”), which has been developed by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”) to measure the performance of large- and mid-capitalization equity securities listed on stock exchanges in the U.S. that, in the aggregate, have lower volatility relative to the large- and mid-cap U.S. equity market. In constructing the Underlying Index, MSCI uses a rules-based methodology to select securities from the MSCI USA Index (the “Parent Index”), which is a capitalization-weighted index, and to determine the weightings of such securities. In order to determine weightings of securities within the Underlying Index, MSCI seeks to optimize the Parent Index such that the resulting portfolio exhibits the lowest absolute volatility, as measured by MSCI, while applying constraints based on turnover, minimum and maximum weightings of index constituents, sectors and countries, as well as factor constraints (for example, liquidity and financial leverage) as measured by MSCI.</p> <p>The Underlying Index includes large and mid-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of July 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the healthcare and technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI USA Momentum Factor ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. large- and mid-capitalization stocks exhibiting relatively higher price momentum.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI USA Momentum SR Variant Index (the “Underlying Index”), which consists of stocks exhibiting relatively higher momentum characteristics than the traditional market capitalization-weighted parent index, the MSCI USA Index (the “Parent Index”), as determined by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”). The Parent Index includes U.S. large- and mid-capitalization stocks, as defined by MSCI. The Underlying Index is designed to measure the performance of an equity momentum strategy by emphasizing stocks with high price momentum, while maintaining reasonably high trading liquidity, investment capacity and moderate index turnover, each as determined by the Index Provider.</p> <p>MSCI uses an algorithm to determine the components in the Underlying Index based on the number of constituents in the Parent Index. A risk-adjusted price momentum metric, defined by MSCI as the excess return over the risk-free rate (i.e., the 3 Month Treasury Bill Rate) divided by the annualized standard deviation of weekly returns over the past three years, is calculated for each security in the Parent Index over 6-and 12-month time periods. The 6-and 12-month risk-adjusted price momentum calculations are then standardized at +/-3 standard deviations and translated into an average momentum score. MSCI selects the 125 securities with the highest positive momentum scores for inclusion in the Underlying Index. The weight of each Underlying Index constituent is determined by multiplying the security’s momentum score by its market capitalization weight in the Parent Index.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® MSCI USA Momentum Factor ETF (continued) | <p>Additionally, a capping methodology is applied so that each individual issuer is capped at 5% weight at reconstitution. The Index Provider also takes into account certain diversification rules. At reconstitution, if the aggregate weight of stocks representing more than 4.5% weight is greater than 22.5% of the Underlying Index weight, the Underlying Index is rebalanced such that the aggregate weight of stocks greater than 4.5% does not exceed 22.5% of the Underlying Index weight. Between reconstitution dates, if the aggregate weight of stocks representing more than 5% weight is greater than 25% of the Underlying Index weight, the Underlying Index is rebalanced such that the aggregate weight of stocks greater than 4.5% does not exceed 22.5% of the Underlying Index weight.</p> <p>The Underlying Index is reconstituted quarterly. To determine the constituent changes at each quarterly reconstitution, the Index Provider applies an iterative algorithm to cap the one-way turnover per reconstitution at 30%. As of November 30, 2023, there were 125 securities in the Underlying Index.</p> <p>As of November 30, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the technology, industrials and consumer discretionary industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI USA Quality Factor ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. large- and mid-capitalization stocks with quality characteristics as identified through certain fundamental metrics.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI USA Sector Neutral Quality Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is based on a traditional market capitalization-weighted parent index, the MSCI USA Index (the “Parent Index”). The Parent Index includes U.S. large- and mid-capitalization stocks, as defined by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”). The Underlying Index seeks to measure the performance of securities in the Parent Index that exhibit higher quality characteristics relative to their peers within the corresponding Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS®) sector. To construct the Underlying Index, the Index Provider determines the quality score of each security in the Parent Index based on three fundamental variables: high return on equity, low earnings variability and low leverage. The Underlying Index is weighted based on a component’s quality score multiplied by its weight in the Parent Index. Weights in the Underlying Index are next normalized so that sectors in the Underlying Index represent the same weight as in the Parent Index. Additionally, each individual issuer is capped at 5%. The Underlying Index is rebalanced on a semi-annual basis. As of July 31, 2023, there were 125 securities in the Underlying Index. As of July 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the technology industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI USA Size Factor ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. large- and mid-capitalization stocks with relatively smaller average market capitalization.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI USA Low Size Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is based on a traditional market capitalization weighted parent index, the MSCI USA Index (the “Parent Index”). The Parent Index includes U.S. large- and mid-capitalization stocks, as defined by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”). The Underlying Index is constructed by applying a mathematical formula at each rebalancing that reweights the components of its market capitalization-weighted Parent Index, such that the representation of smaller capitalization companies is increased relative to larger capitalization companies. In addition, at each rebalancing, the Index Provider calculates a “constraint factor” for each component. The constraint factor is the ratio of the component’s weight in the Underlying Index to that component’s weight in the Parent Index. The constraint factor is held constant between each rebalancing, except in the case of corporate events (as defined by the Index Provider). Changes in the relative weight of an individual component in the Parent Index due to market appreciation/depreciation result in that component increasing/ decreasing in weight in the Underlying Index to hold the constraint factor for that component constant between each rebalancing. The Underlying Index is rebalanced semi-annually in May and November. As of July 31, 2023, there are 627 component securities in the Underlying Index. As of July 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the industrials and technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI USA Value Factor ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. large- and mid-capitalization stocks with value characteristics and relatively lower valuations.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI USA Enhanced Value Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is based on a traditional market capitalization-weighted parent index, the MSCI USA Index (the “Parent Index”). The Parent Index includes U.S. large- and mid-capitalization stocks, as defined by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”). The Underlying Index is designed to measure the performance of securities in the Parent Index that exhibit higher value characteristics relative to their peers within the corresponding Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS®) sector. To construct the Underlying Index, the Index Provider calculates a “value score” for each security in the Parent Index using three variables: price-to-book value, price-to-forward earnings and enterprise value-to-cash flow from operations. MSCI assigns weights by multiplying a component’s value score by its market capitalization. Weights in the Underlying Index are next normalized so that sectors in the Underlying Index represent the same weight as in the Parent Index. MSCI uses an algorithm to</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® MSCI USA Value Factor ETF (continued) | <p>determine the number of components in the Underlying Index based on the number of constituents in the Parent Index. The number of components is evaluated semi-annually.</p> <p>As of July 31, 2023, there were 150 securities in the Underlying Index. As of July 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the technology industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Preferred and Income Securities ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated preferred and hybrid securities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE Exchange-Listed Preferred & Hybrid Securities Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of a select group of exchange-listed, U.S. dollar denominated preferred securities, hybrid securities and convertible preferred securities listed on the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) or the Nasdaq Capital Market. The Underlying Index includes issuances of preferred stocks with amounts outstanding over \$100 million, convertible preferred stock with at least \$50 million face amount outstanding, and hybrid securities with at least \$250 million face amount outstanding, that meet minimum maturity and other requirements, as applicable, as determined by ICE Data Indices, LLC (the “Index Provider” or “ICE Data”)</p> <p>In general, preferred stock is a class of equity security that pays a specified dividend that must be paid before any dividends can be paid to common stockholders and takes precedence over common stock in the event of a company’s liquidation. In general, a “hybrid” security refers to a security which combines both debt and equity characteristics. In general, hybrid securities included in the Underlying Index, like traditional preferred stock, have preference over the common stock within an issuer’s capital structure, and are issued and traded in a similar manner to traditional preferred stock. Like debt securities and preferred stock (but unlike common stock), issuers of hybrid securities included in the Underlying Index may make fixed, periodic payments to the holders of such securities. Like preferred stock, issuers of hybrid securities included in the Underlying Index have the ability to defer dividend payments and to extend such securities’ maturity dates.</p> <p>Although preferred stocks represent a partial ownership interest in a company, preferred stocks generally do not carry voting rights. Preferred stocks have economic characteristics similar to fixed-income securities. Preferred stocks and hybrid securities generally are issued with a fixed par value and pay dividends based on a percentage of that par value at a fixed or variable rate.</p> <p>Additionally, preferred stocks and hybrid securities often have a liquidation value that generally equals the original purchase price of such security at the date of issuance. The Underlying Index may include many different categories of preferred stock and hybrid securities, such as floating and fixed rate preferreds, fixed-to floating rate securities, callable preferreds, convertible preferreds, cumulative and non-cumulative preferreds, certain capital securities, trust preferreds or various other preferred stock and hybrid securities. The total allocation to an individual issuer across the entire Underlying Index is limited to 4.75%. The Underlying Index uses a market capitalization weighted methodology subject to certain constraints and is rebalanced monthly.</p> <p>The Underlying Index may include large-, mid- or small-capitalization companies and includes preferred stocks and hybrid securities of non-U.S. issuers. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Russell 1000 ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large- and mid-capitalization U.S. equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Russell 1000® Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the large- and mid-capitalization sectors of the U.S. equity market, as defined by FTSE Russell (the “Index Provider” or “Russell”). The Underlying Index is a subset of the Russell 3000 Index, which measures the performance of the broad U.S. equity market, as defined by Russell. The Underlying Index is a float-adjusted capitalization-weighted index of equity securities issued by the approximately 1,007 largest issuers in the Russell 3000 Index. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index represented approximately 94% of the total market capitalization of the Russell 3000 Index. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the technology industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Russell 2000 ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of small-capitalization U.S. equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Russell 2000® Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the small capitalization sector of the U.S. equity market, as defined by FTSE Russell (the “Index Provider” or “Russell”). The Underlying Index is a subset of the Russell 3000 Index, which measures the performance of the broad U.S. equity market, as defined by Russell. The Underlying Index is a float-adjusted capitalization-weighted index of equity securities issued by the approximately 1,921 smallest issuers in the Russell 3000 Index. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index represented approximately 6% of the total market capitalization of the</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® Russell 2000 ETF (continued) | Russell 3000 Index. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials, healthcare and industrials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time. |
| iShares® Russell 3000 ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of a broad-based index composed of U.S. equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Russell 3000® Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the broad U.S. equity market, as defined by FTSE Russell (the “Index Provider” or “Russell”). The Underlying Index is a float-adjusted capitalization-weighted index of the approximately 2,928 largest public issuers domiciled in the U.S. and its territories, as determined by Russell. The Underlying Index includes large-, mid- and small capitalization companies and may change over time. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the technology industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® S&P 100 ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of 100 large-capitalization U.S. equities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P 100® (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the large capitalization sector of the U.S. equity market. It is a subset of the S&P 500® (the “Parent Index”) and consists of blue chip stocks from a diverse range of industries in the Parent Index with exchange listed options. As of March 31, 2023, the Underlying Index represented approximately 56% of the market capitalization of U.S. equities. As of March 31, 2023, stocks must have a market capitalization of at least \$12.7 billion for initial inclusion in the Parent Index; this threshold and constituents’ market capitalization may fluctuate depending on the overall level of the equity markets.</p> <p>As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the information technology industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® S&P 500 Growth ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large-capitalization U.S. equities that exhibit growth characteristics.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P 500 Growth Index TM (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the large capitalization growth sector of the U.S. equity market. It is a subset of the S&P 500® (the “Parent Index”) and consists of those stocks in the Parent Index exhibiting the strongest growth characteristics, as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJL”), a subsidiary of S&P Global, Inc. The growth characteristics used by the Index Provider include three-year change in earnings per share over price per share, three-year sales-per-share growth rate and momentum (12-month percentage share price change). To the extent that earnings, sales and price data is not available for the above-listed time periods, the Index Provider will use shorter time periods in accordance with the Index Provider’s methodology. The Underlying Index represented approximately 53% of the market capitalization of the Parent Index as of March 31, 2023. As of March 31, 2023, stocks must have a market capitalization of at least \$12.7 billion for initial inclusion in the Parent Index; this threshold and constituents’ market capitalization may fluctuate depending on the overall level of the equity markets.</p> <p>As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the healthcare and information technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® S&P 500 Value ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large-capitalization U.S. equities that exhibit value characteristics.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P 500 Value Index TM (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the large capitalization value sector of the U.S. equity market. It is a subset of the S&P 500® (the “Parent Index”) and consists of those stocks in the Parent Index exhibiting the strongest value characteristics, as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJL”), a subsidiary of S&P Global, Inc. The value characteristics used by the Index Provider are book value to price ratio, earnings to price ratio and sales to price ratio. The Underlying Index represented approximately 46.8% of the market capitalization of the Parent Index as of March 31, 2023. As of March 31, 2023, stocks must have a market capitalization of at least \$12.2 billion for initial inclusion in the Parent Index; this threshold and constituents’ market capitalization may fluctuate depending on the overall level of the equity markets.</p> <p>As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and information technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® S&P Small-Cap 600 Value ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of small-capitalization U.S. equities that exhibit value characteristics.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P SmallCap 600 Value Index TM (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the small capitalization value sector of the</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® S&P Small-Cap 600 Value ETF (continued) | <p>U.S. equity market. It is a subset of the S&P SmallCap 600® (the “Parent Index”) and consists of those stocks in the Parent Index exhibiting the strongest value characteristics, as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”), a subsidiary of S&P Global, Inc. The value characteristics used by the Index Provider are book value to price ratio, earnings to price ratio and sales to price ratio. The Underlying Index represented approximately 49.5% of the market capitalization of the Parent Index as of March 31, 2023. As of March 31, 2023, stocks must have a market capitalization between \$750 million and \$4.6 billion for initial inclusion in the Parent Index; this range and constituents’ market capitalization may fluctuate depending on the overall level of the equity markets.</p> <p>As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the consumer discretionary, financials and industrials industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Short Duration Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks total return in excess of the reference benchmark.</p> <p>The fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets in a portfolio of U.S. dollar-denominated investment-grade fixed-income securities. The fund’s reference benchmark is the Bloomberg U.S. 1-3 Year Government/Credit Bond Index, which measures the performance of U.S. dollar-denominated, government, government-related and corporate securities with remaining maturity between one and three years. The fund primarily invests in investment-grade fixed-income securities that are rated BBB- or higher by S&P Global Ratings and/or Fitch Ratings, Inc. (“Fitch”), or Baa3 or higher by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”), or, if unrated, determined by the fund’s management team to be of equivalent quality. The fund primarily invests in fixed- and floating-rate securities of varying maturities, such as corporate and government bonds, agency securities, instruments of non U.S. issuers, privately issued securities, asset-backed securities (“ABS”) and mortgage-backed securities (“MBS”), structured securities, municipal bonds, repurchase agreements, money market instruments and investment companies. The fund invests in securities issued by financial institutions such as banks, broker-dealers and insurance companies. The fund may enter into to-be-announced transactions (“TBA transactions”) on a regular basis with respect to the percentage of the portfolio (if any) that consists of mortgage-backed pass-through securities. BFA or its affiliates may advise the money market funds and investment companies in which the fund may invest.</p> <p>Under normal circumstances, the effective duration of the fund’s portfolio is expected to be three years or less, as calculated by the fund’s management team. Effective duration is a measure of S-2 the fund’s price sensitivity to changes in yields or interest rates; however, investors should be aware that effective duration is not an exact measurement and may not reliably predict a particular security’s price sensitivity to changes in yield or interest rates.</p> |
| iShares® Short Treasury Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. Treasury bonds with remaining maturities of one year or less.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE® Short US Treasury Securities Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of public obligations of the U.S. Treasury that have a remaining maturity of less than or equal to one year. Under normal circumstances, the fund will seek to maintain a weighted average maturity of less than one year. Weighted average maturity is the U.S. dollar weighted average of the remaining term to maturity of the underlying securities in the fund’s portfolio. As of February 28, 2023, there were 104 components in the Underlying Index.</p> <p>The Underlying Index is market value weighted based on amounts outstanding of issuances consisting of publicly issued U.S. Treasury securities that have a remaining term to final maturity of less than or equal to one year as of the rebalance date and \$1 billion or more of outstanding face value, excluding amounts held by the Federal Reserve System Open Market Account. In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must have a fixed coupon schedule and be denominated in U.S. dollars. Excluded from the Underlying Index are inflation-linked debt and zero-coupon bonds that have been stripped from coupon-paying bonds (e.g., Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal of Securities). However, the amounts outstanding of qualifying coupon securities in the Underlying Index are not reduced by any individual components of such securities (i.e., coupon or principal) that have been stripped after inclusion in the Underlying Index. The Underlying Index is rebalanced on the last calendar day of each month.</p> |
| iShares® Silver Trust | <p>The Trust seeks to reflect generally the performance of the price of silver. The Trust seeks to reflect such performance before payment of the Trust’s expenses and liabilities. The Shares are intended to constitute a simple and cost effective means of making an investment similar to an investment in silver. An investment in physical silver requires expensive and sometimes complicated arrangements in connection with the assay, transportation, warehousing and insurance of the metal. Traditionally, such expense and complications have resulted in investments in physical silver being efficient only in amounts beyond the reach of many investors. The Shares have been designed to remove the obstacles represented by the expense and complications involved in an investment in physical silver, while at the same time having an intrinsic value that reflects, at any given time, the price of the silver owned by the Trust at such time, less the Trust’s expenses and liabilities. Although the Shares are not the exact equivalent of an investment in silver, they provide investors with an alternative that allows a level of participation in the silver market through the securities market.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® TIPS Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of inflation-protected U.S. Treasury bonds.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE U.S. Treasury Inflation Linked Bond Index (the “Underlying Index”), which tracks the performance of inflation-protected public obligations of the U.S. Treasury, commonly known as “TIPS,” that have a remaining maturity of more than one year. TIPS are securities issued by the U.S. Treasury that are designed to provide inflation protection to investors. TIPS are income-generating instruments whose interest and principal payments are adjusted for inflation — a sustained increase in prices that erodes the purchasing power of money. The inflation adjustment, which is typically applied monthly to the principal of the bond, follows a designated inflation index, the Consumer Price Index (“CPI”), and TIPS’ principal payments are adjusted according to changes in the CPI. A fixed coupon rate is applied to the inflation-adjusted principal so that, as inflation rises, both the principal value and the interest payments increase. This can provide investors with a hedge against inflation, as it helps preserve the purchasing power of an investment. Because of this inflation adjustment feature, inflation-protected bonds typically have lower yields than conventional fixed-rate bonds.</p> <p>Qualifying securities must have more than one year remaining to final maturity as of the rebalancing date and at least \$300 million of outstanding face value, excluding amounts held by the Federal Reserve System Open Market Account (“SOMA”). In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must have a fixed coupon schedule and must be denominated in U.S. dollars. Excluded from the Underlying Index are government agency debt with or without a government guarantee, securities issued or marketed primarily to retail investors, floating rate notes, cash management and Treasury bills, original issue zero coupon securities and Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal Securities (or “STRIPs”). However, the amounts outstanding of qualifying securities in the Underlying Index are not reduced by any portions of such securities that have been stripped after inclusion in the Underlying Index. Index constituents are market capitalization weighted based on amounts outstanding reduced by amounts held by the Federal Reserve SOMA. The Underlying Index is rebalanced on the last calendar day of each month.</p> |
| iShares® U.S. Energy ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. equities in the energy sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Russell 1000 Energy RIC 22.5/45 Capped Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the energy sector of the U.S. equity market, as defined by FTSE Russell (the “Index Provider” or “Russell”). The Underlying Index includes large- and mid-capitalization companies.</p> <p>The Underlying Index is a subset of the Russell 1000 Index, which is a float adjusted capitalization-weighted index of equity securities issued by approximately the 1,000 largest issuers in the Russell 3000 Index. The Russell 3000 Index measures the performance of the broad U.S. equity market, as defined by Russell.</p> <p>The Underlying Index uses a capping methodology to constrain at quarterly rebalance: (i) the weight of any single issuer (as determined by Russell) to a maximum of 22.5%, and (ii) the aggregate weight of all issuers that individually exceed 4.5% of the index weight to a maximum of 45%. The weight of one or more securities in the Underlying Index may exceed these constraints due to fluctuations in market value, corporate actions, or other events that change the index composition between quarterly rebalance dates.</p> <p>Substantially all of the Underlying Index is expected to be represented by securities of companies in the energy industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® U.S. Financial Services ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. equities in the financial services sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Dow Jones U.S. Financial Services Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the financial services sector of the U.S. equity market. The Underlying Index is a subset of the Dow Jones U.S. Index (“Parent Index”) and includes components of the following subsectors in the Parent Index: banks, asset managers, consumer finance, specialty finance, investments services and mortgage finance. The Underlying Index includes large-, mid- and small capitalization companies and may change over time. As of April 30, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® U.S. Infrastructure ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of equities of U.S. companies that have infrastructure exposure and that could benefit from a potential increase in domestic infrastructure activities.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the NYSE® FactSet U.S. Infrastructure Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to measure the performance of equity securities of U.S. companies involved in U.S.-focused infrastructure activities (as determined by ICE Data Indices, LLC or its affiliates (the “Index Provider” or “IDI”). The Underlying Index is composed of equity securities</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
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| iShares® U.S. Infrastructure ETF (continued) | <p>primarily listed on the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”), NYSE American or Nasdaq (excluding master limited partnerships, royalty trusts, business development companies, and American depositary receipts (“ADRs”)) that are classified to be under one of the 95 infrastructure related industries as defined by FactSet Revere Business Industry Classification System (“RBICS”). Each company in the Underlying Index is classified as either Category 1 or Category 2, where Category 1 companies are infrastructure enablers and Category 2 are infrastructure asset owners and operators.</p> <p>Infrastructure enablers are potential beneficiaries of infrastructure investment in the U.S. Category 1 companies in the Underlying Index include companies in construction and engineering services, machineries and materials. Infrastructure asset owners and operators are companies associated with traditional equity infrastructure investing. Category 2 companies in the Underlying Index include companies in energy transportation and storage, railroad transportation, and utilities.</p> <p>At the time of inclusion, eligible companies must derive 50% or more of their annual revenues from the U.S. The Underlying Index applies an equal weighting to Category 1 and Category 2, and within each category, an equal weighting is also applied to all individual securities.</p> |
| iShares® U.S. Medical Devices ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. equities in the medical devices sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Dow Jones U.S. Select Medical Equipment Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the medical equipment sector of the U.S. equity market, as defined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”). The Underlying Index includes medical equipment companies, including manufacturers and distributors of medical devices such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanners, prosthetics, pacemakers, Xray machines, and other non disposable medical devices. The Underlying Index may include large-, mid- or small capitalization companies. As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the healthcare and medical equipment industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® U.S. Real Estate ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. equities in the real estate sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Dow Jones U.S. Real Estate Capped Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the real estate sector of the U.S. equity market, as defined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”). The Underlying Index uses a capping methodology to limit the weight of the securities of any single issuer (as determined by SPDJI) to a maximum of 10% of the Underlying Index. Additionally, the Underlying Index constrains at each quarterly review: (i) the weight of any single issuer to a maximum of 10%, and (ii) the aggregate weight of all issuers that individually exceed 4.50% of the index weight to a maximum of 22.50%. Between scheduled quarterly index reviews, the Underlying Index is rebalanced at the end of any day on which all issuers that individually constitute more than 5% of the weight of the Underlying Index constitute more than 25% of the weight of the Underlying Index in the aggregate. In implementing this capping methodology, SPDJI may consider two or more companies as belonging to the same issuer where there is reasonable evidence of common control.</p> <p>As of March 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the real estate investment trust (“REIT”) industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® U.S. Technology ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. equities in the technology sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Russell 1000 Technology RIC 22.5/45 Capped Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the technology sector of the U.S. equity market, as defined by FTSE Russell (the “Index Provider” or “Russell”). The Underlying Index includes large- and mid capitalization companies.</p> <p>The Underlying Index is a subset of the Russell 1000 Index, which is a float adjusted capitalization-weighted index of equity securities issued by approximately the 1,000 largest issuers in the Russell 3000 Index. The Russell 3000 Index measures the performance of the broad U.S. equity market, as defined by Russell.</p> <p>The Underlying Index uses a capping methodology to constrain at quarterly rebalance: (i) the weight of any single issuer (as determined by Russell) to a maximum of 22.5%, and (ii) the aggregate weight of all issuers that individually exceed 4.5% of the index weight to a maximum of 45%. The weight of one or more securities in the Underlying Index may exceed these constraints due to fluctuations in market value, corporate actions, or other events that change the index composition between quarterly rebalance dates</p> <p>Substantially all of the Underlying Index is expected to be represented by securities of companies in the technology industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
|--|--|
| iShares® U.S. Transportation ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. equities in the transportation sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the S&P Transportation Select Industry FMC Capped Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of companies within the transportation sector of the U.S. equity market as determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Provider” or “SPDJ”). The Underlying Index may include large-, mid- and small-capitalization companies. Securities in the Underlying Index are weighted based on the float-adjusted market value of their outstanding shares. The Underlying Index uses a capping methodology to constrain at quarterly rebalance: (i) the weight of any single issuer (as determined by SPDJI) to a maximum of 22.5%, and (ii) the aggregate weight of all issuers that individually exceed 4.5% of the index weight to a maximum of 45%. The weight of one or more securities in the Underlying Index may exceed these constraints due to fluctuations in market value, corporate actions, or other events that change the index composition between quarterly rebalance dates.</p> <p>As of April 30, 2023, substantially all of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the transportation industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® U.S. Treasury Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. Treasury bonds.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the ICE U.S. Treasury Core Bond Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of public obligations of the U.S. Treasury. As of October 31, 2023, there were 284 issues in the Underlying Index.</p> <p>The Underlying Index includes publicly issued U.S. Treasury securities that have a remaining maturity greater than one year and less than or equal to thirty years and have \$300 million or more of outstanding face value, excluding amounts held by the Federal Reserve System (the “Fed”) Open Market Account or bought at issuance by the Fed. As of October 31, 2023, the dollar weighted average maturity of the Underlying Index was 7.4 years. In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be fixed-rate and denominated in U.S. dollars. Excluded from the Underlying Index are inflation linked securities, cash management bills, Treasury bills, any government agency debt issued with or without a government guarantee and zero coupon issues that have been stripped from coupon-paying bonds. The Underlying Index is weighted by market capitalization excluding amounts held by the Fed Open Market Account or bought at issuance by the Fed, and the securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last business day of each month..</p> |
| iShares® U.S. Utilities ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. equities in the utilities sector.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Russell 1000 Utilities RIC 22.5/45 Capped Index (the “Underlying Index”), which measures the performance of the utilities sector of the U.S. equity market, as defined by FTSE Russell (the “Index Provider” or “Russell”). The Underlying Index includes large- and mid-capitalization companies.</p> <p>The Underlying Index is a subset of the Russell 1000 Index, which is a float adjusted capitalization-weighted index of equity securities issued by approximately the 1,000 largest issuers in the Russell 3000 Index. The Russell 3000 Index measures the performance of the broad U.S. equity market, as defined by Russell.</p> <p>The Underlying Index uses a capping methodology to constrain at quarterly rebalance: (i) the weight of any single issuer (as determined by Russell) to a maximum of 22.5%, and (ii) the aggregate weight of all issuers that individually exceed 4.5% of the index weight to a maximum of 45%. The weight of one or more securities in the Underlying Index may exceed these constraints due to fluctuations in market value, corporate actions, or other events that change the index composition between quarterly rebalance dates.</p> <p>Substantially all of the Underlying Index is expected to be represented by securities of companies in the utilities industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® High Yield Bond Factor ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. dollar-denominated, high yield corporate bonds.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the BlackRock High Yield Defensive Bond Index (the “Underlying Index”), which consists of U.S. dollar denominated, high yield (as determined by BlackRock Index Services, LLC (the “Index Provider”)) corporate bonds. Component securities include publicly issued debt of U.S. corporate issuers, U.S. dollar-denominated, publicly issued debt of non-U.S. corporate issuers, and bonds offered pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”) with or without registration rights. As of February 28, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the energy sector or industry. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> <p>The securities in the Underlying Index must have \$350 million or more current face amount outstanding, and have at least one year to final maturity, regardless of optionality, at time of rebalance. In addition, the securities in the Underlying Index must be denominated in U.S. dollars and have a fixed-rate, although they can carry a coupon that steps-up (i.e., or changes according to a</p> |

| Fund Name | Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies |
|--|--|
| iShares® High Yield Bond Factor ETF (continued) | <p>predetermined schedule), and must be rated below investment-grade, which is below Baa3 by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) or below BBB-by Standard & Poor’s® Global Ratings, a subsidiary of S&P Global (“S&P Global Ratings”) or Fitch Ratings, Inc. (“Fitch”). Eligibility in the Underlying Index is determined by the middle of the three available ratings. When a rating from only two agencies is available, the lower rating is used. When a rating from only one agency is available, that rating is used to determine eligibility in the Underlying Index.</p> <p>The Underlying Index determines constituent weights based on a proprietary methodology which first aims to systematically screen out certain bonds with the highest probability of default (a measure of credit quality) and then optimizes to improve risk-adjusted returns by weighting more heavily to bonds with attractive default-adjusted spreads (a measure of value) while mitigating portfolio risks and limiting turnover. This methodology, unlike the methodologies used by traditional market-value weighted bond indexes, selects a portion of the component bonds from the broader universe of high yield bonds based on application of analytics measuring the probability of default. The resulting grouping of bonds is referred to as “defensive,” by comparison to other groupings of high yield bonds, because those included in the Underlying Index possess specific characteristics that the index methodology identifies as reducing the risk of default. Key investment characteristics such as duration are constrained to be within a specified range of a broader market-value weighted high yield bond universe. The Underlying Index is rebalanced on the last business day of each month to reflect changes in eligibility, credit quality and valuation. High yield bonds included in the Underlying Index, like all high yield debt, continue to be subject to a number of risks, including the risk of an issuer default and volatility of the market value of the bonds.</p> |
| iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets Ex-China ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large- and mid-capitalization emerging market equities, excluding China.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI Emerging Markets ex China Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to measure equity market performance in global emerging markets (with the exception of China). The Underlying Index is a free float adjusted market capitalization-weighted index that captures large- and mid-capitalization stocks across 23 of the 24 emerging markets countries (as defined by MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”)), excluding China. The Underlying Index covers approximately 85% of the free float adjusted market capitalization of each of the following countries: Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. As of August 31, 2023, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials and technology industries or sectors. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.</p> |
| iShares® Treasury Floating Rate Bond ETF | <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. Treasury floating rate bonds.</p> <p>The fund seeks to track the investment results of the Bloomberg U.S. Treasury Floating Rate Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is a market capitalization weighted index that measures the performance of floating rate public obligations of the U.S. Treasury. The securities in the Underlying Index must be denominated in U.S. dollars and must be non-convertible. The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month.</p> |

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Class I | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 ^(a) |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 11.69 | \$ 14.03 | \$ 13.72 | \$ 12.17 | \$ 10.32 |
| Net investment income ^(b) | 0.31 | 0.29 | 0.31 | 0.22 | 0.28 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.52 | (2.37) | 1.33 | 1.57 | 1.93 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.83 | (2.08) | 1.64 | 1.79 | 2.21 |
| Distributions^(c) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.27) | (0.26) | (0.28) | (0.21) | (0.24) |
| From net realized gain | — | (0.00) ^(d) | (1.05) | (0.03) | (0.12) |
| Return of capital | (0.00) ^(d) | — | — | — | — |
| Total distributions | (0.27) | (0.26) | (1.33) | (0.24) | (0.36) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 13.25 | \$ 11.69 | \$ 14.03 | \$ 13.72 | \$ 12.17 |
| Total Return^(e) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 15.62% | (14.82)% | 11.99% | 14.67% | 21.41% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(f) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.39% | 0.41% | 0.46% | 0.53% | 0.57% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.19% | 0.19% | 0.19% | 0.19% | 0.19% |
| Net investment income | 2.48% | 2.32% | 2.10% | 1.78% | 2.45% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$389,689 | \$322,847 | \$338,569 | \$243,296 | \$173,351 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 62% | 57% | 62% | 89% | 61% |

^(a) Consolidated Financial Highlights.

^(b) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(c) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(d) Amount is greater than \$(0.005) per share.

^(e) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(f) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

Financial Highlights (concluded)

BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Class III | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 ^(a) |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 11.61 | \$ 13.94 | \$ 13.65 | \$ 12.12 | \$ 10.28 |
| Net investment income ^(b) | 0.28 | 0.26 | 0.30 | 0.19 | 0.28 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.50 | (2.36) | 1.30 | 1.55 | 1.90 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.78 | (2.10) | 1.60 | 1.74 | 2.18 |
| Distributions^(c) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.24) | (0.23) | (0.26) | (0.18) | (0.22) |
| From net realized gain | — | (0.00) ^(d) | (1.05) | (0.03) | (0.12) |
| Return of capital | (0.00) ^(d) | — | — | — | — |
| Total distributions | (0.24) | (0.23) | (1.3) | (0.2) | (0.34) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 13.15 | \$ 11.61 | \$ 13.94 | \$ 13.65 | \$ 12.12 |
| Total Return^(e) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 15.32% | (15.04)% | 11.70% | 14.35% | 21.22% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(f) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.65% | 0.63% | 0.71% | 0.77% | 0.86% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.44% | 0.44% | 0.44% | 0.44% | 0.44% |
| Net investment income | 2.29% | 2.14% | 2.05% | 1.56% | 2.38% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$80,075 | \$54,112 | \$44,504 | \$20,623 | \$11,094 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 62% | 57% | 62% | 89% | 61% |

^(a) Consolidated Financial Highlights.

^(b) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(c) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(d) Amount is greater than \$(0.005) per share.

^(e) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(f) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

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Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund (Class I, Class II, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek high total investment return.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class II Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.50% | 0.50% | 0.50% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None | 0.15% | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses | 0.31% | 0.31% | 0.22% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses | 0.81% | 0.96% | 0.97% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | (0.14)% | (0.13)% | (0.03)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | 0.67% | 0.83% | 0.94% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 1.25% (for Class I Shares), 1.40% (for Class II Shares) and 1.50% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0.05% (for Class I Shares), 0.07% (for Class II Shares) and 0.08% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$68 | \$245 | \$436 | \$ 989 |
| Class II Shares | \$85 | \$293 | \$518 | \$1,166 |
| Class III Shares | \$96 | \$306 | \$533 | \$1,187 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 111% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

Under normal circumstances, the Fund seeks to invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in large cap equity securities and derivatives that have similar economic characteristics to such securities. For purposes of the Fund's 80% policy, large cap equity securities are equity securities that at the time of purchase have a market capitalization within the range of companies included in the Russell 1000® Index. The Fund primarily intends to invest in equity securities, which include common stock, preferred stock and convertible securities, or other financial instruments that are components of, or have characteristics similar to, the securities included in the Russell 1000® Index. The Russell 1000® Index is a capitalization-weighted index from a broad range of industries chosen for market size, liquidity and industry group representation. The Fund primarily seeks to buy common stock and may also invest in preferred stock and convertible securities. From time to time, the Fund may invest in shares of companies through "new issues" or initial public offerings ("IPOs").

The Fund may use derivatives, including options, futures, swaps (including, but not limited to, total return swaps, some of which may be referred to as contracts for difference) and forward contracts, both to seek to increase the return of the Fund and to hedge (or protect) the value of its assets against adverse movements in currency exchange rates, interest rates and movements in the securities markets. In order to manage cash flows into or out of the Fund effectively, the Fund may buy and sell financial futures contracts or options on such contracts. Derivatives are financial instruments whose value is derived from another security, a currency or an index, including but not limited to the Russell 1000® Index. The use of options, futures, swaps and forward contracts can be effective in protecting or enhancing the value of the Fund's assets.

The Fund may seek to provide exposure to the investment returns of real assets that trade in the commodity markets through investment in commodity-linked derivative instruments and investment vehicles such as exchange-traded funds that invest exclusively in commodities and are designed to provide this exposure without direct investment in physical commodities.

The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by investing in large cap securities in a disciplined manner, by using proprietary return forecast models that incorporate quantitative analysis. These forecast models are designed to identify aspects of mispricing across stocks which the Fund can seek to capture by over- and under-weighting particular equity securities while seeking to control incremental risk. BlackRock then constructs and rebalances the portfolio by integrating its investment insights with the model-based optimization process.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of the principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

■ **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.

■ **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, growth investments have performed better during the later stages of economic expansion and value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, these investment styles may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.

■ **Model Risk** — The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis. Investments selected using these models may perform differently than as forecasted due to the factors incorporated into the models and the weighting of each factor, changes from historical trends, and issues in the construction and implementation of the models (including, but not limited to, software issues and other technological issues). There is no guarantee that BlackRock's use of these models will result in effective investment decisions for the Fund.

The information and data used in the models may be supplied by third parties. Inaccurate or incomplete data may limit the effectiveness of the models. In addition, some of the data that BlackRock uses may be historical data, which may not accurately predict future market movement. There is a risk that the models will not be successful in selecting investments or in determining the weighting of investment positions that will enable the Fund to achieve its investment objective.

■ **Commodities Related Investments Risk** — Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of commodity-linked derivative investments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in inflation, interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments.

■ **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives can magnify the Fund’s gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund’s derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund’s use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them.

Hedging Risk — Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund’s hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences.

Tax Risk — Certain aspects of the tax treatment of derivative instruments, including swap agreements and commodity-linked derivative instruments, are currently unclear and may be affected by changes in legislation, regulations or other legally binding authority. Such treatment may be less favorable than that given to a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments.

■ **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”), and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund’s portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not

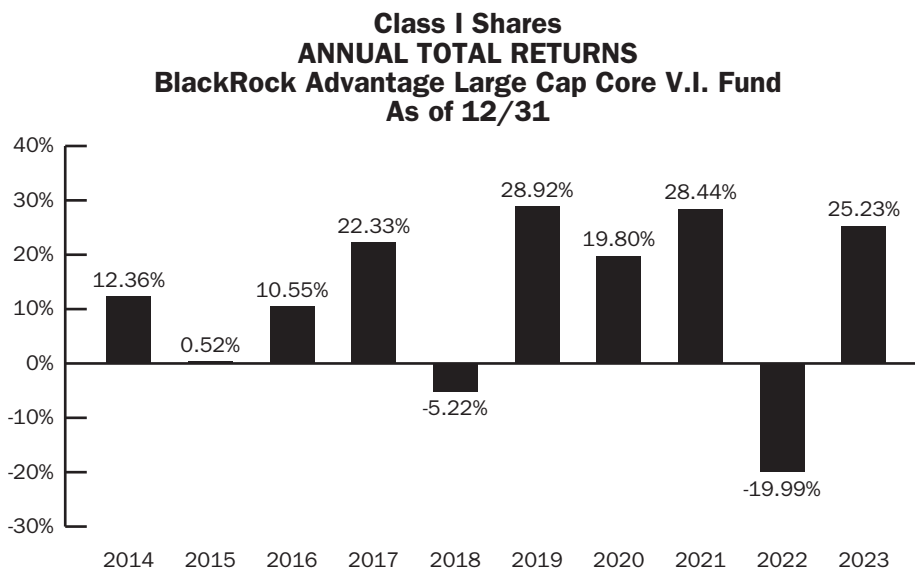
specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis and is subject to “Model Risk” as described above. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

- **“New Issues” Risk** — “New issues” are IPOs of equity securities. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO.
- **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.
- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund’s performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The Fund’s returns prior to June 12, 2017 as reflected in the bar chart and the table are the returns of the Fund when it followed different investment strategies under the name “BlackRock Large Cap Core V.I. Fund.” The table compares the Fund’s performance to that of the Russell 1000® Index. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund’s investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund’s returns would have been lower.



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 21.86% (quarter ended June 30, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was -19.76% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

**For the periods ended 12/31/23
Average Annual Total Returns**

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|--|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 25.23% | 14.73% | 11.15% |
| BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund: Class II Shares | 25.03% | 14.52% | 10.96% |
| BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 24.90% | 14.43% | 10.85% |
| Russell 1000® Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 26.53% | 15.52% | 11.80% |

Investment Manager

The Fund's investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as "BlackRock").

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Raffaele Savi | 2017 | Senior Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Travis Cooke, CFA | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Richard Mathieson | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the "Insurance Companies") and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the "Accounts") to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company's website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek high total investment return.

This investment objective is a fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without approval of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”).

Investment Process

The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by investing in large cap securities in a disciplined manner, by using proprietary return forecast models that incorporate quantitative analysis. These forecast models are designed to identify aspects of mispricing across stocks which the Fund can seek to capture by over- and under-weighting particular equity securities while seeking to control incremental risk. BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) then constructs and rebalances the portfolio by integrating its investment insights with the model-based optimization process. The Fund has no stated minimum holding period for investments and may buy or sell securities whenever Fund management sees an appropriate opportunity. The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its investments.

Principal Investment Strategies

Under normal circumstances, the Fund seeks to invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in large cap equity securities and derivatives that have similar economic characteristics to such securities. For purposes of the Fund’s 80% policy, large cap equity securities are equity securities that at the time of purchase have a market capitalization within the range of companies included in the Russell 1000® Index. The Fund primarily intends to invest in equity securities, which include common stock, preferred stock and convertible securities, or other financial instruments that are components of, or have characteristics similar to, the securities included in the Russell 1000® Index. The Russell 1000® Index is a capitalization-weighted index from a broad range of industries chosen for market size, liquidity and industry group representation. The Fund primarily seeks to buy common stock and may also invest in preferred stock and convertible securities. From time to time, the Fund may invest in shares of companies through “new issues” or initial public offerings (“IPOs”).

The Fund may use derivatives, including options, futures, swaps (including, but not limited to, total return swaps, some of which may be referred to as contracts for difference) and forward contracts, both to seek to increase the return of the Fund and to hedge (or protect) the value of its assets against adverse movements in currency exchange rates, interest rates and movements in the securities markets. In order to manage cash flows into or out of the Fund effectively, the Fund may buy and sell financial futures contracts or options on such contracts. Derivatives are financial instruments whose value is derived from another security, a currency or an index, including but not limited to the Russell 1000® Index. The use of options, futures, swaps and forward contracts can be effective in protecting or enhancing the value of the Fund’s assets.

The Fund may seek to provide exposure to the investment returns of real assets that trade in the commodity markets through investment in commodity-linked derivative instruments and investment vehicles such as exchange-traded funds that invest exclusively in commodities and are designed to provide this exposure without direct investment in physical commodities.

The above 80% policy is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without 60 days’ prior notice to shareholders.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions, subject to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act, the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.
- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.

- **Investment Companies** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs.
- **Money Market Securities** — The Fund may invest in money market securities or commercial paper.
- **Real Estate Investment Trusts** — The Fund may invest in real estate investment trusts (“REITs”).
- **Restricted Securities** — Restricted securities are securities that cannot be offered for public resale unless registered under the applicable securities laws or that have a contractual restriction that prohibits or limits their resale. They may include Rule 144A securities, which are privately placed securities that can be resold to qualified institutional buyers but not to the general public, and securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are offered pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33⅓% of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Temporary Defensive Strategies** — For temporary defensive purposes, for example, to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and may restrict the markets in which it invests and may invest without limitation in cash, cash equivalents, money market securities, such as U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, other U.S. Government securities, short-term debt obligations of corporate issuers, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances, commercial paper (short-term, unsecured, negotiable promissory notes of a domestic or foreign issuer) or other high quality fixed income securities. Temporary defensive positions may affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis or on a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF ADVANTAGE LARGE CAP CORE V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Raffaele Savi, Travis Cooke, CFA, and Richard Mathieson are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

- **Commodities Related Investments Risk** — Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of commodity-linked derivative investments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in inflation, interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments.
- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives can magnify the Fund’s gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund’s derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives may reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund’s use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund’s hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund’s distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”). If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps — Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard “swap” transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts — Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures — Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Options — An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a “call option”) or sell (a “put option”) the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the “exercise price”) during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or below the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

- **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.
- **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.
- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, growth investments have performed better during the later stages of economic expansion and value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, these investment styles may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act, the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund’s portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis and is subject to “Model Risk” as described below. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Model Risk** — The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis. Investments selected using these models may perform differently than as forecasted due to the factors incorporated into the models and the weighting of each factor, as well as the level and scope of changes from historical trends. In addition, issues in the construction and implementation of the models, including software or hardware malfunction, power loss, software bugs, malicious code, viruses, system crashes and other technological failures or various other events or circumstances within or beyond the control of BlackRock, may adversely impact the Fund. Please see also “Cyber Security Risk” below. There is no guarantee that BlackRock’s use of these models will result in effective investment decisions for the Fund.

Some of the models used by BlackRock rely on historical data and may not accurately predict future market movements. The Fund bears the risk that the models used by BlackRock will not be successful in forecasting movements in the market or in determining the size, direction, and/or weighting of investment positions that will enable the Fund to achieve its investment objective. In addition, the models may not be reliable in the event of unusual or disruptive events that cause market movements, which may be inconsistent with the historical performance of individual markets. In such instances, the models may produce unexpected results, which can result in losses for the Fund. Furthermore, because predictive models may be constructed based on data supplied by third parties, the success of relying on such models may depend heavily on the accuracy and reliability of such data.

■ **“New Issues” Risk** — “New issues” are IPOs of equity securities. Investments in companies that have recently gone public have the potential to produce substantial gains for the Fund. However, there is no assurance that the Fund will have access to profitable IPOs and therefore investors should not rely on these past gains as an indication of future performance. The investment performance of the Fund during periods when it is unable to invest significantly or at all in IPOs may be lower than during periods when the Fund is able to do so. In addition, as the Fund increases in size, the impact of IPOs on the Fund’s performance will generally decrease. Securities issued in IPOs are subject to many of the same risks as investing in companies with smaller market capitalizations. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO. When an IPO is brought to the market, availability may be limited and the Fund may not be able to buy any shares at the offering price, or, if it is able to buy shares, it may not be able to buy as many shares at the offering price as it would like.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds

and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

- **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.
- **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.
- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.
- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.
- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.

- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund’s adviser or an affiliate of the Fund’s adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund’s liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund’s NAV and increase the Fund’s brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund’s remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund’s current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund’s expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager’s ability to implement a fund’s investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund’s performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.
- **Mid Cap Securities Risk** — The securities of mid cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are generally subject to greater and less predictable price changes than the securities of larger capitalization companies.
- **Money Market Securities Risk** — If market conditions improve while the Fund has invested some or all of its assets in high quality money market securities, this strategy could result in reducing the potential gain from the market upswing, thus reducing the Fund’s opportunity to achieve its investment objective.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund’s service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **Real Estate-Related Securities Risk** — The main risk of real estate-related securities is that the value of the underlying real estate may go down. Many factors may affect real estate values. These factors include both the general and local economies, vacancy rates, changes in rent schedule, tenant bankruptcies, the ability to re-lease space under expiring leases on attractive terms, the amount of new construction in a particular area, the laws and regulations (including zoning, environmental and tax laws) affecting real estate and the costs of owning, maintaining and improving real estate. The availability of mortgage financing and changes in interest rates may also affect real estate values. If the Fund’s real estate-related investments are concentrated in one geographic area or in one property type, the Fund will be particularly subject to the risks associated with that area or property type. Many issuers of real estate-related securities are highly leveraged, which increases the risk to holders of such securities. The value of the securities the Fund buys will not necessarily track the value of the underlying investments of the issuers of such securities. In addition, certain issuers of real estate-related securities may have developed or commenced development on properties and may develop additional properties in the future. Real estate development involves significant risks in addition to those involved in the ownership and operation of established properties. Real estate securities may have limited diversification and are, therefore, subject to risks inherent in operating and financing a limited number of projects. Real estate securities are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency and defaults by borrowers or tenants.
- **REIT Investment Risk** — In addition to the risks facing real estate-related securities, such as a decline in property values due to increasing vacancies, a decline in rents resulting from unanticipated economic, legal or technological developments or a decline in the price of securities of real estate companies due to a failure of borrowers to pay their loans or poor management, investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume, may engage in dilutive offerings of securities and may be more volatile than other securities. REIT issuers may also fail to maintain their exemptions from investment company registration or fail to qualify for the “dividends paid deduction” under the Internal Revenue Code, which allows REITs to reduce their corporate taxable income for dividends paid to their shareholders.

- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock’s parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock’s personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities, the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available, and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC (“BIM”), the Fund’s securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund’s securities lending program.
- **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund’s valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund’s ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security’s price.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

| | BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Class I | | | | |
| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 16.48 | \$ 21.17 | \$ 29.89 | \$ 27.48 | \$ 22.80 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.16 | 0.18 | 0.25 | 0.31 | 0.38 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 3.99 | (4.42) | 7.78 | 5.04 | 6.20 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 4.15 | (4.24) | 8.03 | 5.35 | 6.58 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.16) | (0.17) | (0.51) | (0.33) | (0.39) |
| From net realized gain | — | (0.28) | (16.24) | (2.61) | (1.51) |
| Total distributions | (0.16) | (0.45) | (16.75) | (2.94) | (1.90) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 20.47 | \$ 16.48 | \$ 21.17 | \$ 29.89 | \$ 27.48 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 25.23% ^(d) | (19.99)% | 28.44% | 19.80% | 28.92% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(e) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.81% | 0.80% | 0.71% | 0.71% | 0.72% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.66% | 0.65% | 0.56% | 0.56% | 0.57% |
| Net investment income | 0.87% | 0.99% | 0.76% | 1.12% | 1.43% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$156,576 | \$144,437 | \$203,609 | \$177,977 | \$169,743 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 111% | 117% | 116% ^(f) | 121% | 129% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Includes payment from an affiliate, which had no impact on the Fund's total return.

^(e) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

^(f) Portfolio turnover rate excludes in-kind transactions.

Financial Highlights (continued)

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Class II | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$16.53 | \$ 21.24 | \$ 29.95 | \$27.51 | \$22.83 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.13 | 0.15 | 0.19 | 0.26 | 0.34 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 4.00 | (4.44) | 7.79 | 5.06 | 6.19 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 4.13 | (4.29) | 7.98 | 5.32 | 6.53 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.13) | (0.14) | (0.45) | (0.27) | (0.34) |
| From net realized gain | — | (0.28) | (16.24) | (2.61) | (1.51) |
| Total distributions | (0.13) | (0.42) | (16.69) | (2.88) | (1.85) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$20.53 | \$ 16.53 | \$ 21.24 | \$29.95 | \$27.51 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 25.03% ^(d) | (20.17)% | 28.20% | 19.66% | 28.67% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(e) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.96% | 0.95% | 0.86% | 0.86% | 0.87% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.83% | 0.82% | 0.73% | 0.73% | 0.74% |
| Net investment income | 0.70% | 0.82% | 0.59% | 0.96% | 1.26% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$4,518 | \$ 3,464 | \$ 4,570 | \$3,771 | \$4,986 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 111% | 117% | 116% ^(f) | 121% | 129% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Includes payment from an affiliate, which had no impact on the Fund's total return.

^(e) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

^(f) Portfolio turnover rate excludes in-kind transactions.

Financial Highlights (concluded)

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Class III | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 17.69 | \$ 22.68 | \$ 29.58 | \$ 27.22 | \$ 22.60 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.12 | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.23 | 0.30 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 4.28 | (4.73) | 7.73 | 4.99 | 6.14 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 4.40 | (4.58) | 7.88 | 5.22 | 6.44 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.11) | (0.13) | (0.02) | (0.25) | (0.31) |
| From net realized gain | — | (0.28) | (14.76) | (2.61) | (1.51) |
| Total distributions | (0.11) | (0.41) | (14.78) | (2.86) | (1.82) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 21.98 | \$ 17.69 | \$ 22.68 | \$ 29.58 | \$ 27.22 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 24.90% ^(d) | (20.16)% | 28.06% | 19.50% | 28.56% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(e) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.97% | 0.87% | 0.95% | 0.96% | 0.97% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.93% | 0.86% | 0.83% | 0.84% | 0.85% |
| Net investment income | 0.61% | 0.79% | 0.46% | 0.83% | 1.15% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$15,243 | \$14,322 | \$15,962 | \$310,785 | \$309,530 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 111% | 117% | 116% ^(f) | 121% | 129% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Includes payment from an affiliate, which had no impact on the Fund's total return.

^(e) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

^(f) Portfolio turnover rate excludes in-kind transactions.

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Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek long-term capital appreciation.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.75% | 0.75% |
| Distribution and/or Service (1.2b-1) Fees | None | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses | 0.37% | 0.41% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses | 1.12% | 1.41% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | (0.52)% | (0.56)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | 0.60% | 0.85% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.60% (for Class I Shares) and 0.85% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0% (for Class I Shares) and 0.11% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$61 | \$304 | \$567 | \$1,317 |
| Class III Shares | \$87 | \$391 | \$718 | \$1,642 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 131% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

Under normal circumstances, the Fund seeks to invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in large cap equity securities of U.S. issuers and derivatives that have similar economic characteristics to such securities. For purposes of the Fund's 80% policy, large cap equity securities are equity securities that at the time of purchase have a market capitalization within the range of companies included in the Russell 1000[®] Value Index. The Fund primarily intends to invest in equity securities, which include common stock, preferred stock and convertible securities, or other financial instruments that are components of, or have characteristics similar to, the securities included in the Russell 1000[®] Value Index. The Russell 1000[®] Value Index is a capitalization-weighted index from a broad range of industries chosen for market size, liquidity and industry group representation. The Fund primarily seeks to buy common stock and may also invest in preferred stock and convertible securities. From time to time, the Fund may invest in shares of companies through "new issues" or initial public offerings ("IPOs").

The Fund may use derivatives, including options, futures, swaps (including, but not limited to, total return swaps, some of which may be referred to as contracts for difference) and forward contracts, both to seek to increase the return of the Fund and to hedge (or protect) the value of its assets against adverse movements in currency exchange rates, interest rates and movements in the securities markets. In order to manage cash flows into or out of the Fund effectively, the Fund may buy and sell financial futures contracts or options on such contracts. Derivatives are financial instruments whose value is derived from another security, a currency or an index, including but not limited to the Russell 1000[®] Value Index. The use of options, futures, swaps and forward contracts can be effective in protecting or enhancing the value of the Fund's assets.

The Fund may seek to provide exposure to the investment returns of real assets that trade in the commodity markets through investment in commodity-linked derivative instruments and investment vehicles such as exchange-traded funds that invest exclusively in commodities and are designed to provide this exposure without direct investment in physical commodities.

The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by investing in large cap securities in a disciplined manner, by using proprietary return forecast models that incorporate quantitative analysis. These forecast models are designed to identify aspects of mispricing across stocks which the Fund can seek to capture by over- and under-weighting particular equities while seeking to control incremental risk. BlackRock then constructs and rebalances the portfolio by integrating its investment insights with the model-based optimization process.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of the principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

- **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.
- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Model Risk** — The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis. Investments selected using these models may perform differently than as forecasted due to the factors incorporated into the models and the weighting of each factor, changes from historical trends, and issues in the construction and implementation of the models (including, but not limited to, software issues and other technological issues). There is no guarantee that BlackRock's use of these models will result in effective investment decisions for the Fund.

The information and data used in the models may be supplied by third parties. Inaccurate or incomplete data may limit the effectiveness of the models. In addition, some of the data that BlackRock uses may be historical data, which may not accurately predict future market movement. There is a risk that the models will not be successful in selecting investments or in determining the weighting of investment positions that will enable the Fund to achieve its investment objective.

- **Commodities Related Investments Risk** — Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of commodity-linked derivative investments may be

affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in inflation, interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments.

■ **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of the issuer's creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them.

Hedging Risk — Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences.

Tax Risk — Certain aspects of the tax treatment of derivative instruments, including swap agreements and commodity-linked derivative instruments, are currently unclear and may be affected by changes in legislation, regulations or other legally binding authority. Such treatment may be less favorable than that given to a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments.

■ **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis and is subject to “Model Risk” as described above. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **“New Issues” Risk** — “New issues” are IPOs of equity securities. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO.

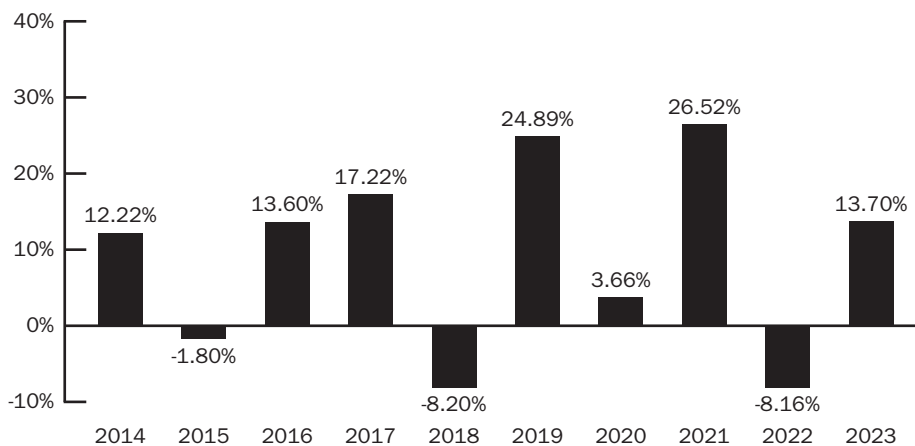
■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund's performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The Fund's returns prior to June 12, 2017 as reflected in the bar chart and the table are the returns of the Fund when it followed different investment strategies under the name "BlackRock Large Cap Value V.I. Fund." The table compares the Fund's performance to that of the Russell 1000® Value Index. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund's investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund's returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares
ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS
BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund
As of 12/31



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 15.38% (quarter ended December 31, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was -25.66% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

For the periods ended 12/31/23
Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|--|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 13.70% | 11.33% | 8.71% |
| BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 13.50% | 11.05% | 8.38% |
| Russell 1000® Value Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 11.46% | 10.91% | 8.40% |

Investment Manager

The Fund's investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as "BlackRock").

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Raffaele Savi | 2017 | Senior Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Travis Cooke, CFA | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Richard Mathieson | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the "Insurance Companies") and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the "Accounts") to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company's website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek long-term capital appreciation.

Should the Board of Directors determine that the investment objective of the Fund should be changed, shareholders of the Fund will be given notice before any such change is effective. However, such change can be effected without shareholder approval.

Investment Process

The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by investing in large cap securities in a disciplined manner, by using proprietary return forecast models that incorporate quantitative analysis. These forecast models are designed to identify aspects of mispricing across stocks which the Fund can seek to capture by over- and under-weighting particular equities while seeking to control incremental risk. BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) then constructs and rebalances the portfolio by integrating its investment insights with the model-based optimization process. The Fund has no stated minimum holding period for investments and may buy or sell securities whenever Fund management sees an appropriate opportunity. The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its investments.

Principal Investment Strategies

Under normal circumstances, the Fund seeks to invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in large cap equity securities of U.S. issuers and derivatives that have similar economic characteristics to such securities. For purposes of the Fund’s 80% policy, large cap equity securities are equity securities that at the time of purchase have a market capitalization within the range of companies included in the Russell 1000® Value Index. The Fund primarily intends to invest in equity securities, which include common stock, preferred stock and convertible securities, or other financial instruments that are components of, or have characteristics similar to, the securities included in the Russell 1000® Value Index. The Russell 1000® Value Index is a capitalization-weighted index from a broad range of industries chosen for market size, liquidity and industry group representation. The Fund primarily seeks to buy common stock and may also invest in preferred stock and convertible securities. From time to time, the Fund may invest in shares of companies through “new issues” or initial public offerings (“IPOs”).

The Fund may use derivatives, including options, futures, swaps (including, but not limited to, total return swaps, some of which may be referred to as contracts for difference) and forward contracts, both to seek to increase the return of the Fund and to hedge (or protect) the value of its assets against adverse movements in currency exchange rates, interest rates and movements in the securities markets. In order to manage cash flows into or out of the Fund effectively, the Fund may buy and sell financial futures contracts or options on such contracts. Derivatives are financial instruments whose value is derived from another security, a currency or an index, including but not limited to the Russell 1000® Value Index. The use of options, futures, swaps and forward contracts can be effective in protecting or enhancing the value of the Fund’s assets.

The Fund may seek to provide exposure to the investment returns of real assets that trade in the commodity markets through investment in commodity-linked derivative instruments and investment vehicles such as exchange-traded funds that invest exclusively in commodities and are designed to provide this exposure without direct investment in physical commodities.

The above 80% policy is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without 60 days’ prior notice to shareholders.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions, subject to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”), the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.

- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.
- **Investment Companies** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs.
- **Money Market Securities** — The Fund may invest in money market securities or commercial paper.
- **Real Estate Investment Trusts** — The Fund may invest in real estate investment trusts (“REITs”).
- **Restricted Securities** — Restricted securities are securities that cannot be offered for public resale unless registered under the applicable securities laws or that have a contractual restriction that prohibits or limits their resale. They may include Rule 144A securities, which are privately placed securities that can be resold to qualified institutional buyers but not to the general public, and securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are offered pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Temporary Defensive Strategies** — For temporary defensive purposes, for example, to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and may restrict the markets in which it invests and may invest without limitation in cash, cash equivalents, money market securities, such as U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, other U.S. Government securities, short-term debt obligations of corporate issuers, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances, commercial paper (short-term, unsecured, negotiable promissory notes of a domestic or foreign issuer) or other high quality fixed income securities. Temporary defensive positions may affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis or on a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF ADVANTAGE LARGE CAP VALUE V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Raffaele Savi, Travis Cooke, CFA, and Richard Mathieson are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

- **Commodities Related Investments Risk** — Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of commodity-linked derivative investments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in inflation, interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments.
- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives can magnify the Fund’s gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund’s derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives may reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund’s use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund’s hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund’s distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”). If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps — Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard “swap” transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts — Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures — Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Options — An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a “call option”) or sell (a “put option”) the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the “exercise price”) during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or below the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

- **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.
- **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.
- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act, the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund’s portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis and is subject to “Model Risk” as described below. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Model Risk** — The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis. Investments selected using these models may perform differently than as forecasted due to the factors incorporated into the models and the weighting of each factor, as well as the level and scope of changes from historical trends. In addition, issues in the construction and implementation of the models, including software or hardware malfunction, power loss, software bugs, malicious code, viruses, system crashes and other technological failures or various other events or circumstances within or beyond the control of BlackRock, may adversely impact the Fund. Please see also “Cyber Security Risk” below. There is no guarantee that BlackRock’s use of these models will result in effective investment decisions for the Fund.

Some of the models used by BlackRock rely on historical data and may not accurately predict future market movements. The Fund bears the risk that the models used by BlackRock will not be successful in forecasting movements in the market or in determining the size, direction, and/or weighting of investment positions that will enable the Fund to achieve its investment objective. In addition, the models may not be reliable in the event of unusual or disruptive events that cause market movements, which may be inconsistent with the historical performance of individual markets. In such instances, the models may produce unexpected results, which can result in losses for the Fund. Furthermore, because predictive models may be constructed based on data supplied by third parties, the success of relying on such models may depend heavily on the accuracy and reliability of such data.

■ **“New Issues” Risk** — “New issues” are IPOs of equity securities. Investments in companies that have recently gone public have the potential to produce substantial gains for the Fund. However, there is no assurance that the Fund will have access to profitable IPOs and therefore investors should not rely on these past gains as an indication of future performance. The investment performance of the Fund during periods when it is unable to invest significantly or at all in IPOs may be lower than during periods when the Fund is able to do so. In addition, as the Fund increases in size, the impact of IPOs on the Fund’s performance will generally decrease. Securities issued in IPOs are subject to many of the same risks as investing in companies with smaller market capitalizations. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO. When an IPO is brought to the market, availability may be limited and the Fund may not be able to buy any shares at the offering price, or, if it is able to buy shares, it may not be able to buy as many shares at the offering price as it would like.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and

other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

- **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.
- **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.
- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.
- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.
- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.

- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund’s adviser or an affiliate of the Fund’s adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund’s liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund’s NAV and increase the Fund’s brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund’s remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund’s current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund’s expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager’s ability to implement a fund’s investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund’s performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.
- **Mid Cap Securities Risk** — The securities of mid cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are generally subject to greater and less predictable price changes than the securities of larger capitalization companies.
- **Money Market Securities Risk** — If market conditions improve while the Fund has invested some or all of its assets in high quality money market securities, this strategy could result in reducing the potential gain from the market upswing, thus reducing the Fund’s opportunity to achieve its investment objective.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund’s service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **Real Estate-Related Securities Risk** — The main risk of real estate-related securities is that the value of the underlying real estate may go down. Many factors may affect real estate values. These factors include both the general and local economies, vacancy rates, changes in rent schedules, tenant bankruptcies, the ability to re-lease space under expiring leases on attractive terms, the amount of new construction in a particular area, the laws and regulations (including zoning, environmental and tax laws) affecting real estate and the costs of owning, maintaining and improving real estate. The availability of mortgage financing and changes in interest rates may also affect real estate values. If the Fund’s real estate-related investments are concentrated in one geographic area or in one property type, the Fund will be particularly subject to the risks associated with that area or property type. Many issuers of real estate-related securities are highly leveraged, which increases the risk to holders of such securities. The value of the securities the Fund buys will not necessarily track the value of the underlying investments of the issuers of such securities. In addition, certain issuers of real estate-related securities may have developed or commenced development on properties and may develop additional properties in the future. Real estate development involves significant risks in addition to those involved in the ownership and operation of established properties. Real estate securities may have limited diversification and are, therefore, subject to risks inherent in operating and financing a limited number of projects. Real estate securities are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency and defaults by borrowers or tenants.
- **REIT Investment Risk** — In addition to the risks facing real estate-related securities, such as a decline in property values due to increasing vacancies, a decline in rents resulting from unanticipated economic, legal or technological developments or a decline in the price of securities of real estate companies due to a failure of borrowers to pay their loans or poor management, investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume, may engage in dilutive offerings of securities and may be more volatile than other securities. REIT issuers may also fail to maintain their exemptions from investment company registration or fail to qualify for the “dividends paid deduction” under the Internal Revenue Code, which allows REITs to reduce their corporate taxable income for dividends paid to their shareholders.

- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock's parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock's personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities, the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available, and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC ("BIM"), the Fund's securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund's securities lending program.
- **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund's valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund's ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security's price.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Class I | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 9.19 | \$ 10.43 | \$ 9.94 | \$ 9.86 | \$ 8.40 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.16 | 0.16 | 0.16 | 0.16 | 0.20 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.09 | (1.03) | 2.44 | 0.18 | 1.88 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.25 | (0.87) | 2.60 | 0.34 | 2.08 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.16) | (0.16) | (0.19) | (0.16) | (0.20) |
| From net realized gain | (0.38) | (0.21) | (1.92) | (0.10) | (0.42) |
| Total distributions | (0.54) | (0.37) | (2.11) | (0.26) | (0.62) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 9.90 | \$ 9.19 | \$ 10.43 | \$ 9.94 | \$ 9.86 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 13.70% | (8.16)% | 26.52% | 3.66% | 24.89% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.12% | 1.09% | 1.08% | 1.11% | 1.13% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.60% | 0.60% | 0.60% | 0.60% | 0.60% |
| Net investment income | 1.66% | 1.69% | 1.37% | 1.85% | 2.12% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$87,447 | \$82,509 | \$98,863 | \$81,864 | \$87,984 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 131% | 128% | 131% | 139% | 144% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

Financial Highlights (concluded)

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Class III | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 8.93 | \$ 10.16 | \$ 9.73 | \$ 9.66 | \$ 8.24 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.13 | 0.14 | 0.12 | 0.14 | 0.18 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.06 | (1.02) | 2.39 | 0.17 | 1.84 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.19 | (0.88) | 2.51 | 0.31 | 2.02 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.13) | (0.14) | (0.16) | (0.14) | (0.18) |
| From net realized gain | (0.38) | (0.21) | (1.92) | (0.10) | (0.42) |
| Total distributions | (0.51) | (0.35) | (2.08) | (0.24) | (0.60) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 9.61 | \$ 8.93 | \$ 10.16 | \$ 9.73 | \$ 9.66 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 13.50% | (8.51)% | 26.22% | 3.42% | 24.60% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.41% | 1.37% | 1.34% | 1.36% | 1.38% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.85% | 0.85% | 0.85% | 0.85% | 0.85% |
| Net investment income | 1.41% | 1.45% | 1.11% | 1.60% | 1.88% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$12,534 | \$11,230 | \$11,308 | \$5,872 | \$4,976 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 131% | 128% | 131% | 139% | 144% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

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Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek long-term growth of capital.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.74% | 0.74% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses | 0.37% | 0.38% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses | 1.11% | 1.37% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | (0.56)% | (0.57)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | 0.55% | 0.80% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.55% (for Class I Shares) and 0.80% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0.07% (for Class I Shares) and 0.01% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract.

See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$56 | \$297 | \$557 | \$1,301 |
| Class III Shares | \$82 | \$378 | \$695 | \$1,597 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 120% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

Under normal circumstances, the Fund seeks to invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of U.S. small and medium capitalization companies, and derivatives that have similar economic characteristics to such securities. The Fund primarily intends to invest in equity securities or other financial instruments that are components of, or have characteristics similar to, the securities included in the Russell 2500™ Index. The Russell 2500™ Index is an index that measures the performance of the small to mid-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe, commonly referred to as “smid” cap. The Russell 2500™ Index is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index. It includes approximately 2500 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Fund may invest in issuers of any market capitalization. The equity securities in which the Fund invests primarily consist of common stock, but may also include preferred stock and convertible securities. From time to time, the Fund may invest in shares of companies through “new issues” or initial public offerings (“IPOs”).

The Fund may use derivatives, including options, futures, swaps (including, but not limited to, total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference) and forward contracts, both to seek to increase the return of the Fund and to hedge (or protect) the value of its assets against adverse movements in interest rates and movements in the securities markets. In order to manage cash flows into or out of the Fund effectively, the Fund may buy and sell financial futures contracts or options on such contracts. Derivatives are financial instruments whose value is derived from another security, a currency or an index, including but not limited to the Russell 2500™ Index.

The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of portfolio securities to seek to achieve its primary investment strategies.

The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by investing in securities in a disciplined manner, by using proprietary return forecast models that incorporate quantitative analysis. These forecast models are designed to identify aspects of mispricing across stocks which the Fund can seek to capture by over- and under-weighting particular equity securities while seeking to control incremental risk. BlackRock then constructs and rebalances the portfolio by integrating its investment insights with the model-based optimization process.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

- **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company’s financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.
- **Small and Mid-Capitalization Company Risk** — Companies with small or mid-size market capitalizations will normally have more limited product lines, markets and financial resources and will be dependent upon a more limited management group than larger capitalized companies. In addition, it is more difficult to get information on smaller companies, which tend to be less well known, have shorter operating histories, do not have significant ownership by large investors and are followed by relatively few securities analysts.
- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Model Risk** — The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis. Investments selected using these models may perform differently than as forecasted due to the factors incorporated into the models and the weighting of each factor, changes from historical trends, and issues in the construction and implementation of the models (including, but not limited to, software issues and other technological issues). There is no guarantee that BlackRock’s use of these models will result in effective investment decisions for the Fund. The information and data used in the models may be supplied by third parties. Inaccurate or incomplete data may limit the effectiveness of the models. In addition, some of the data that BlackRock uses may be historical data, which may not accurately predict future market movement. There is a risk that the models will not be successful in selecting investments or in determining the weighting of investment positions that will enable the Fund to achieve its investment objective.
- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and

their market value may change based on changes in the issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of the issuer's creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.

- **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them.

Hedging Risk — Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences.

Tax Risk — Certain aspects of the tax treatment of derivative instruments, including swap agreements and commodity-linked derivative instruments, are currently unclear and may be affected by changes in legislation, regulations or other legally binding authority. Such treatment may be less favorable than that given to a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments.

- **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.

- **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health

issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis and is subject to “Model Risk” as described above. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

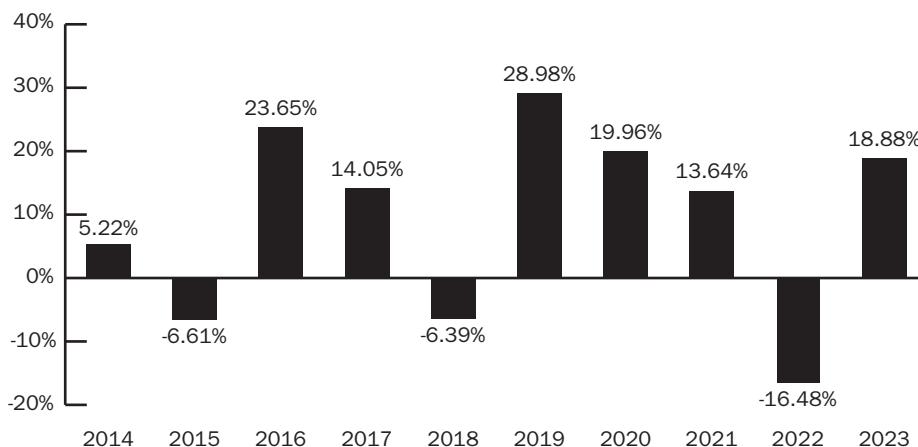
- **“New Issues” Risk** — “New issues” are IPOs of equity securities. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO.
- **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.
- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.

Performance Information

Effective February 9, 2021, the Fund changed its name and investment strategies. Performance for the period between June 12, 2017 and February 8, 2021, is based on the investment strategies utilized by the Fund when it followed different investment strategies under the name “BlackRock Advantage U.S. Total Market V.I. Fund.”

The information shows you how the Fund’s performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The Fund’s returns prior to June 12, 2017 as reflected in the bar chart and the table are the returns of the Fund when it followed different investment strategies under the name “BlackRock Value Opportunities V.I. Fund.” The table compares the Fund’s performance to that of the Russell 2500™ Index. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund’s investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund’s returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares
ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS
BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund
As of 12/31



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 22.29% (quarter ended June 30, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was -20.28% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

For the periods ended 12/31/23

Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|---|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 18.88% | 11.79% | 8.52% |
| BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 18.63% | 11.52% | 8.28% |
| Russell 2500™ Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 17.42% | 11.67% | 8.36% |

Investment Manager

The Fund's investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as "BlackRock").

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Raffaele Savi | 2017 | Senior Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Travis Cooke, CFA | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Richard Mathieson | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the "Insurance Companies") and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the "Accounts") to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company's website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek long-term growth of capital.

This investment objective is a fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without approval of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”).

Investment Process

The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by investing in securities in a disciplined manner, by using proprietary return forecast models that incorporate quantitative analysis. These forecast models are designed to identify aspects of mispricing across stocks which the Fund can seek to capture by over- and under-weighting particular equity securities while seeking to control incremental risk. BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) then constructs and rebalances the portfolio by integrating its investment insights with the model-based optimization process. The Fund has no stated minimum holding period for investments and may buy or sell securities whenever Fund management sees an appropriate opportunity.

Principal Investment Strategies

Under normal circumstances, the Fund seeks to invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of U.S. small and medium capitalization companies, and derivatives that have similar economic characteristics to such securities. The Fund primarily intends to invest in equity securities or other financial instruments that are components of, or have characteristics similar to, the securities included in the Russell 2500™ Index. The Russell 2500™ Index is an index that measures the performance of the small to mid-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe, commonly referred to as “smid” cap. The Russell 2500™ Index is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index. It includes approximately 2500 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Fund may invest in issuers of any market capitalization. The equity securities in which the Fund invests primarily consist of common stock, but may also include preferred stock and convertible securities. From time to time, the Fund may invest in shares of companies through “new issues” or initial public offerings (“IPOs”).

The Fund may use derivatives, including options, futures, swaps (including, but not limited to, total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference) and forward contracts, both to seek to increase the return of the Fund and to hedge (or protect) the value of its assets against adverse movements in interest rates and movements in the securities markets. In order to manage cash flows into or out of the Fund effectively, the Fund may buy and sell financial futures contracts or options on such contracts. Derivatives are financial instruments whose value is derived from another security, a currency or an index, including but not limited to the Russell 2500™ Index.

The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of portfolio securities to seek to achieve its primary investment strategies.

The above 80% policy is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without 60 days’ prior notice to shareholders.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions, subject to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act, the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.
- **Foreign Securities** — The Fund may invest in companies located in countries other than the United States.
- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.

- **Investment Companies** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs.
- **Money Market Securities** — The Fund may invest in money market securities or commercial paper.
- **Real Estate Investment Trusts** — The Fund may invest in real estate investment trusts (“REITs”). REITs are companies that own interests in real estate or in real estate-related loans or other interests, and have revenue primarily consisting of rent derived from owned, income producing real estate properties and capital gains from the sale of such properties. REITs can generally be classified as equity REITs, mortgage REITs and hybrid REITs. Equity REITs invest the majority of their assets directly in real property and derive their income primarily from rents. Equity REITs can also realize capital gains by selling properties that have appreciated in value. Mortgage REITs invest the majority of their assets in real estate mortgages and derive their income primarily from interest payments. Hybrid REITs combine the characteristics of both equity REITs and mortgage REITs. REITs are not taxed on income distributed to shareholders provided they comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”).
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts** — The Fund may enter into certain types of repurchase agreements or purchase and sale contracts. Under a repurchase agreement, the seller agrees to repurchase a security at a mutually agreed-upon time and price. A purchase and sale contract is similar to a repurchase agreement, but purchase and sale contracts also provide that the purchaser receives any interest on the security paid during the period.
- **Restricted Securities** — Restricted securities are securities that cannot be offered for public resale unless registered under the applicable securities laws or that have a contractual restriction that prohibits or limits their resale. They may include Rule 144A securities, which are privately placed securities that can be resold to qualified institutional buyers but not to the general public, and securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are offered pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- **Reverse Repurchase Agreements** — Reverse repurchase agreements are transactions in which the Fund sells a security with the obligation to repurchase the security shortly thereafter at a specified price which reflects a payment by the Fund. The Fund profits from entering into a reverse repurchase agreement by reinvesting the proceeds of the sale at a higher return than it has to pay to repurchase its security.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33⅓% of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Temporary Defensive Strategies** — For temporary defensive purposes, for example, to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and may restrict the markets in which it invests and may invest without limitation in cash, cash equivalents, money market securities, such as U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, other U.S. Government securities, short-term debt obligations of corporate issuers, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances, commercial paper (short-term, unsecured, negotiable promissory notes of a domestic or foreign issuer) or other high quality fixed income securities, including non-convertible preferred stock and repurchase agreements. In addition, we expect that a portion of the Fund’s assets will be held in these securities in anticipation of investment in equities or to meet redemptions. Temporary defensive positions may affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **Warrants** — A warrant gives the Fund the right to buy stock. The warrant specifies the amount of underlying stock, the purchase (or “exercise”) price, and the date the warrant expires. The Fund has no obligation to exercise the warrant and buy the stock. A warrant has value only if the Fund is able to exercise it or sell it before it expires.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis or on a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF ADVANTAGE SMID CAP V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Raffaele Savi, Travis Cooke, CFA, and Richard Mathieson are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

■ **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives can magnify the Fund’s gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund’s derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives may reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund’s use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund’s hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund’s distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund’s ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps – Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard “swap” transaction, two parties agree to exchange the values or cash flows of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund’s obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts – Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures – Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser’s inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Options – An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a “call option”) or sell (a “put option”) the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the “exercise price”) during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or below the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

- **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due

to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.

- **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.
- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act, the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund’s portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.
- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis and is subject to “Model Risk” as described below. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

- **Model Risk** — The Fund seeks to pursue its investment objective by using proprietary models that incorporate quantitative analysis. Investments selected using these models may perform differently than as forecasted due to the factors incorporated into the models and the weighting of each factor, as well as the level and scope of changes from historical trends. In addition, issues in the construction and implementation of the models, including software or hardware malfunction, power loss, software bugs, malicious code, viruses, system crashes and other technological failures or various other events or circumstances within or beyond the control of BlackRock, may adversely impact the Fund. Please see also “Cyber Security Risk” below. There is no guarantee that BlackRock’s use of these models will result in effective investment decisions for the Fund.

Some of the models used by BlackRock rely on historical data and may not accurately predict future market movements. The Fund bears the risk that the models used by BlackRock will not be successful in forecasting movements in the market or in determining the size, direction, and/or weighting of investment positions that will enable the Fund to achieve its investment objective. In addition, the models may not be reliable in the event of unusual or disruptive events that cause market movements, which may be inconsistent with the historical performance of individual markets. In such instances, the models may produce unexpected results, which can result in losses for the Fund. Furthermore, because predictive models may be constructed based on data supplied by third parties, the success of relying on such models may depend heavily on the accuracy and reliability of such data.

- **“New Issues” Risk** — “New issues” are IPOs of equity securities. Investments in companies that have recently gone public have the potential to produce substantial gains for the Fund. However, there is no assurance that the Fund will have access to profitable IPOs and therefore investors should not rely on these past gains as an indication

of future performance. The investment performance of the Fund during periods when it is unable to invest significantly or at all in IPOs may be lower than during periods when the Fund is able to do so. In addition, as the Fund increases in size, the impact of IPOs on the Fund's performance will generally decrease. Securities issued in IPOs are subject to many of the same risks as investing in companies with smaller market capitalizations. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO. When an IPO is brought to the market, availability may be limited and the Fund may not be able to buy any shares at the offering price, or, if it is able to buy shares, it may not be able to buy as many shares at the offering price as it would like.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company's preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

■ **Small and Mid-Capitalization Company Risk** — Companies with small or mid-size market capitalizations will normally have more limited product lines, markets and financial resources and will be dependent upon a more limited management group than larger capitalized companies. In addition, it is more difficult to get information on smaller companies, which tend to be less well known, have shorter operating histories, do not have significant ownership by large investors and are followed by relatively few securities analysts.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

■ **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.

■ **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.

■ **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.

■ **Foreign Securities Risk** — Because the Fund may invest in companies located in countries other than the United States, the Fund may be exposed to risks associated with foreign investments.

■ The value of holdings traded outside the United States (and any hedging transactions in foreign currencies) will be affected by changes in currency exchange rates.

- The costs of non-U.S. securities transactions tend to be higher than those of U.S. transactions.
 - Foreign holdings may be adversely affected by foreign government action.
 - International trade barriers or economic sanctions against certain non-U.S. countries may adversely affect these holdings.
 - The economies of certain countries may compare unfavorably with the U.S. economy.
 - Foreign securities markets may be smaller than the U.S. markets, which may make trading more difficult.
 - The Fund's claims to recover foreign withholding taxes may not be successful, which may adversely affect the Fund's net asset value.
- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.
- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.
- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund's adviser or an affiliate of the Fund's adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund's liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund's NAV and increase the Fund's brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund's remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund's current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund's expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager's ability to implement a fund's investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund's performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.
- **Money Market Securities Risk** — If market conditions improve while the Fund has invested some or all of its assets in high quality money market securities, this strategy could result in reducing the potential gain from the market upswing, thus reducing the Fund's opportunity to achieve its investment objective.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems

failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.

- **REIT Investment Risk** — In addition to the risks facing real estate-related securities, such as a decline in property values due to increasing vacancies, a decline in rents resulting from unanticipated economic, legal or technological developments or a decline in the price of securities of real estate companies due to a failure of borrowers to pay their loans or poor management, investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume, may engage in dilutive offerings of securities and may be more volatile than other securities. REIT issuers may also fail to maintain their exemptions from investment company registration or fail to qualify for the “dividends paid deduction” under the Internal Revenue Code, which allows REITs to reduce their corporate taxable income for dividends paid to their shareholders.
- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock’s parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock’s personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities, the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available, and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- **Reverse Repurchase Agreements Risk** — Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities held by the Fund with an agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price, date and interest payment. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the other party may fail to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by the Fund, including the value of the investments made with cash collateral, is less than the value of the securities. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. In addition, reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the interest income earned in the investment of the proceeds will be less than the interest expense.
- **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC (“BIM”), the Fund’s securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund’s securities lending program.
- **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund’s valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund’s ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.

- **Warrants Risk** — If the price of the underlying stock does not rise above the exercise price before the warrant expires, the warrant generally expires without any value and the Fund will lose any amount it paid for the warrant. Thus, investments in warrants may involve substantially more risk than investments in common stock. Warrants may trade in the same markets as their underlying stock; however, the price of the warrant does not necessarily move with the price of the underlying stock.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security's price.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Class I | | | | |
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 17.98 | \$ 21.92 | \$ 27.49 | \$ 24.65 | \$ 21.11 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.22 | 0.20 | 0.23 | 0.28 | 0.35 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 3.17 | (3.82) | 3.13 | 4.57 | 5.74 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 3.39 | (3.62) | 3.36 | 4.85 | 6.09 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.19) | (0.18) | (0.26) | (0.30) | (0.44) |
| From net realized gain | — | (0.14) | (8.67) | (1.71) | (2.11) |
| Total distributions | (0.19) | (0.32) | (8.93) | (2.01) | (2.55) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 21.18 | \$ 17.98 | \$ 21.92 | \$ 27.49 | \$ 24.65 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 18.88% | (16.48)% | 13.64% | 19.96% | 28.98% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.11% | 1.07% | 1.09% | 1.06% | 1.02% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.55% | 0.55% | 0.55% | 0.55% | 0.55% |
| Net investment income | 1.17% | 1.07% | 0.80% | 1.12% | 1.45% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$143,298 | \$135,137 | \$179,034 | \$177,134 | \$168,415 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 120% | 124% | 216% | 119% | 135% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

Financial Highlights (concluded)

BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Class III | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 8.50 | \$ 10.57 | \$17.50 | \$16.33 | \$14.66 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.10 | 0.08 | 0.10 | 0.14 | 0.20 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.48 | (1.86) | 1.85 | 3.00 | 3.97 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.58 | (1.78) | 1.95 | 3.14 | 4.17 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.18) | (0.15) | (0.21) | (0.26) | (0.39) |
| From net realized gain | — | (0.14) | (8.67) | (1.71) | (2.11) |
| Total distributions | (0.18) | (0.29) | (8.88) | (1.97) | (2.50) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 9.90 | \$ 8.50 | \$10.57 | \$17.50 | \$16.33 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 18.63% | (16.68)% | 13.35% | 19.65% | 28.65% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.37% | 1.33% | 1.34% | 1.29% | 1.31% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.80% | 0.80% | 0.80% | 0.80% | 0.80% |
| Net investment income | 1.06% | 0.83% | 0.56% | 0.87% | 1.19% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$14,991 | \$ 6,301 | \$7,027 | \$6,553 | \$5,829 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 120% | 124% | 216% | 119% | 135% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

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Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek capital appreciation and, secondarily, income.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.60% | 0.60% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses | 0.26% | 0.27% |
| Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses ² | 0.01% | 0.01% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses ² | 0.87% | 1.13% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,3} | (0.13)% | (0.11)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,3} | 0.74% | 1.02% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² The Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses do not correlate to the ratios of expenses to average net assets given in the Fund’s most recent annual report, which do not include Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses.

³ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 1.25% (for Class I Shares) and 1.50% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0.06% (for Class I Shares) and 0.09% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$ 76 | \$265 | \$469 | \$1,061 |
| Class III Shares | \$104 | \$348 | \$612 | \$1,365 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 39% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund invests primarily in equity securities that Fund management believes are undervalued, which means that their prices are less than Fund management believes they are worth. Equity securities primarily consist of common stock, preferred stock, securities convertible into common stock, or securities or other instruments whose price is linked to the value of common stock. Fund management places particular emphasis on companies with below average price/earnings ratios that may pay above average dividends. The Fund invests primarily in common stock of U.S. companies, but the Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets in the securities of foreign companies. The Fund focuses primarily on companies with market capitalizations of over \$5 billion.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

- **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company’s financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.
- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.
- **Foreign Securities Risk** — Foreign investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. These risks include:
 - The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories, which may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business and may be subject to only limited or no regulatory oversight.
 - Changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund’s portfolio.
 - The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position.
 - The governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, may prohibit or impose substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries, which may prohibit or restrict the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets.
 - Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as does the United States and may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws.
 - Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets may result in delays in payment for or delivery of securities not typically associated with settlement and clearance of U.S. investments.
 - The Fund’s claims to recover foreign withholding taxes may not be successful, and if the likelihood of recovery of foreign withholding taxes materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the

foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value.

■ The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

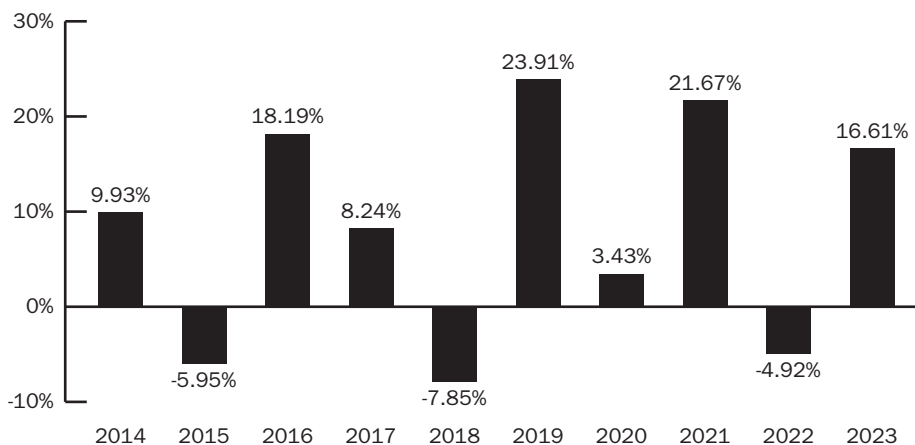
■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company's preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund's performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The table compares the Fund's performance to that of the Russell 1000® Value Index, which is relevant to the Fund because it has characteristics similar to the Fund's investment strategies. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund's investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund's returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund As of 12/31



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 21.43% (quarter ended December 31, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was -28.15% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

For the periods ended 12/31/23 Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|---|--------|---------|----------|
| BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 16.61% | 11.57% | 7.74% |
| BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 16.24% | 11.26% | 7.44% |
| Russell 1000® Value Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 11.46% | 10.91% | 8.40% |

Investment Manager

The Fund's investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as "BlackRock").

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Tony DeSpirito | 2019 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| David Zhao | 2019 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the "Insurance Companies") and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the "Accounts") to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company's website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek capital appreciation and, secondarily, income.

This investment objective is a fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without approval of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”).

Investment Process

In selecting securities, Fund management emphasizes companies that it believes are undervalued. Fund management may also determine a company is undervalued if its stock price is down because of temporary factors from which Fund management believes the company will recover.

Fund management believes that favorable changes in market prices are more likely to occur when:

- Stocks are out of favor
- Company earnings are depressed
- Price/earnings ratios are relatively low
- Investment expectations are limited
- There is no general interest in a security or industry

On the other hand, Fund management believes that negative developments are more likely to occur when:

- Investment expectations are generally high
- Stock prices are advancing or have advanced rapidly
- Price/earnings ratios have been inflated
- An industry or security continues to be popular among investors

A stock’s price/earnings ratio is determined by dividing the price of a stock by its earnings per share. Fund management believes that stocks with relatively high price/earnings ratios are more vulnerable to price declines from unexpected adverse developments. At the same time, stocks with relatively low price/earnings ratios are more likely to benefit from favorable but generally unanticipated events. Thus, the Fund may invest a large part of its net assets in stocks that have weak research ratings.

The Fund may sell a security if, for example, the stock price increases to the high end of the range of its historical price-book value ratio or if the Fund determines that the issuer no longer meets the criteria Fund management has established for the purchase of such securities or if Fund management thinks there is a more attractive investment opportunity in the same category.

Fund management complements its fundamental analysis of the Fund’s investments with a quantitative process that ranks stocks based on specific metrics such as value, quality and momentum.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund invests primarily in equity securities that Fund management believes are undervalued, which means that their prices are less than Fund management believes they are worth. The Fund tries to achieve its objectives by investing in a diversified portfolio consisting primarily of equity securities, which includes common stock, preferred stock, securities convertible into common stock, or securities or other instruments whose price is linked to the value of common stock. Fund management places particular emphasis on companies with below average price/earnings ratios that may pay above average dividends. The Fund invests primarily in common stock of U.S. companies, but the Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets in the securities of foreign companies. The Fund focuses primarily on companies with market capitalizations of over \$5 billion.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions, subject to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act, the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.
- **Derivative Transactions** — The Fund may use derivatives to hedge its portfolio against market and currency risks or to gain exposure to equity markets. The Fund may also use derivatives to hedge its investment portfolio against interest rate risks or to seek to enhance its return. Derivatives are financial instruments whose value is derived from another security, a commodity (such as oil or gold), a currency or an index such as the Russell 1000® Value Index. The derivatives that the Fund may use include options on portfolio positions or currencies, financial and currency futures, options on such futures, forward foreign currency transactions and swaps.
- **Emerging Market Securities** — The Fund concentrates its foreign exposure on established companies in developed countries. Although the Fund may invest in emerging markets or underdeveloped countries from time to time, the Fund does not speculate on such markets or countries.
- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.
- **Indexed and Inverse Securities** — The Fund may invest in securities the potential return of which is based on the change in a specified interest rate or equity index (an “indexed security”). The Fund may also invest in securities whose return is inversely related to changes in an interest rate or index (“inverse securities”). In general, the return on inverse securities will decrease when the underlying index or interest rate goes up and increase when that index or interest rate goes down.
- **Investment Companies** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33⅓% of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Short-Term Debt Securities** — The Fund will normally invest a portion of its assets in short-term debt securities, such as commercial paper. As a temporary measure for defensive purposes, the Fund may invest in these securities without limitation. The Fund may also increase its investment in these securities when Fund management is unable to find enough attractive long term investments to reduce exposure to equity securities when Fund management believes it is advisable to do so, or to meet redemptions. Investments in these short-term debt securities typically can be sold easily and have limited risk of loss but may limit the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **Standby Commitment Agreements** — Standby commitment agreements commit the Fund, for a stated period of time, to purchase a stated amount of securities that may be issued and sold to the Fund at the option of the issuer.
- **Temporary Defensive Strategies** — For temporary defensive purposes, for example, to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and may restrict the markets in which it invests and may invest without limitation in cash, cash equivalents, money market securities, such as U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, other U.S. Government securities, short-term debt obligations of corporate issuers, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances, commercial paper (short-term, unsecured, negotiable promissory notes of a domestic or foreign issuer) or other high quality fixed income securities. Temporary defensive positions may affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis, on a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF BASIC VALUE V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Tony DeSpirito and David Zhao are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.
- **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes inflation, in interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.
- **Foreign Securities Risk** — Securities traded in foreign markets have often (though not always) performed differently from securities traded in the United States. However, such investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. In particular, the Fund is subject to the risk that because there may be fewer investors on foreign exchanges and a smaller number of securities traded each day, it may be more difficult for the Fund to buy and sell securities on those exchanges. In addition, prices of foreign securities may go up and down more than prices of securities traded in the United States.

Certain Risks of Holding Fund Assets Outside the United States — The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories. Some foreign banks and securities depositories may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business. In addition, there may be limited or no regulatory oversight of their operations. Also, the laws of certain countries limit the Fund’s ability to recover its assets if a foreign bank, depository or issuer of a security, or any of their agents, goes bankrupt. In addition, it is often more expensive for the Fund to buy, sell and hold securities in certain foreign markets than in the United States. The increased expense of investing in foreign markets reduces the amount the Fund can earn on its investments and typically results in a higher operating expense ratio for the Fund than for investment companies invested only in the United States.

Currency Risk — Securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests may be denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. For this reason, changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund’s portfolio.

Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more U.S. dollars. This risk, generally known as “currency risk,” means that a strong U.S. dollar will reduce returns for U.S. investors while a weak U.S. dollar will increase those returns.

Foreign Economy Risk — The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position. Certain foreign economies may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Investments in foreign markets may also be adversely affected by governmental actions such as the imposition of capital controls, nationalization of companies or industries, expropriation of assets or the imposition of punitive taxes. In addition, economic conditions, such as volatile currency exchange rates and interest rates, political events, military action and other conditions may, without prior warning, lead to the governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, prohibiting or imposing substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries. Capital controls and/or sanctions may include the prohibition of, or restrictions on, the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets and may also include retaliatory actions of one government against another government, such as seizure of assets. Any of these actions could

severely impair the Fund's ability to purchase, sell, transfer, receive, deliver or otherwise obtain exposure to foreign securities and assets, including the ability to transfer the Fund's assets or income back into the United States, and could negatively impact the value and/or liquidity of such assets or otherwise adversely affect the Fund's operations, causing the Fund to decline in value.

Other potential foreign market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on foreign government securities, difficulties in enforcing legal judgments in foreign courts and political and social instability. Diplomatic and political developments, including rapid and adverse political changes, social instability, regional conflicts, terrorism and war, could affect the economies, industries and securities and currency markets, and the value of the Fund's investments, in non-U.S. countries. These factors are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to predict and take into account with respect to the Fund's investments.

Governmental Supervision and Regulation/Accounting Standards — Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as such regulations exist in the United States. They also may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws. For example, some foreign countries may have no laws or rules against insider trading. Insider trading occurs when a person buys or sells a company's securities based on material non-public information about that company. In addition, some countries may have legal systems that may make it difficult for the Fund to vote proxies, exercise shareholder rights, and pursue legal remedies with respect to its foreign investments. Accounting standards in other countries are not necessarily the same as in the United States. If the accounting standards in another country do not require as much detail as U.S. accounting standards, it may be harder for Fund management to completely and accurately determine a company's financial condition.

Settlement Risk — Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets differ significantly from those in the United States. Foreign settlement and clearance procedures and trade regulations also may involve certain risks (such as delays in payment for or delivery of securities) not typically associated with the settlement of U.S. investments.

At times, settlements in certain foreign countries have not kept pace with the number of securities transactions. These problems may make it difficult for the Fund to carry out transactions. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a purchase of securities, it may miss attractive investment opportunities and certain of its assets may be uninvested with no return earned thereon for some period. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a sale of securities, it may lose money if the value of the security then declines or, if it has contracted to sell the security to another party, the Fund could be liable for any losses incurred.

Withholding Tax Reclaims Risk — The Fund may file claims to recover foreign withholding taxes on dividend and interest income (if any) received from issuers in certain countries and capital gains on the disposition of stocks or securities where such withholding tax reclaim is possible. Whether or when the Fund will receive a withholding tax refund is within the control of the tax authorities in such countries. Where the Fund expects to recover withholding taxes, the net asset value of the Fund generally includes accruals for such tax refunds. The Fund regularly evaluates the probability of recovery. If the likelihood of recovery materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders in the Fund at the time an accrual is written down will bear the impact of the resulting reduction in net asset value regardless of whether they were shareholders during the accrual period. Conversely, if the Fund receives a tax refund that has not been previously accrued, shareholders in the Fund at the time of the successful recovery will benefit from the resulting increase in the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders who sold their shares prior to such time will not benefit from such increase in the Fund's net asset value.

European Economic Risk — The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.

Responses to the financial problems by European governments, central banks and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Further defaults or restructurings by governments and others of their debt could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets and asset valuations around the world.

The United Kingdom has withdrawn from the European Union, and one or more other countries may withdraw from the European Union and/or abandon the Euro, the common currency of the European Union. These events and actions have adversely affected, and may in the future adversely affect, the value and exchange rate of the Euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including countries that do not use the Euro and non-European Union member states. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, is not clear but could be significant and far reaching. In addition, Russia launched a large-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The extent and duration of the military action, resulting sanctions and resulting future market disruptions in the region are impossible to predict, but could be significant and have a

severe adverse effect on the region, including significant negative impacts on the economy and the markets for certain securities and commodities, such as oil and natural gas, as well as other sectors.

- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

- **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company's preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.
- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

- **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.
- **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.

■ **Debt Securities Risk** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve credit risk. Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make payments of interest and principal when due. Changes in an issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of an issuer’s creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund’s investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation. Debt securities are also subject to interest rate risk. Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a debt security may fall when interest rates rise. In general, the market price of debt securities with longer maturities will go up or down more in response to changes in interest rates than the market price of shorter term securities. The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. The Federal Reserve has recently begun to raise the federal funds rate as part of its efforts to address rising inflation. There is a risk that interest rates will continue to rise, which will likely drive down the prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives can magnify the Fund’s gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund’s derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives may reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund’s use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund’s hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund’s distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are

required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps — Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts — Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures — Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Options — An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a "call option") or sell (a "put option") the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the "exercise price") during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or below the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

- **Emerging Markets Risk** — The risks of foreign investments are usually much greater for emerging markets. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets may include those in countries considered emerging or developing by the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation or the United Nations. Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. They are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets. Since these markets are often small, they may be more likely to suffer sharp and frequent price changes or long-term price depression because of adverse publicity, investor perceptions or the actions of a few large investors. In addition, traditional measures of investment value used in the United States, such as price to

earnings ratios, may not apply to certain small markets. Also, there may be less publicly available information about issuers in emerging markets than would be available about issuers in more developed capital markets, and such issuers may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject. Communications between the United States and emerging market countries may be unreliable, increasing the risk of delayed settlements or losses of security certificates. In addition, foreign companies with securities listed on U.S. exchanges may be delisted if they do not meet U.S. accounting standards and auditor oversight requirements, which may significantly decrease the liquidity and value of the securities.

Many emerging markets have histories of political instability and abrupt changes in policies. As a result, their governments are more likely to take actions that are hostile or detrimental to private enterprise or foreign investment than those of more developed countries. Some countries have pervasive corruption and crime that may hinder investments. Certain emerging markets may also face other significant internal or external risks, including the risk of war, and ethnic, religious and racial conflicts. In addition, governments in many emerging market countries participate to a significant degree in their economies and securities markets, which may impair investment and economic growth.

- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.
- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.
- **Indexed and Inverse Securities Risk** — Indexed and inverse securities provide a potential return based on a particular index of value or interest rates. The Fund's return on these securities will be subject to risk with respect to the value of the particular index. These securities are subject to leverage risk and correlation risk. Certain indexed and inverse securities have greater sensitivity to changes in interest rates or index levels than other securities, and the Fund's investment in such instruments may decline significantly in value if interest rates or index levels move in a way Fund management does not anticipate.
- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.
- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund's adviser or an affiliate of the Fund's adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund's liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund's NAV and increase the Fund's brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more

liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund's remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund's current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund's expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager's ability to implement a fund's investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund's performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.

- **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act, the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock's parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock's personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC ("BIM"), the Fund's securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund's securities lending program.
- **Standby Commitment Agreements Risk** — Standby commitment agreements involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery to the Fund and will no longer be worth what the Fund has agreed to pay for it. These agreements also involve the risk that if the security goes up in value, the counterparty will decide not to issue the security. In this case, the Fund loses both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security's price.
- **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund's valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund's ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security's price.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Class I | | | | |
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 11.75 | \$ 13.99 | \$ 13.58 | \$ 13.75 | \$ 12.39 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.24 | 0.19 | 0.20 | 0.26 | 0.31 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.70 | (0.90) | 2.68 | 0.18 | 2.63 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.94 | (0.71) | 2.88 | 0.44 | 2.94 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.23) | (0.19) | (0.20) | (0.30) | (0.35) |
| From net realized gain | (0.52) | (1.34) | (2.27) | (0.31) | (1.23) |
| Total distributions | (0.75) | (1.53) | (2.47) | (0.61) | (1.58) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 12.94 | \$ 11.75 | \$ 13.99 | \$ 13.58 | \$ 13.75 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 16.61% | (4.92)% | 21.67% | 3.43% | 23.91% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.86% | 0.84% | 0.85% | 0.87% | 0.84% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.73% | 0.71% | 0.72% | 0.73% | 0.73% |
| Net investment income | 1.93% | 1.44% | 1.32% | 2.14% | 2.20% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$249,087 | \$243,526 | \$287,095 | \$270,007 | \$288,543 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 39% | 63% | 67% | 89% | 45% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

Financial Highlights (concluded)

| | BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Class III | | | | |
| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 11.61 | \$ 13.83 | \$ 13.46 | \$ 13.62 | \$ 12.29 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.20 | 0.15 | 0.16 | 0.23 | 0.26 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.68 | (0.88) | 2.65 | 0.16 | 2.61 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.88 | (0.73) | 2.81 | 0.39 | 2.87 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.20) | (0.15) | (0.17) | (0.24) | (0.31) |
| From net realized gain | (0.52) | (1.34) | (2.27) | (0.31) | (1.23) |
| Total distributions | (0.72) | (1.49) | (2.44) | (0.55) | (1.54) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 12.77 | \$ 11.61 | \$ 13.83 | \$ 13.46 | \$ 13.62 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 16.24% | (5.12)% | 21.34% | 3.13% | 23.53% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.12% | 1.11% | 1.11% | 1.12% | 1.13% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 1.01% | 0.99% | 0.99% | 1.01% | 1.01% |
| Net investment income | 1.65% | 1.16% | 1.04% | 1.94% | 1.86% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$70,009 | \$63,262 | \$74,157 | \$33,584 | \$63,378 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 39% | 63% | 67% | 89% | 45% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

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Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek long-term growth of capital.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.65% | 0.65% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses ^{2,3} | 0.29% | 0.29% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses ^{2,3} | 0.94% | 1.19% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,4} | (0.15)% | (0.15)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,4} | 0.79% | 1.04% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2026. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2026. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² Other Expenses have been restated to reflect current fees.

³ The Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses do not correlate to the ratios of expenses to average net assets given in the Fund’s most recent annual report, due to the restatement of Other Expenses to reflect current fees.

⁴ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.79% (for Class I Shares) and 1.04% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2026. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0.07% (for Class I Shares) and 0.08% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2026. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$ 81 | \$269 | \$490 | \$1,126 |
| Class III Shares | \$106 | \$347 | \$625 | \$1,416 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 22% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by investing primarily in a diversified portfolio consisting primarily of common stock of U.S. companies that Fund management believes have exhibited above-average growth rates in earnings over the long term. In other words, Fund management tries to choose investments that will increase in value over the long term. The Fund will generally invest at least 65% of its total assets in the following equity securities:

- Common stock;
- Convertible preferred stock;
- Securities convertible into common stock; and
- Rights to subscribe to common stock.

Of these securities, the Fund generally seeks to invest primarily in common stock.

The Fund may invest in companies of any size but emphasizes investments in companies that have medium to large stock market capitalizations (currently, approximately \$2 billion or more).

Convertible securities generally are debt securities or preferred stock that may be converted into common stock. Convertible securities typically pay current income as either interest (debt security convertibles) or dividends (preferred stock). A convertible's value usually reflects both the stream of current income payments and the market value of the underlying common stock. The Fund may purchase securities pursuant to the exercise of subscription rights, which allow an issuer's existing shareholders to purchase additional common stock at a price substantially below the market price of the shares.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

- **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.
- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, growth investments have performed better during the later stages of economic expansion. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

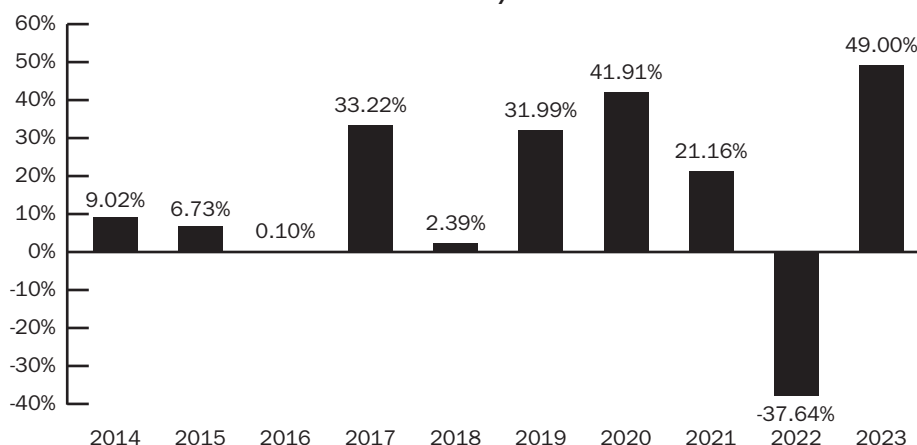
- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of the issuer's creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.

- **Mid Cap Securities Risk** — The securities of mid cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are generally subject to greater and less predictable price changes than the securities of larger capitalization companies.
- **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.
- **Rights Risk** — The failure to exercise subscription rights to purchase common stock would result in the dilution of the Fund’s interest in the issuing company. The market for such rights is not well developed, and, accordingly, the Fund may not always realize full value on the sale of rights.
- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund’s performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The table compares the Fund’s performance to that of the S&P 500® Index and the Russell 1000® Growth Index, which are relevant to the Fund because they have characteristics similar to the Fund’s investment strategies. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund’s investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund’s returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares
ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS
BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund
As of 12/31



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 28.84% (quarter ended June 30, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was -22.95% (quarter ended June 30, 2022).

For the periods ended 12/31/23
Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|--|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 49.00% | 16.09% | 12.85% |
| BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 48.59% | 15.77% | 12.56% |
| S&P 500® Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 26.29% | 15.69% | 12.03% |
| Russell 1000® Growth Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 42.68% | 19.50% | 14.86% |

Investment Manager

The Fund’s investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as “BlackRock”).

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Phil Ruvinsky | 2020 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Caroline Bottinelli | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the “Insurance Companies”) and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the “Accounts”) to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company’s website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek long-term growth of capital.

Should the Board of Directors determine that the investment objective of the Fund should be changed, shareholders of the Fund will be given notice before any such change is effective. However, such change can be effected without shareholder approval.

Investment Process

The Fund seeks to invest in fundamentally sound companies with strong management, superior earnings growth prospects and attractive relative valuations. The disciplined investment process uses bottom-up stock selection as the primary driver of returns. The Fund emphasizes large companies that exhibit stable growth and accelerated earnings.

While the Fund generally expects to invest across a broad range of industries, it may favor companies in those industries that appear to offer higher potential for long-term growth.

The Fund generally will sell a stock when, in the Fund management team’s opinion, the stock reaches its price target, there is a deterioration in the company’s future growth prospects, an inability to sustain earnings momentum, less attractive valuation, a significant price change or more compelling investment opportunities elsewhere.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by investing primarily in a diversified portfolio consisting primarily of common stock of U.S. companies that Fund management believes have exhibited above-average growth rates in earnings over the long term. In other words, Fund management tries to choose investments that will increase in value over the long term. The Fund will generally invest at least 65% of its total assets in the following equity securities:

- Common stock;
- Convertible preferred stock;
- Securities convertible into common stock; and
- Rights to subscribe to common stock.

Of these securities, the Fund generally seeks to invest primarily in common stock.

The Fund emphasizes investments in companies that have exhibited above-average growth rates in earnings, resulting from a variety of factors including but not limited to above-average growth rates in sales, profit margin improvement, proprietary or niche products or services, leading market shares, and underlying strong industry growth. BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”), the Fund’s investment manager, believes that companies that possess above-average earnings growth frequently provide the prospect of above-average stock market returns, although such companies tend to have higher relative stock market valuations. The Fund may invest in companies of any size but emphasizes investments in companies that have medium to large stock market capitalizations (currently, approximately \$2 billion or more). Investment in companies with lower market capitalizations, especially those under \$1 billion, may involve special risks including limited product lines, market or financial resources or a limited management group. In addition, many smaller company stocks trade less frequently and in smaller volume, and may be subject to more abrupt or erratic price movements or more sensitive to market fluctuations, than stocks of larger companies.

Convertible securities generally are debt securities or preferred stock that may be converted into common stock. Convertible securities typically pay current income as either interest (debt security convertibles) or dividends (preferred stock). A convertible’s value usually reflects both the stream of current income payments and the market value of the underlying common stock. The Fund may purchase securities pursuant to the exercise of subscription rights, which allow an issuer’s existing shareholders to purchase additional common stock at a price substantially below the market price of the shares.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions, subject to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”), the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.
- **Derivative Transactions** — The Fund may use derivatives to hedge its portfolio against market and currency risks and to seek to enhance returns. Derivatives are financial instruments whose value is derived from another security, a commodity (such as oil or gold), a currency or an index such as the S&P 500[®] Index. The derivatives that the Fund may use include, but are not limited to, futures, forwards and options.
- **Emerging Market Issuers** — The Fund may also invest a portion of its assets in securities of issuers located in emerging markets.
- **Foreign Securities** — The Fund may invest up to 20% of its total assets in the securities of foreign companies, including in the form of European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”) or other securities convertible into securities of foreign companies. This 20% limit does not apply to investments in the form of American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”). ADRs are receipts typically issued by an American bank or trust company that evidence underlying securities issued by a foreign corporation. EDRs (issued in Europe) and Global Depositary Receipts (issued throughout the world) each evidence a similar ownership arrangement. The Fund may invest in unsponsored depositary receipts.
- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.
- **Indexed and Inverse Securities** — The Fund may invest in securities the potential return of which is based on the change in a specified interest rate or equity index (an “indexed security”). The Fund may also invest in securities the return of which is inversely related to changes in an interest rate or index (“inverse securities”). In general, the return on inverse securities will decrease when the underlying index or interest rate goes up and increase when that index or interest rate goes down.
- **Initial Public Offerings** — The Fund has the ability to invest in initial public offerings (“IPOs”).
- **Investment Companies** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs.
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts** — The Fund may enter into certain types of repurchase agreements or purchase and sale contracts. Under a repurchase agreement, the seller agrees to repurchase a security at a mutually agreed-upon time and price. A purchase and sale contract is similar to a repurchase agreement, but purchase and sale contracts also provide that the purchaser receives any interest on the security paid during the period.
- **Restricted Securities** — Restricted securities are securities that cannot be offered for public resale unless registered under the applicable securities laws or that have a contractual restriction that prohibits or limits their resale. They may include Rule 144A securities, which are privately placed securities that can be resold to qualified institutional buyers but not to the general public, and securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are offered pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- **Reverse Repurchase Agreements** — The Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements. The Fund is permitted to invest up to one-third of its total assets in reverse repurchase agreements. Investments in reverse repurchase agreements and securities lending transactions (described below) will be aggregated for purposes of this investment limitation.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Short-term Debt Securities** — The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in short-term debt securities, such as commercial paper. These securities can be sold easily and have limited risk of loss but earn only limited returns. The Fund may also invest without limitation in short-term debt securities (including repurchase agreements), non-convertible preferred stock and bonds, or government and money market securities when Fund management is unable to find enough attractive equity investments and to reduce exposure to equities when Fund management

believes it is advisable to do so, on a temporary basis. Investment in these securities may also be used to meet redemptions. Short-term investments and temporary defensive positions may limit the potential for the Fund to achieve its objective of long-term growth of capital.

- **Temporary Defensive Strategies** — For temporary defensive purposes, for example, to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and may restrict the markets in which it invests and may invest without limitation in cash, cash equivalents, money market securities, such as U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, other U.S. Government securities, short-term debt obligations of corporate issuers, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances, commercial paper (short-term, unsecured, negotiable promissory notes of a domestic or foreign issuer) or other high quality fixed income securities. Temporary defensive positions may affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **Warrants** — A warrant gives the Fund the right to buy stock. The warrant specifies the amount of underlying stock, the purchase (or “exercise”) price and the date the warrant expires. The Fund has no obligation to exercise the warrant and buy the stock. A warrant has value only if the Fund is able to exercise it or sell it before it expires.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis, on a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF CAPITAL APPRECIATION V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Phil Ruvinsky and Caroline Bottinelli are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.
- **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.
- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, growth investments have performed better during the later stages of economic expansion. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a

security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

- **Mid Cap Securities Risk** — The securities of mid cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are generally subject to greater and less predictable price changes than the securities of larger capitalization companies.
- **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company's preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.
- **Rights Risk** — The failure to exercise subscription rights to purchase common stock would result in the dilution of the Fund's interest in the issuing company. The market for such rights is not well developed, and, accordingly, the Fund may not always realize full value on the sale of rights.
- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

- **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.
- **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.
- **Depository Receipts Risk** — Depository receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. In addition to investment risks associated with the underlying issuer, depository receipts expose the Fund to additional risks associated with the non-uniform terms that apply to depository receipt programs, credit exposure to the depository bank and to the sponsors and other parties with whom the depository bank establishes the programs, currency risk and the risk of an illiquid market for

depository receipts. The issuers of unsponsored depository receipts are not obligated to disclose information that is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depository receipts. While depository receipts provide an alternative to directly purchasing underlying foreign securities in their respective markets and currencies, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities, including political, economic, and currency risk.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives may reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund's distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain

financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps — Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Credit Default Swaps — Credit default swaps may have as reference obligations one or more securities that are not currently held by the Fund. The protection "buyer" may be obligated to pay the protection "seller" an up-front payment or a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract, provided generally that no credit event on a reference obligation has occurred. Credit default swaps involve special risks in addition to those mentioned above because they are difficult to value, are highly susceptible to illiquid investments risk and credit risk, and generally pay a return to the party that has paid the premium only in the event of an actual default by the issuer of the underlying obligation (as opposed to a credit downgrade or other indication of financial difficulty).

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts — Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures — Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Options — An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a "call option") or sell (a "put option") the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the "exercise price") during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or below the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

- **Emerging Markets Risk** — The risks of foreign investments are usually much greater for emerging markets. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets may include those in countries considered emerging or developing by the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation or the United Nations. Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. They are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than

developed markets. Since these markets are often small, they may be more likely to suffer sharp and frequent price changes or long-term price depression because of adverse publicity, investor perceptions or the actions of a few large investors. In addition, traditional measures of investment value used in the United States, such as price to earnings ratios, may not apply to certain small markets. Also, there may be less publicly available information about issuers in emerging markets than would be available about issuers in more developed capital markets, and such issuers may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject. Communications between the United States and emerging market countries may be unreliable, increasing the risk of delayed settlements or losses of security certificates. In addition, foreign companies with securities listed on U.S. exchanges may be delisted if they do not meet U.S. accounting standards and auditor oversight requirements, which may significantly decrease the liquidity and value of the securities.

Many emerging markets have histories of political instability and abrupt changes in policies. As a result, their governments are more likely to take actions that are hostile or detrimental to private enterprise or foreign investment than those of more developed countries. Some countries have pervasive corruption and crime that may hinder investments. Certain emerging markets may also face other significant internal or external risks, including the risk of war, and ethnic, religious and racial conflicts. In addition, governments in many emerging market countries participate to a significant degree in their economies and securities markets, which may impair investment and economic growth.

- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.
- **Foreign Securities Risk** — Because the Fund may invest in companies located in countries other than the United States, the Fund may be exposed to risks associated with foreign investments.
 - The value of holdings traded outside the United States (and any hedging transactions in foreign currencies) will be affected by changes in currency exchange rates.
 - The costs of non-U.S. securities transactions tend to be higher than those of U.S. transactions.
 - Foreign holdings may be adversely affected by foreign government action.
 - International trade barriers or economic sanctions against certain non-U.S. countries may adversely affect these holdings.
 - The economies of certain countries may compare unfavorably with the U.S. economy.
 - Foreign securities markets may be smaller than the U.S. markets, which may make trading more difficult.
 - The Fund's claims to recover foreign withholding taxes may not be successful, which may adversely affect the Fund's net asset value.
- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.
- **Indexed and Inverse Securities Risk** — Indexed and inverse securities provide a potential return based on a particular index of value or interest rates. The Fund's return on these securities will be subject to risk with respect to the value of the particular index. These securities are subject to leverage risk and correlation risk. Certain

indexed and inverse securities have greater sensitivity to changes in interest rates or index levels than other securities, and the Fund's investment in such instruments may decline significantly in value if interest rates or index levels move in a way Fund management does not anticipate.

- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.
- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund's adviser or an affiliate of the Fund's adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund's liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund's NAV and increase the Fund's brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund's remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund's current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund's expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager's ability to implement a fund's investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund's performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.
- **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act, the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.
- **"New Issues" Risk** — "New issues" are IPOs of equity securities. Investments in companies that have recently gone public have the potential to produce substantial gains for the Fund. However, there is no assurance that the Fund will have access to profitable IPOs and therefore investors should not rely on these past gains as an indication of future performance. The investment performance of the Fund during periods when it is unable to invest significantly or at all in IPOs may be lower than during periods when the Fund is able to do so. In addition, as the Fund increases in size, the impact of IPOs on the Fund's performance will generally decrease. Securities issued in IPOs are subject to many of the same risks as investing in companies with smaller market capitalizations. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO. When an IPO is brought to the market, availability may be limited and the Fund may not be able to buy any shares at the offering price, or, if it is able to buy shares, it may not be able to buy as many shares at the offering price as it would like.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.

- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock's parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock's personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities, the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available, and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- **Reverse Repurchase Agreements Risk** — Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities held by the Fund with an agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price, date and interest payment. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the other party may fail to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by the Fund, including the value of the investments made with cash collateral, is less than the value of the securities. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. In addition, reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the interest income earned in the investment of the proceeds will be less than the interest expense.
- **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC ("BIM"), the Fund's securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund's securities lending program.
- **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund's valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund's ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.
- **Warrants Risk** — If the price of the underlying stock does not rise above the exercise price before the warrant expires, the warrant generally expires without any value and the Fund will lose any amount it paid for the warrant. Thus, investments in warrants may involve substantially more risk than investments in common stock. Warrants may trade in the same markets as their underlying stock; however, the price of the warrant does not necessarily move with the price of the underlying stock.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security's price.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund | | | | |
|---|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Class I | | | | |
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 6.02 | \$ 10.19 | \$ 10.35 | \$ 7.99 | \$ 7.25 |
| Net investment loss ^(a) | (0.02) | (0.01) | (0.04) | (0.03) | (0.02) |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 2.95 | (3.81) | 2.16 | 3.36 | 2.31 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 2.93 | (3.82) | 2.12 | 3.33 | 2.29 |
| Distributions from net realized gain^(b) | (0.45) | (0.35) | (2.28) | (0.97) | (1.55) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 8.50 | \$ 6.02 | \$ 10.19 | \$ 10.35 | \$ 7.99 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 49.00% | (37.64)% | 21.16% | 41.91% | 31.99% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.04% ^(e) | 0.93% | 0.92% | 0.95% | 0.93% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.91% ^(e) | 0.80% | 0.79% | 0.82% | 0.80% |
| Net investment loss | (0.22)% | (0.08)% | (0.35)% | (0.33)% | (0.20)% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$122,511 | \$100,146 | \$170,539 | \$162,334 | \$135,871 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 22% | 66% | 42% | 37% | 43% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds

^(e) Includes non-recurring expenses of reorganization costs. Without these costs, total expenses and total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed, would have been 0.94% and 0.81% respectively

Financial Highlights (concluded)

| | BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Class III | | | | |
| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 5.76 | \$ 9.80 | \$ 10.05 | \$ 7.80 | \$ 7.13 |
| Net investment loss ^(a) | (0.03) | (0.02) | (0.07) | (0.05) | (0.04) |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 2.81 | (3.67) | 2.10 | 3.27 | 2.26 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 2.78 | (3.69) | 2.03 | 3.22 | 2.22 |
| Distributions from net realized gain^(b) | (0.43) | (0.35) | (2.28) | (0.97) | (1.55) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 8.11 | \$ 5.76 | \$ 9.80 | \$ 10.05 | \$ 7.80 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 48.59% | (37.81)% | 20.89% | 41.52% | 31.55% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.29% ^(e) | 1.18% | 1.17% | 1.19% | 1.17% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 1.17% ^(e) | 1.06% | 1.05% | 1.08% | 1.05% |
| Net investment loss | (0.47)% | (0.34)% | (0.6)% | (0.59)% | (0.47)% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$70,112 | \$58,793 | \$83,028 | \$73,627 | \$64,102 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 22% | 66% | 42% | 37% | 43% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds

^(e) Includes non-recurring expenses of reorganization costs. Without these costs, total expenses and total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed, would have been 1.19% and 1.07% respectively

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Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund

Fund Overview

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek long-term total return and current income.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.60% | 0.60% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses | 0.25% | 0.26% |
| Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses ² | 0.01% | 0.01% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses ² | 0.86% | 1.12% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,3} | (0.19)% | (0.20)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,3} | 0.67% | 0.92% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² The Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses do not correlate to the ratios of expenses to average net assets given in the Fund’s most recent annual report, which do not include Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses.

³ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 1.25% (for Class I Shares) and 1.50% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0% (for Class I Shares) and 0% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$68 | \$255 | \$458 | \$1,043 |
| Class III Shares | \$94 | \$336 | \$598 | \$1,345 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 42% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund seeks to achieve its objective by investing primarily in a diversified portfolio of equity securities. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its assets in equity securities and at least 80% of its assets in dividend paying securities. The Fund may invest in securities of companies with any market capitalization, but will generally focus on large cap securities. The Fund may also invest in convertible securities and non-convertible preferred stock. Equity securities include common stock, preferred stock, securities convertible into common stock, or securities or other instruments whose price is linked to the value of common stock.

The Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets in securities of foreign issuers. The Fund may invest in securities from any country. The Fund may invest in securities denominated in both U.S. dollars and non-U.S. dollar currencies. The Fund may invest in the securities of foreign issuers in the form of American Depositary Receipts, European Depositary Receipts or other securities convertible into securities of foreign issuers.

BlackRock chooses investments for the Fund that it believes will both increase in value over the long term and provide current income, focusing on investments that will do both instead of those that will favor current income over capital appreciation.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

- **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.
- **Income Producing Stock Availability Risk** — Depending upon market conditions, income producing common stock that meets the Fund's investment criteria may not be widely available and/or may be highly concentrated in only a few market sectors. This may limit the ability of the Fund to produce current income while remaining fully diversified.
- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Foreign Securities Risk** — Foreign investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. These risks include:
 - The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories, which may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business and may be subject to only limited or no regulatory oversight.
 - Changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.
 - The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position.
 - The governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, may prohibit or impose substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries, which may prohibit or restrict the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets.
 - Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as does the United States and may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws.
 - Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets may result in delays in payment for or delivery of securities not typically associated with settlement and clearance of U.S. investments.
 - The Fund's claims to recover foreign withholding taxes may not be successful, and if the likelihood of recovery of foreign withholding taxes materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value.
- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and

their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

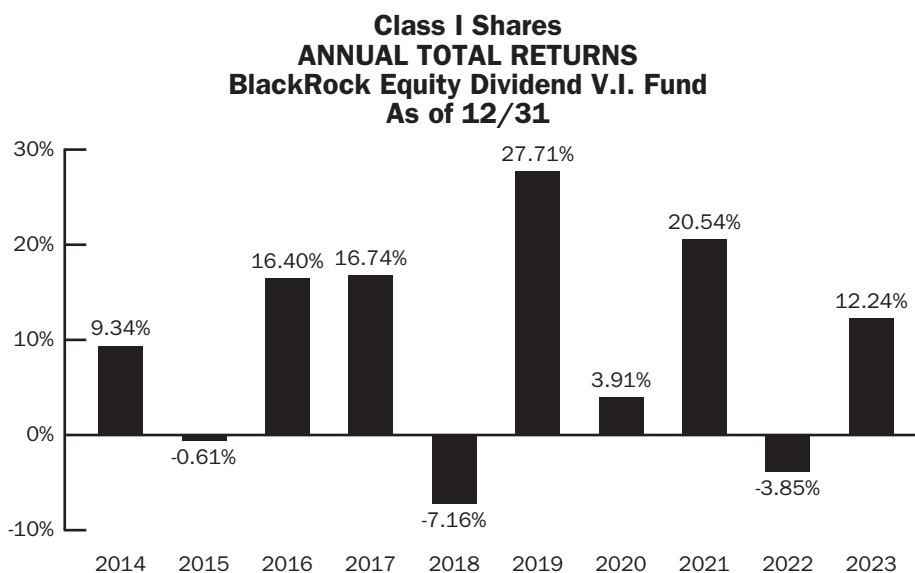
An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund’s performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The table compares the Fund’s performance to that of the S&P 500® Index and the Russell 1000® Value Index, which are relevant to the Fund because they have characteristics similar to the Fund’s investment strategies. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund’s investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund’s returns would have been lower.



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 17.28% (quarter ended December 31, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was –24.29% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

| For the periods ended 12/31/23 Average Annual Total Returns | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|---|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 12.24% | 11.54% | 9.00% |
| BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 11.99% | 11.27% | 8.73% |
| Russell 1000® Value Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 11.46% | 10.91% | 8.40% |
| S&P 500® Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 26.29% | 15.69% | 12.03% |

Investment Manager

The Fund’s investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as “BlackRock”).

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Tony DeSpirito | 2014 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| David Zhao | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the “Insurance Companies”) and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the “Accounts”) to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company’s website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek long-term total return and current income.

This investment objective is a fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without approval of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”).

Investment Process

BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) chooses investments for the Fund that it believes will both increase in value over the long term and provide current income, focusing on investments that will do both instead of those that will favor current income over capital appreciation. Total return consists of increases in value from both capital appreciation and income. The Fund will focus on issuers that have good prospects for capital appreciation. In selecting portfolio securities, the Fund will generally employ a value-oriented analysis, but may purchase equity securities based on a growth-oriented analysis when such securities pay dividends or Fund management believes such securities have particularly good prospects for capital appreciation.

Fund management believes that stocks that have yields often provide more attractive long-term total return and greater price stability during periods of downward movements in market prices than stocks that do not pay dividends. In certain market cycles, such as periods of high growth or high interest rates on bonds, dividend paying stocks could go out of favor. During such periods, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that do not emphasize investments in dividend paying stocks.

The Fund has no stated minimum holding period for investments and will buy or sell securities whenever Fund management sees an appropriate opportunity. For example, the Fund may sell shares of a company when the company’s prospects for capital appreciation deteriorate or when its dividend rates become unattractive or when the Fund identifies another company with more attractive prospects.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund seeks to achieve its objective by investing primarily in a diversified portfolio of equity securities. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its assets in equity securities and at least 80% of its assets in dividend paying securities. Equity securities include common stock, preferred stock, securities convertible into common stock, or securities or other instruments whose price is linked to the value of common stock. The Fund will focus on issuers that have good prospects for capital appreciation and current income. Although the Fund invests primarily in dividend paying securities, portions of the distributions paid by the Fund may not be subject to the lower income tax rates applicable to dividends.

The Fund may invest in securities of companies with any market capitalization, but will generally focus on large cap securities. The Fund’s portfolio, in the aggregate, will be structured in a manner designed to seek long-term capital appreciation as well as net portfolio yield in excess of the average yield of mutual funds invested primarily in U.S. equities.

The Fund may also invest in securities convertible into common stock and non-convertible preferred stock. Convertible securities are generally debt securities or preferred stock that may be converted into common stock. Convertible securities typically pay current income as either interest (debt security convertibles) or dividends (preferred stock). A convertible’s value usually reflects both the stream of current income payments and the market value of the underlying common stock. Preferred stock is a class of stock that often pays dividends at a specified rate and has preference over common stock in dividend payments and liquidation of assets. Preferred stock may also be convertible into common stock.

The Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets in securities of foreign issuers. The Fund may invest in securities from any country. The Fund may invest in securities denominated in both U.S. dollars and non-U.S. dollar currencies.

The Fund may invest in the securities of foreign issuers in the form of American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”) or other securities convertible into securities of foreign issuers. These securities may not necessarily be denominated in the same currency as the securities into which they may be converted. ADRs are receipts typically issued by a United States bank or trust company that evidence ownership of

underlying securities issued by a foreign corporation. EDRs are receipts issued in Europe that evidence a similar ownership arrangement. Generally, ADRs, which are issued in registered form, are designed for use in the United States securities markets, and EDRs, which are issued in bearer form, are designed for use in European securities markets. In a sponsored ADR or EDR arrangement, the foreign issuer assumes the obligation to pay some or all of the depository's transaction fees, whereas in an unsponsored arrangement the foreign issuer assumes no obligations and the depository's transaction fees are paid by the ADR or EDR holders. Foreign issuers in respect of whose securities unsponsored ADRs or EDRs have been issued are not necessarily obligated to disclose material information in the markets in which the unsponsored ADRs or EDRs are traded and, therefore, there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of such securities.

The 80% policies noted above are non-fundamental policies of the Fund and may not be changed without 60 days' prior notice to shareholders.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions, subject to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act, the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.
- **Debt Securities** — This includes fixed income securities issued by companies, as well as U.S. and foreign sovereign debt obligations. When choosing debt securities, Fund management considers various factors including the credit quality of issuers and yield analysis. The Fund may invest in debt securities that are rated investment grade of any maturity or determined by Fund management to be of similar quality.
- **Derivative Transactions** — The Fund may use derivatives to hedge its investment portfolio against market, interest rate and currency risks or to seek to enhance its return. The derivatives that the Fund may use include options, futures, swaps and forward foreign exchange transactions.
- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.
- **Indexed and Inverse Securities** — The Fund may invest in securities the potential return of which is based on the change in a specified interest rate or equity index (an "indexed security"). The Fund may also invest in securities the return of which is inversely related to changes in an interest rate or index ("inverse securities"). In general, the return on inverse securities will decrease when the underlying index or interest rate goes up and increase when that index or interest rate goes down.
- **Investment Companies** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs.
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts** — The Fund may enter into certain types of repurchase agreements or purchase and sale contracts. Under a repurchase agreement, the seller agrees to repurchase a security at a mutually agreed-upon time and price. A purchase and sale contract is similar to a repurchase agreement, but purchase and sale contracts also provide that the purchaser receives any interest on the security paid during the period.
- **Restricted Securities** — Restricted securities are securities that cannot be offered for public resale unless registered under the applicable securities laws or that have a contractual restriction that prohibits or limits their resale. They may include Rule 144A securities, which are privately placed securities that can be resold to qualified institutional buyers but not to the general public, and securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are offered pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- **Reverse Repurchase Agreements** — The Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements. The Fund is permitted to invest up to one-third of its total assets in reverse repurchase agreements. Investments in reverse repurchase agreements and securities lending transactions (described below) will be aggregated for purposes of this investment limitation.
- **Rights** — The Fund may purchase securities pursuant to the exercise of subscription rights, which allow an issuer's existing shareholders to purchase additional common stock at a price substantially below the market price of the shares.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.

- **Short-term Securities** — The Fund will normally invest a portion of its assets in short-term debt securities, money market securities, including repurchase agreements, or cash. The Fund invests in such securities or cash when Fund management is unable to find enough attractive long-term investments to reduce exposure to stocks when Fund management believes it is advisable to do so or to meet redemptions. Except during temporary defensive periods, such investments will not exceed 20% of the Fund’s assets.
- **Standby Commitment Agreements** — Standby commitment agreements commit the Fund, for a stated period of time, to purchase a stated amount of securities that may be issued and sold to the Fund at the option of the issuer.
- **Temporary Defensive Strategies** — For temporary defensive purposes, for example, to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and may restrict the markets in which it invests and may invest without limitation in cash, cash equivalents, money market securities, such as U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, other U.S. Government securities, short-term debt obligations of corporate issuers, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances, commercial paper (short-term, unsecured, negotiable promissory notes of a domestic or foreign issuer) or other high quality fixed income securities, including repurchase agreements. Except during temporary defensive periods, such securities or cash will not exceed 20% of its total assets. Temporary defensive positions may affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **Warrants** — A warrant gives the Fund the right to buy stock. The warrant specifies the amount of underlying stock, the purchase (or “exercise”) price, and the date the warrant expires. The Fund has no obligation to exercise the warrant and buy the stock. A warrant has value only if the Fund is able to exercise it or sell it before it expires.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis, on a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF EQUITY DIVIDEND V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Tony DeSpirito and David Zhao are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.
- **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.

■ **Foreign Securities Risk** — Securities traded in foreign markets have often (though not always) performed differently from securities traded in the United States. However, such investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. In particular, the Fund is subject to the risk that because there may be fewer investors on foreign exchanges and a smaller number of securities traded each day, it may be more difficult for the Fund to buy and sell securities on those exchanges. In addition, prices of foreign securities may go up and down more than prices of securities traded in the United States.

Certain Risks of Holding Fund Assets Outside the United States — The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories. Some foreign banks and securities depositories may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business. In addition, there may be limited or no regulatory oversight of their operations. Also, the laws of certain countries limit the Fund's ability to recover its assets if a foreign bank, depository or issuer of a security, or any of their agents, goes bankrupt. In addition, it is often more expensive for the Fund to buy, sell and hold securities in certain foreign markets than in the United States. The increased expense of investing in foreign markets reduces the amount the Fund can earn on its investments and typically results in a higher operating expense ratio for the Fund than for investment companies invested only in the United States.

Currency Risk — Securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests may be denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. For this reason, changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more U.S. dollars. This risk, generally known as "currency risk," means that a strong U.S. dollar will reduce returns for U.S. investors while a weak U.S. dollar will increase those returns.

Foreign Economy Risk — The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position. Certain foreign economies may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Investments in foreign markets may also be adversely affected by governmental actions such as the imposition of capital controls, nationalization of companies or industries, expropriation of assets or the imposition of punitive taxes. In addition, economic conditions, such as volatile currency exchange rates and interest rates, political events, military action and other conditions may, without prior warning, lead to the governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, prohibiting or imposing substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries. Capital controls and/or sanctions may include the prohibition of, or restrictions on, the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets and may also include retaliatory actions of one government against another government, such as seizure of assets. Any of these actions could severely impair the Fund's ability to purchase, sell, transfer, receive, deliver or otherwise obtain exposure to foreign securities and assets, including the ability to transfer the Fund's assets or income back into the United States, and could negatively impact the value and/or liquidity of such assets or otherwise adversely affect the Fund's operations, causing the Fund to decline in value.

Other potential foreign market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on foreign government securities, difficulties in enforcing legal judgments in foreign courts and political and social instability. Diplomatic and political developments, including rapid and adverse political changes, social instability, regional conflicts, terrorism and war, could affect the economies, industries and securities and currency markets, and the value of the Fund's investments, in non-U.S. countries. These factors are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to predict and take into account with respect to the Fund's investments.

Governmental Supervision and Regulation/Accounting Standards — Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as such regulations exist in the United States. They also may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws. For example, some foreign countries may have no laws or rules against insider trading. Insider trading occurs when a person buys or sells a company's securities based on material non-public information about that company. In addition, some countries may have legal systems that may make it difficult for the Fund to vote proxies, exercise shareholder rights, and pursue legal remedies with respect to its foreign investments. Accounting standards in other countries are not necessarily the same as in the United States. If the accounting standards in another country do not require as much detail as U.S. accounting standards, it may be harder for Fund management to completely and accurately determine a company's financial condition.

Settlement Risk — Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets differ significantly from those in the United States. Foreign settlement and clearance procedures and trade regulations also may involve certain risks (such as delays in payment for or delivery of securities) not typically associated with the settlement of U.S. investments.

At times, settlements in certain foreign countries have not kept pace with the number of securities transactions. These problems may make it difficult for the Fund to carry out transactions. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a purchase of securities, it may miss attractive investment opportunities and certain of its assets may be uninvested with no return earned thereon for some period. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a sale of securities, it may lose money if the value of the security then declines or, if it has contracted to sell the security to another party, the Fund could be liable for any losses incurred.

Withholding Tax Reclaims Risk — The Fund may file claims to recover foreign withholding taxes on dividend and interest income (if any) received from issuers in certain countries and capital gains on the disposition of stocks or securities where such withholding tax reclaim is possible. Whether or when the Fund will receive a withholding tax refund is within the control of the tax authorities in such countries. Where the Fund expects to recover withholding taxes, the net asset value of the Fund generally includes accruals for such tax refunds. The Fund regularly evaluates the probability of recovery. If the likelihood of recovery materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders in the Fund at the time an accrual is written down will bear the impact of the resulting reduction in net asset value regardless of whether they were shareholders during the accrual period. Conversely, if the Fund receives a tax refund that has not been previously accrued, shareholders in the Fund at the time of the successful recovery will benefit from the resulting increase in the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders who sold their shares prior to such time will not benefit from such increase in the Fund's net asset value.

■ **Income Producing Stock Availability Risk** — Depending upon market conditions, income producing common stock that meets the Fund's investment criteria may not be widely available and/or may be highly concentrated in only a few market sectors. This may limit the ability of the Fund to produce current income while remaining fully diversified.

■ **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company's preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

- **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.
- **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.
- **Debt Securities Risk** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve credit risk. Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make payments of interest and principal when due. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund's investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation. Debt securities are also subject to interest rate risk. Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a debt security may fall when interest rates rise. In general, the market price of debt securities with longer maturities will go up or down more in response to changes in interest rates than the market price of shorter term securities. The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. The Federal Reserve has recently begun to raise the federal funds rate as part of its efforts to address rising inflation. There is a risk that interest rates will continue to rise, which will likely drive down the prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities.
- **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:
 - Leverage Risk* — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.
 - Market Risk* — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.
 - Counterparty Risk* — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.
 - Illiquidity Risk* — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.
 - Operational Risk* — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.
 - Legal Risk* — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.
 - Volatility and Correlation Risk* — The Fund's use of derivatives may reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.
 - Valuation Risk* — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex

instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund's distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps — Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts — Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures — Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially

unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Options — An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a “call option”) or sell (a “put option”) the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the “exercise price”) during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or below the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.
- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.
- **Indexed and Inverse Securities Risk** — Indexed and inverse securities provide a potential return based on a particular index of value or interest rates. The Fund's return on these securities will be subject to risk with respect to the value of the particular index. These securities are subject to leverage risk and correlation risk. Certain indexed and inverse securities have greater sensitivity to changes in interest rates or index levels than other securities, and the Fund's investment in such instruments may decline significantly in value if interest rates or index levels move in a way Fund management does not anticipate.
- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.
- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund's adviser or an affiliate of the Fund's adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund's liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund's NAV and increase the Fund's brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more

liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund's remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund's current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund's expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager's ability to implement a fund's investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund's performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.

- **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act, the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.
- **Mid Cap Securities Risk** — The securities of mid cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are generally subject to greater and less predictable price changes than the securities of larger capitalization companies.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock's parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock's personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities, the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available, and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- **Reverse Repurchase Agreements Risk** — Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities held by the Fund with an agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price, date and interest payment. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the other party may fail to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by the Fund, including the value of the investments made with cash collateral, is less than the value of the securities. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. In addition, reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the interest income earned in the investment of the proceeds will be less than the interest expense.
- **Rights Risk** — The failure to exercise subscription rights to purchase common stock would result in the dilution of the Fund's interest in the issuing company. The market for such rights is not well developed, and, accordingly, the Fund may not always realize full value on the sale of rights.

■ **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC (“BIM”), the Fund’s securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund’s securities lending program.

■ **Small Cap Securities Risk** — Small cap companies may have limited product lines or markets. They may be less financially secure than larger, more established companies. They may depend on a small number of key personnel. If a product fails or there are other adverse developments, or if management changes, the Fund’s investment in a small cap company may lose substantial value. In addition, it is more difficult to get information on smaller companies, which tend to be less well known, have shorter operating histories, do not have significant ownership by large investors and are followed by relatively few securities analysts.

The securities of small cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are subject to greater and more unpredictable price changes than larger cap securities or the market as a whole. In addition, small cap securities may be particularly sensitive to changes in interest rates, borrowing costs and earnings. Investing in small cap securities requires a longer term view.

■ **Standby Commitment Agreements Risk** — Standby commitment agreements involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery to the Fund and will no longer be worth what the Fund has agreed to pay for it. These agreements also involve the risk that if the security goes up in value, the counterparty will decide not to issue the security. In this case, the Fund loses both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security’s price.

■ **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund’s valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund’s ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.

■ **Warrants Risk** — If the price of the underlying stock does not rise above the exercise price before the warrant expires, the warrant generally expires without any value and the Fund will lose any amount it paid for the warrant. Thus, investments in warrants may involve substantially more risk than investments in common stock. Warrants may trade in the same markets as their underlying stock; however, the price of the warrant does not necessarily move with the price of the underlying stock.

■ **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security’s price.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Class I | | | | |
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 10.15 | \$ 12.17 | \$ 11.68 | \$ 11.90 | \$ 10.17 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.23 | 0.20 | 0.21 | 0.22 | 0.25 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 0.98 | (0.69) | 2.15 | 0.20 | 2.53 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.21 | (0.49) | 2.36 | 0.42 | 2.78 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.21) | (0.20) | (0.20) | (0.24) | (0.24) |
| From net realized gain | (0.52) | (1.33) | (1.67) | (0.40) | (0.81) |
| Total distributions | (0.73) | (1.53) | (1.87) | (0.64) | (1.05) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 10.63 | \$ 10.15 | \$ 12.17 | \$ 11.68 | \$ 11.90 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 12.24% | (3.85)% | 20.54% | 3.91% | 27.71% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.85% | 0.86% | 0.86% | 0.85% | 0.86% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.66% | 0.65% | 0.65% | 0.65% | 0.65% |
| Net investment income | 2.19% | 1.77% | 1.59% | 2.08% | 2.17% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$46,764 | \$41,534 | \$39,837 | \$31,361 | \$33,881 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 42% | 54% | 42% | 51% | 45% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

Financial Highlights (concluded)

| | BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Class III | | | | |
| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 10.12 | \$ 12.14 | \$ 11.65 | \$ 11.88 | \$ 10.15 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.20 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.19 | 0.22 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 0.99 | (0.70) | 2.15 | 0.19 | 2.53 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.19 | (0.52) | 2.33 | 0.38 | 2.75 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.19) | (0.17) | (0.17) | (0.21) | (0.21) |
| From net realized gain | (0.52) | (1.33) | (1.67) | (0.40) | (0.81) |
| Total distributions | (0.71) | (1.50) | (1.84) | (0.6) | (1.02) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 10.60 | \$ 10.12 | \$ 12.14 | \$ 11.65 | \$ 11.88 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 11.99% | (4.10)% | 20.30% | 3.57% | 27.46% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.11% | 1.11% | 1.11% | 1.11% | 1.12% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.91% | 0.90% | 0.90% | 0.90% | 0.90% |
| Net investment income | 1.95% | 1.52% | 1.36% | 1.83% | 1.91% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$273,884 | \$291,809 | \$330,650 | \$310,222 | \$306,365 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 42% | 54% | 42% | 51% | 45% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

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Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund (Class I, Class II, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek high total investment return.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class II Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.65% | 0.65% | 0.65% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None | 0.15% | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses ^{2,3} | 0.12% | 0.23% | 0.22% |
| Other Expenses of the Subsidiary ² | — | — | — |
| Miscellaneous Other Expenses ³ | 0.12% | 0.23% | 0.22% |
| Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses ⁴ | 0.02% | 0.02% | 0.02% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses ⁴ | 0.79% | 1.05% | 1.14% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,5} | (0.03)% | (0.13)% | (0.12)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,5} | 0.76% | 0.92% | 1.02% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² Other Expenses of BlackRock Cayman Global Allocation V.I. Fund I, Ltd. were less than 0.01% for the Fund’s most recent fiscal year.

³ Other Expenses have been restated to reflect expected expenses attributable to, and incurred as a result of, portfolio investments in the current year. Without these restatements, Other Expenses, Miscellaneous Other Expenses, Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses, and Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements would have been 0.13%, 0.13%, 0.80%, and 0.77%, respectively, for Class I Shares, 0.24%, 0.24%, 1.06%, and 0.93%, respectively, for Class II Shares, and 0.23%, 0.23%, 1.15%, and 1.03%, respectively, for Class III Shares.

⁴ The Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses do not correlate to the ratios of expenses to average net assets given in the Fund’s most recent annual report, which do not include Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses or the restatement of expenses attributable to, and incurred as a result of, portfolio investments to reflect current fees.

⁵ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 1.25% (for Class I Shares), 1.40% (for Class II Shares) and 1.50% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0.07% (for Class I Shares), 0.07% (for Class II Shares) and 0.07% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges

imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$ 78 | \$249 | \$436 | \$ 975 |
| Class II Shares | \$ 94 | \$321 | \$567 | \$1,271 |
| Class III Shares | \$104 | \$350 | \$616 | \$1,375 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 215% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund invests in a portfolio of equity, debt and money market securities. Generally, the Fund’s portfolio will include both equity and debt securities. Equity securities include common stock, preferred stock, securities convertible into common stock, rights and warrants or securities or other instruments whose price is linked to the value of common stock. At any given time, however, the Fund may emphasize either debt securities or equity securities. In selecting equity investments, the Fund mainly seeks securities that Fund management believes are undervalued. The Fund may buy debt securities of varying maturities, debt securities paying a fixed or fluctuating rate of interest, and debt securities of any kind, including, by way of example, securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or its agencies or instrumentalities, by foreign governments or international agencies or supranational entities, or by domestic or foreign private issuers, debt securities convertible into equity securities, inflation-indexed bonds, structured notes, credit-linked notes, loan assignments and loan participations. In addition, the Fund may invest up to 35% of its total assets in “junk bonds,” corporate loans and distressed securities. The Fund may also invest in Real Estate Investment Trusts (“REITs”) and securities related to real assets (like real estate- or precious metals-related securities) such as stock, bonds or convertible bonds issued by REITs or companies that mine precious metals.

When choosing investments, Fund management considers various factors, including opportunities for equity or debt investments to increase in value, expected dividends and interest rates. The Fund generally seeks diversification across markets, industries and issuers as one of its strategies to reduce volatility. The Fund has no geographic limits on where it may invest. This flexibility allows Fund management to look for investments in markets around the world, including emerging markets, that it believes will provide the best asset allocation to meet the Fund’s objective. The Fund may invest in the securities of companies of any market capitalization.

Generally, the Fund may invest in the securities of corporate and governmental issuers located anywhere in the world. The Fund may emphasize foreign securities when Fund management expects these investments to outperform U.S. securities. When choosing investment markets, Fund management considers various factors, including economic and political conditions, potential for economic growth and possible changes in currency exchange rates. In addition to investing in foreign securities, the Fund actively manages its exposure to foreign currencies through the use of forward currency contracts and other currency derivatives. The Fund may own foreign cash equivalents or foreign bank deposits as part of the Fund’s investment strategy. The Fund will also invest in non-U.S. currencies. The Fund may overweight or overweight a currency based on the Fund management team’s outlook.

The Fund’s composite Reference Benchmark has at all times since the Fund’s formation included a 40% weighting in non-U.S. securities. The Reference Benchmark is an unmanaged weighted index comprised as follows: 36% of the S&P 500® Index; 24% FTSE World (ex U.S.) Index; 24% ICE BofA Current 5-Year U.S. Treasury Index; and 16% FTSE Non-U.S. Dollar World Government Bond Index. Throughout its history, the Fund has maintained a weighting in non-U.S. securities, often exceeding the 40% Reference Benchmark weighting and rarely falling below this allocation. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will continue to allocate a substantial amount (approximately 40% or more — unless market conditions are not deemed favorable by BlackRock, in which case the Fund would invest at least 30%) of its total assets in securities of (i) foreign government issuers, (ii) issuers organized or located outside the United States, (iii) issuers which primarily trade in a market located outside the United States, or (iv) issuers doing a substantial amount of business outside the United States, which the Fund considers to be companies that derive at least 50% of their revenue or profits from business outside the United States or have at least 50% of their sales or assets outside the United States. The Fund will allocate its assets among various regions and countries including the United States (but in no less than three different countries). For temporary defensive purposes the Fund may deviate very substantially from the allocation described above.

The Fund may use derivatives, including options, futures, swaps (including, but not limited to, total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference) and forward contracts both to seek to increase the return of the Fund and to hedge (or protect) the value of its assets against adverse movements in currency exchange rates, interest rates and movements in the securities markets.

The Fund may invest in indexed securities and inverse securities.

The Fund may seek to provide exposure to the investment returns of real assets that trade in the commodity markets through investment in commodity-linked derivative instruments and investment vehicles such as exchange traded funds that invest exclusively in commodities and are designed to provide this exposure without direct investment in physical commodities. The Fund may also gain exposure to commodity markets by investing up to 25% of its total assets in BlackRock Cayman Global Allocation V.I. Fund I, Ltd. (the "Subsidiary"), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Fund formed in the Cayman Islands, which invests primarily in commodity-related instruments. The Subsidiary may also hold cash and invest in other instruments, including fixed income securities, either as investments or to serve as margin or collateral for the Subsidiary's derivative positions. The Subsidiary (unlike the Fund) may invest without limitation in commodity-related instruments.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

- **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.
- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.
- **Foreign Securities Risk** — Foreign investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. These risks include:
 - The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories, which may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business and may be subject to only limited or no regulatory oversight.
 - Changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.
 - The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position.
 - The governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, may prohibit or impose substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries, which may prohibit or restrict the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets.
 - Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as does the United States and may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws.
 - Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets may result in delays in payment for or delivery of securities not typically associated with settlement and clearance of U.S. investments.
 - The Fund's claims to recover foreign withholding taxes may not be successful, and if the likelihood of recovery of foreign withholding taxes materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value.
 - The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.
- **Debt Securities Risk** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve risks, such as credit risk, interest rate risk, extension risk, and prepayment risk, each of which are described in further detail below:

Credit Risk — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make payments of interest and principal when due. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund's investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation.

Interest Rate Risk — The market value of bonds and other fixed-income securities changes in response to interest rate changes and other factors. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise. The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. For example, if interest rates increase by 1%, assuming a current portfolio duration of ten years, and all other factors being equal, the value of the Fund's investments would be expected to decrease by 10%. (Duration is a measure of the price sensitivity of a debt security or portfolio of debt securities to relative changes in interest rates.) The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of bonds and other fixed-income securities is generally greater for those securities with longer maturities. Fluctuations in the market price of the Fund's investments will not affect interest income derived from instruments already owned by the Fund, but will be reflected in the Fund's net asset value. The Fund may lose money if short-term or long-term interest rates rise sharply in a manner not anticipated by Fund management. To the extent the Fund invests in debt securities that may be prepaid at the option of the obligor (such as mortgage-backed securities), the sensitivity of such securities to changes in interest rates may increase (to the detriment of the Fund) when interest rates rise. Moreover, because rates on certain floating rate debt securities typically reset only periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates (and particularly sudden and significant changes) can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the net asset value of the Fund to the extent that it invests in floating rate debt securities. These basic principles of bond prices also apply to U.S. Government securities. A security backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. Government is guaranteed only as to its stated interest rate and face value at maturity, not its current market price. Just like other fixed-income securities, government-guaranteed securities will fluctuate in value when interest rates change. A general rise in interest rates has the potential to cause investors to move out of fixed-income securities on a large scale, which may increase redemptions from funds that hold large amounts of fixed-income securities. Heavy redemptions could cause the Fund to sell assets at inopportune times or at a loss or depressed value and could hurt the Fund's performance.

Extension Risk — When interest rates rise, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more slowly than anticipated, causing the value of these obligations to fall.

Prepayment Risk — When interest rates fall, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more quickly than originally anticipated, and the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields.

■ **Commodities Related Investments Risk** — Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of commodity-linked derivative investments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in inflation, interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments.

■ **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest principal, or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of the issuer's creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.

■ **Corporate Loans Risk** — Commercial banks and other financial institutions or institutional investors make corporate loans to companies that need capital to grow or restructure. Borrowers generally pay interest on corporate loans at rates that change in response to changes in market interest rates such as the Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR"), the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") or the prime rates of U.S. banks. As a result, the value of corporate loan investments is generally less exposed to the adverse effects of shifts in market interest rates than investments that pay a fixed rate of interest. The market for corporate loans may be subject to irregular trading activity and wide bid/ask spreads. In addition, transactions in corporate loans may settle on a delayed basis. As a result, the proceeds from the sale of corporate loans may not be readily available to make additional investments or to meet the Fund's redemption obligations. To the extent the extended settlement process gives rise to short-term liquidity needs, the Fund may hold additional cash, sell investments or temporarily borrow from banks and other lenders.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them.

Hedging Risk — Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences.

Tax Risk — Certain aspects of the tax treatment of derivative instruments, including swap agreements and commodity-linked derivative instruments, are currently unclear and may be affected by changes in legislation, regulations or other legally binding authority. Such treatment may be less favorable than that given to a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments.

- ***Distressed Securities Risk*** — Distressed securities are speculative and involve substantial risks in addition to the risks of investing in junk bonds. The Fund will generally not receive interest payments on the distressed securities and may incur costs to protect its investment. In addition, distressed securities involve the substantial risk that principal will not be repaid. These securities may present a substantial risk of default or may be in default at the time of investment. The Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek recovery upon a default in the payment of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings. In any reorganization or liquidation proceeding relating to a portfolio company, the Fund may lose its entire investment or may be required to accept cash or securities with a value less than its original investment. Distressed securities and any securities received in an exchange for such securities may be subject to restrictions on resale.
- ***Emerging Markets Risk*** — Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging securities markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets.
- ***High Portfolio Turnover Risk*** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.
- ***High Yield Bonds Risk*** — Although junk bonds generally pay higher rates of interest than investment grade bonds, junk bonds are high risk investments that are considered speculative and may cause income and principal losses for the Fund.
- ***Indexed and Inverse Securities Risk*** — Indexed and inverse securities provide a potential return based on a particular index of value or interest rates. The Fund's return on these securities will be subject to risk with respect to the value of the particular index. These securities are subject to leverage risk and correlation risk. Certain indexed and inverse securities have greater sensitivity to changes in interest rates or index levels than other securities, and the Fund's investment in such instruments may decline significantly in value if interest rates or index levels move in a way Fund management does not anticipate.
- ***Leverage Risk*** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Mid Cap Securities Risk** — The securities of mid cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are generally subject to greater and less predictable price changes than the securities of larger capitalization companies.

■ **Mortgage- and Asset-Backed Securities Risks** — Mortgage- and asset-backed securities represent interests in “pools” of mortgages or other assets, including consumer loans or receivables held in trust. Mortgage- and asset-backed securities are subject to credit, interest rate, prepayment and extension risks. These securities also are subject to risk of default on the underlying mortgage or asset, particularly during periods of economic downturn. Small movements in interest rates (both increases and decreases) may quickly and significantly reduce the value of certain mortgage-backed securities.

■ **Precious Metal and Related Securities Risk** — Prices of precious metals and of precious metal related securities historically have been very volatile. The high volatility of precious metal prices may adversely affect the financial condition of companies involved with precious metals. The production and sale of precious metals by governments or central banks or other larger holders can be affected by various economic, financial, social and political factors, which may be unpredictable and may have a significant impact on the prices of precious metals. Other factors that may affect the prices of precious metals and securities related to them include changes in inflation, the outlook for inflation and changes in industrial and commercial demand for precious metals.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company's preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Real Estate-Related Securities Risk** — The main risk of real estate-related securities is that the value of the underlying real estate may go down. Many factors may affect real estate values. These factors include both the general and local economies, vacancy rates, changes in rent schedules, tenant bankruptcies, the ability to re-lease space under expiring leases on attractive terms, the amount of new construction in a particular area, the laws and regulations (including zoning, environmental and tax laws) affecting real estate and the costs of owning, maintaining and improving real estate. The availability of mortgage financing and changes in interest rates may also affect real estate values. If the Fund's real estate-related investments are concentrated in one geographic area or in one property type, the Fund will be particularly subject to the risks associated with that area or property type. Many issuers of real estate-related securities are highly leveraged, which increases the risk to holders of such securities. The value of the securities the Fund buys will not necessarily track the value of the underlying investments of the issuers of such securities. In addition, certain issuers of real estate-related securities may have developed or commenced development on properties and may develop additional properties in the future. Real estate development involves significant risks in addition to those involved in the ownership and operation of established properties. Real estate securities may have limited diversification and are, therefore, subject to risks inherent in operating and financing a limited number of projects. Real estate securities are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency and defaults by borrowers or tenants.

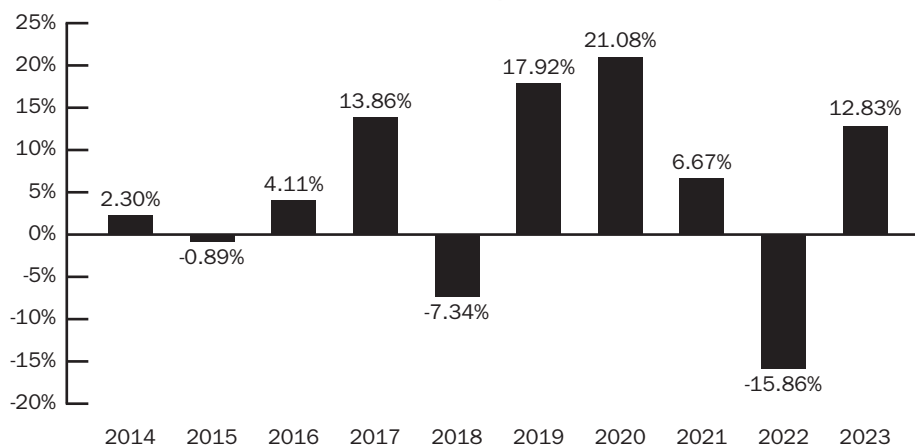
■ **REIT Investment Risk** — Investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume, may engage in dilutive offerings of securities and may be more volatile than other securities. REIT issuers may also fail to maintain their exemptions from investment company registration or fail to qualify for the “dividends paid deduction” under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which allows REITs to reduce their corporate taxable income for dividends paid to their shareholders.

- **Risks of Loan Assignments and Participations** — As the purchaser of an assignment, the Fund typically succeeds to all the rights and obligations of the assigning institution and becomes a lender under the credit agreement with respect to the debt obligation; however, the Fund may not be able unilaterally to enforce all rights and remedies under the loan and with regard to any associated collateral. Because assignments may be arranged through private negotiations between potential assignees and potential assignors, the rights and obligations acquired by the Fund as the purchaser of an assignment may differ from, and be more limited than, those held by the assigning lender. In addition, if the loan is foreclosed, the Fund could become part owner of any collateral and could bear the costs and liabilities of owning and disposing of the collateral. The Fund may be required to pass along to a purchaser that buys a loan from the Fund by way of assignment a portion of any fees to which the Fund is entitled under the loan. In connection with purchasing participations, the Fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the borrower with the terms of the loan agreement relating to the loan, nor any rights of set-off against the borrower, and the Fund may not directly benefit from any collateral supporting the loan in which it has purchased the participation. As a result, the Fund will be subject to the credit risk of both the borrower and the lender that is selling the participation. In the event of the insolvency of the lender selling a participation, the Fund may be treated as a general creditor of the lender and may not benefit from any set-off between the lender and the borrower.
- **Small Cap and Emerging Growth Securities Risk** — Small cap or emerging growth companies may have limited product lines or markets. They may be less financially secure than larger, more established companies. They may depend on a more limited management group than larger capitalized companies.
- **Sovereign Debt Risk** — Sovereign debt instruments are subject to the risk that a governmental entity may delay or refuse to pay interest or repay principal on its sovereign debt, due, for example, to cash flow problems, insufficient foreign currency reserves, political considerations, the relative size of the governmental entity's debt position in relation to the economy or the failure to put in place economic reforms required by the International Monetary Fund or other multilateral agencies.
- **Structured Notes Risk** — Structured notes and other related instruments purchased by the Fund are generally privately negotiated debt obligations where the principal and/or interest is determined by reference to the performance of a specific asset, benchmark asset, market or interest rate ("reference measure"). The purchase of structured notes exposes the Fund to the credit risk of the issuer of the structured product. Structured notes may be leveraged, increasing the volatility of each structured note's value relative to the change in the reference measure. Structured notes may also be less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than less complex securities and instruments or more traditional debt securities.
- **Subsidiary Risk** — By investing in the Subsidiary, the Fund is indirectly exposed to the risks associated with the Subsidiary's investments. The commodity-related instruments held by the Subsidiary are generally similar to those that are permitted to be held by the Fund and are subject to the same risks that apply to similar investments if held directly by the Fund (see "Commodities Related Investments Risk" above). There can be no assurance that the investment objective of the Subsidiary will be achieved. The Subsidiary is not registered under the Investment Company Act, and, unless otherwise noted in this prospectus, is not subject to all the investor protections of the Investment Company Act. However, the Fund wholly owns and controls the Subsidiary, and the Fund and the Subsidiary are both managed by BlackRock, making it unlikely that the Subsidiary will take action contrary to the interests of the Fund and its shareholders. The Board has oversight responsibility for the investment activities of the Fund, including its investment in the Subsidiary, and the Fund's role as sole shareholder of the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary is subject to the same investment restrictions and limitations, and follows the same compliance policies and procedures, as the Fund, except that the Subsidiary may invest without limitation in commodity-related instruments. Changes in the laws of the United States and/or the Cayman Islands could result in the inability of the Fund and/or the Subsidiary to operate as described in this prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information and could adversely affect the Fund.
- **Warrants Risk** — If the price of the underlying stock does not rise above the exercise price before the warrant expires, the warrant generally expires without any value and the Fund will lose any amount it paid for the warrant. Thus, investments in warrants may involve substantially more risk than investments in common stock. Warrants may trade in the same markets as their underlying stock; however, the price of the warrant does not necessarily move with the price of the underlying stock.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund's performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The table compares the Fund's performance to that of the FTSE World Index, the S&P 500® Index, the FTSE World (ex U.S.) Index, the ICE BofA Current 5-Year U.S. Treasury Index, the FTSE Non-U.S. Dollar World Government Bond Index and the Reference Benchmark, which are relevant to the Fund because they have characteristics similar to the Fund's investment strategies. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund's investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund's returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund As of 12/31



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 14.74% (quarter ended June 30, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was -12.44% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

For the periods ended 12/31/23 Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|--|--------|---------|----------|
| BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 12.83% | 7.65% | 4.88% |
| BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund: Class II Shares | 12.67% | 7.49% | 4.72% |
| BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 12.49% | 7.39% | 4.63% |
| FTSE World Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 24.18% | 12.98% | 8.87% |
| S&P 500® Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 26.29% | 15.69% | 12.03% |
| FTSE World (ex U.S.) Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 19.18% | 9.00% | 4.97% |
| ICE BofA Current 5-Year U.S. Treasury Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 3.73% | 0.64% | 1.03% |
| FTSE Non-U.S. Dollar World Government Bond Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 5.83% | (2.77)% | (1.26)% |
| Reference Benchmark (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 15.69% | 7.69% | 5.76% |

Investment Manager

The Fund's investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as "BlackRock"). The Fund's sub-advisers are BlackRock (Singapore) Limited and BlackRock International Limited. Where applicable, "BlackRock" refers also to the Fund's sub-advisers.

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Rick Rieder | 2019 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc., BlackRock's Chief Investment Officer of Global Fixed Income, Head of Global Allocation Investment Team, member of the Global Executive Committee, Global Operating Committee and Chairman of the BlackRock, Inc. firmwide Investment Council. |
| Russ Koesterich, CFA, JD | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| David Clayton, CFA, JD ¹ | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

¹ On or about June 30, 2024, David Clayton will retire from BlackRock, Inc. and will no longer serve as a portfolio manager of the Fund.

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the "Insurance Companies") and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the "Accounts") to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company's website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek high total investment return.

This investment objective is a fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without approval of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”).

Investment Process

In making investment decisions, Fund management tries to identify the long term trends and changes that could benefit particular markets and/or industries relative to other markets and industries. Fund management will consider a variety of factors when selecting the markets, such as the rate of economic growth, natural resources, capital reinvestment and the social and political environment. In choosing investments, Fund management may look at various fundamental and systematic factors, such as the relative opportunity for equity or debt instruments to increase in value, capital recovery risk, dividend yields and the level of interest rates paid on debt securities of different maturities. The Fund may invest in individual securities, baskets of securities or particular measurements of value or rate, and may consider a variety of factors and systematic inputs. Fund management may employ derivatives for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to, adjusting its exposures to markets, sectors, asset classes and securities. As a result, the economic exposure of the Fund to any particular market, sector, or asset class may vary relative to the market value of any particular exposure.

Fund management will invest in “junk” bonds, corporate loans and distressed securities only when it believes that they will provide an attractive total return, relative to their risk, as compared to higher quality debt securities.

Fund management will invest in distressed securities when Fund management believes they offer significant potential for higher returns or can be exchanged for other securities that offer this potential. However, there can be no assurance that the Fund will generally achieve these returns or that the issuer will make an exchange offer or adopt a plan of reorganization.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund seeks to achieve its objective by investing in both equity and debt securities, including money market securities and other short-term securities or instruments, of issuers located around the world. There is no limit on the percentage of assets the Fund can invest in a particular type of security. Generally, the Fund seeks diversification across markets, industries and issuers as one of its strategies to reduce volatility. Except as described below, the Fund has no geographic limits on where its investments may be located. This flexibility allows Fund management to look for investments in markets around the world that it believes will provide the best relative asset allocation to meet the Fund’s objective.

Fund management uses the Fund’s investment flexibility to create a portfolio of assets that, over time, tends to be relatively balanced between equity and debt securities and that is widely diversified among many individual investments. The Fund may invest in both developed and emerging markets. In addition to investing in foreign securities, the Fund actively manages its exposure to foreign currencies through the use of forward currency contracts and other currency derivatives. From time to time, the Fund may own foreign cash equivalents or foreign bank deposits as part of the Fund’s investment strategy. The Fund will also invest in non-U.S. currencies, however, the Fund may underweight or overweight a currency based on the Fund management team’s outlook.

The Fund may also invest in real estate investment trusts (“REITs”). REITs are companies that own interests in real estate or in real estate related loans or other interests, and have revenue primarily consisting of rent derived from owned, income producing real estate properties and capital gains from the sale of such properties. REITs can generally be classified as equity REITs, mortgage REITs and hybrid REITs. Equity REITs invest the majority of their assets directly in real property and derive their income primarily from rents. Equity REITs can also realize capital gains by selling properties that have appreciated in value. Mortgage REITs invest the majority of their assets in real estate mortgages and derive their income primarily from interest payments. Hybrid REITs combine the characteristics of both equity REITs and mortgage REITs. REITs are not taxed on income distributed to shareholders provided they comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”).

The Fund's composite Reference Benchmark has at all times since the Fund's formation included a 40% weighting in non-U.S. securities. Throughout its history, the Fund has maintained a weighting in non-U.S. securities, often exceeding the 40% Reference Benchmark weighting and rarely falling below this allocation. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will continue to allocate a substantial amount (approximately 40% or more — unless market conditions are not deemed favorable by BlackRock Advisors, LLC ("BlackRock"), in which case the Fund would invest at least 30%) of its total assets in securities of (i) foreign government issuers, (ii) issuers organized or located outside the United States, (iii) issuers which primarily trade in a market located outside the United States, or (iv) issuers doing a substantial amount of business outside the United States, which the Fund considers to be companies that derive at least 50% of their revenue or profits from business outside the United States or have at least 50% of their sales or assets outside the United States. The Fund will allocate its assets among various regions and countries, including the United States (but in no less than three different countries). For temporary defensive purposes the Fund may deviate very substantially from the allocation described above.

The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in securities related to real assets (like real estate- or precious metals-related securities) such as stock, bonds or convertible bonds issued by real estate investment trusts or companies that mine precious metals. The Fund may hold a portion of its assets in cash or cash equivalents.

The Fund may seek to provide exposure to the investment returns of real assets that trade in the commodity markets through investment in commodity-linked derivative instruments and investment vehicles such as exchange traded funds that invest exclusively in commodities and are designed to provide this exposure without direct investment in physical commodities. The Fund may also gain exposure to commodity markets by investing in BlackRock Cayman Global Allocation V.I. Fund I, Ltd. (the "Subsidiary"). The Subsidiary invests primarily in commodity-related instruments. The Subsidiary may also hold cash and invest in other instruments, including fixed income securities, either as investments or to serve as margin or collateral for the Subsidiary's derivative positions. BlackRock is the manager of the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary (unlike the Fund) may invest without limitation in commodity-related instruments. However, the Subsidiary is otherwise subject to the same fundamental, non-fundamental and certain other investment restrictions as the Fund. The Fund will limit its investments in the Subsidiary to 25% of its total assets.

The Subsidiary is managed pursuant to compliance policies and procedures that are the same, in all material respects, as the policies and procedures adopted by the Fund. As a result, BlackRock, in managing the Subsidiary's portfolio, is subject to the same investment policies and restrictions that apply to the management of the Fund, and, in particular, to the requirements relating to portfolio leverage, liquidity, brokerage, and the timing and method of the valuation of the Subsidiary's portfolio investments and shares of the Subsidiary. These policies and restrictions are described in detail in the Statement of Additional Information (the "SAI"). The Fund's Chief Compliance Officer oversees implementation of the Subsidiary's policies and procedures, and makes periodic reports to the Board regarding the Subsidiary's compliance with its policies and procedures. The Fund and Subsidiary test for compliance with certain investment restrictions on a consolidated basis.

BlackRock provides investment management and other services to the Subsidiary. BlackRock does not receive separate compensation from the Subsidiary for providing it with investment management or administrative services. However, the Fund pays BlackRock based on the Fund's assets, including the assets invested in the Subsidiary. BlackRock has entered into sub-advisory agreements with BlackRock (Singapore) Limited and BlackRock International Limited with respect to the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary has also entered into separate contracts for the provision of custody and audit services with the same or with affiliates of the same service providers that provide those services to the Fund.

The financial statements of the Subsidiary will be consolidated with the Fund's financial statements in the Fund's Annual and Semi-Annual Reports. The Fund's Annual and Semi-Annual Reports are distributed to shareholders, and copies of the reports are provided without charge upon request as indicated on the back cover of this prospectus. Please refer to the SAI for additional information about the organization and management of the Subsidiary.

■ **Equity Securities** — The Fund can invest in all types of equity securities, including common stock, preferred stock, warrants, convertible securities and stock purchase rights of companies of any market capitalization. A warrant gives the Fund the right to buy stock. The warrant specifies the amount of underlying stock, the purchase (or "exercise") price, and the date the warrant expires. The Fund has no obligation to exercise the warrant and buy the stock. Fund management may seek to invest in the stock of smaller or emerging growth companies that it expects will provide a higher total return than other equity investments. Investing in smaller or emerging growth companies involves greater risk than investing in more established companies.

■ **Debt Securities** — The Fund can invest in all types of debt securities, including U.S. and foreign government bonds, corporate bonds and convertible bonds, structured notes, credit-linked notes, loan assignments and participations, mortgage- and asset-backed securities, and securities issued or guaranteed by certain international organizations such as the World Bank.

The Fund may invest up to 35% of its total assets in "junk" bonds, corporate loans and distressed securities. Junk bonds are bonds that are rated below investment grade by independent rating agencies or are bonds that are not rated but which Fund management considers to be of comparable quality. Corporate loans are direct obligations of

U.S. or foreign companies, which may include corporations, partnerships, trusts or other corporate-like entities. Distressed securities are securities, including loans purchased in the secondary market, that are the subject of bankruptcy proceedings or otherwise in default or in risk of being in default as to the repayment of principal and/or interest at the time of acquisition by the Fund or that are rated in the lower rating categories by one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (for example, Ca or lower by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and CC or lower by S&P Global Ratings or Fitch Ratings, Inc. or, if unrated, are in the judgment of BlackRock of equivalent quality). These securities offer the possibility of relatively higher returns but are significantly riskier than higher rated debt securities.

- **Derivatives** — The Fund may use derivatives, including options, futures, swaps (including, but not limited to, total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference) and forward contracts both to seek to increase the return of the Fund and to hedge (or protect) the value of its assets against adverse movements in currency exchange rates, interest rates and movements in the securities markets. Derivatives are financial instruments whose value is derived from another security, a commodity (such as oil or gas), a currency or an index, including but not limited to the S&P 500® Index and the CBOE Volatility Index. The use of options, futures, swaps and forward contracts can be effective in protecting or enhancing the value of the Fund's assets.

The Fund may invest in indexed securities and inverse securities.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions, subject to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act, the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.
- **Depository Receipts** — The Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers in the form of depository receipts or other securities that are convertible into securities of foreign issuers. American Depository Receipts are receipts typically issued by an American bank or trust company that evidence underlying securities issued by a foreign corporation. European Depository Receipts (issued in Europe) and Global Depository Receipts (issued throughout the world) each evidence a similar ownership arrangement. The Fund may invest in unsponsored depository receipts.
- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. The Subsidiary will also limit its investment in illiquid investments to 15% of its net assets. In applying the illiquid investments restriction to the Fund, the Fund's investment in the Subsidiary is considered to be liquid.
- **Investment Companies and Trusts** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs and affiliated trusts.
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts** — The Fund may enter into certain types of repurchase agreements or purchase and sale contracts. Under a repurchase agreement, the seller agrees to repurchase a security at a mutually agreed-upon time and price. A purchase and sale contract is similar to a repurchase agreement, but purchase and sale contracts also provide that the purchaser receives any interest on the security paid during the period.
- **Restricted Securities** — Restricted securities are securities that cannot be offered for public resale unless registered under the applicable securities laws or that have a contractual restriction that prohibits or limits their resale. They may include Rule 144A securities, which are privately placed securities that can be resold to qualified institutional buyers but not to the general public, and securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are offered pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33⅓% of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Short Sales** — The Fund may engage in short sales, which are transactions in which the Fund sells securities borrowed from others with the expectation that the price of the security will fall before the Fund must purchase the security to return it to the lender. The Fund may make short sales of securities, either as a hedge against potential declines in value of a portfolio security or to realize appreciation when a security that the Fund does not own declines in value. The Fund will not make a short sale if, after giving effect to such sale, the market value of all securities sold short exceeds 20% of the value of its total assets. However, the Fund may make short sales "against the box" without being subject to this limitation. In this type of short sale, at the time of the sale, the Fund owns or has the immediate and unconditional right to acquire the identical securities at no additional cost.

- **Short-Term Securities or Instruments** — The Fund can invest in high quality short-term U.S. dollar or non-U.S. dollar denominated fixed-income securities or other instruments, such as U.S. or foreign government securities, commercial paper and money market instruments issued by U.S. or foreign commercial banks or depository institutions. Fund management may increase the Fund’s investment in these instruments in times of market volatility or when it believes that it is prudent or timely to be invested in lower yielding but less risky securities. Large investments in such securities or instruments may prevent the Fund from achieving its investment objective.
- **Standby Commitment Agreements** — Standby commitment agreements commit the Fund, for a stated period of time, to purchase a stated amount of securities that may be issued and sold to the Fund at the option of the issuer.
- **Temporary Defensive Strategies** — For temporary defensive purposes, for example, to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and may restrict the markets in which it invests and may invest without limitation in cash, cash equivalents, money market securities, such as U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, other U.S. Government securities, short-term debt obligations of corporate issuers, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances, commercial paper (short-term, unsecured, negotiable promissory notes of a domestic or foreign issuer) or other high quality fixed income securities. Temporary defensive positions may affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis or on a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF GLOBAL ALLOCATION V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Rick Rieder, Russ Koesterich, CFA, JD, and David Clayton, CFA, JD¹, are the Fund’s portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

¹ On or about June 30, 2024, David Clayton will retire from BlackRock, Inc. and will no longer serve as a portfolio manager of the Fund.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the SAI also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

- **Commodities Related Investments Risk** — Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of commodity-linked derivative investments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in inflation, interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments.
- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest principal, or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.
- **Corporate Loans Risk** — Commercial banks and other financial institutions or institutional investors make corporate loans to companies that need capital to grow or restructure. Borrowers generally pay interest on corporate loans at rates that change in response to changes in market interest rates such as the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (“SOFR”), the London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) or the prime rates of U.S. banks. As a result, the value of corporate loan investments is generally less exposed to the adverse effects of shifts in market interest rates than investments that pay a fixed rate of interest. However, because the trading market for certain corporate loans may be less developed than the secondary market for bonds and notes, the Fund may experience difficulties in selling its corporate loans. Transactions in corporate loans may settle on a delayed basis. As a result, the proceeds from the

sale of corporate loans may not be readily available to make additional investments or to meet the Fund's redemption obligations. To the extent the extended settlement process gives rise to short-term liquidity needs, the Fund may hold additional cash, sell investments or temporarily borrow from banks and other lenders. Leading financial institutions often act as agent for a broader group of lenders, generally referred to as a syndicate. The syndicate's agent arranges the corporate loans, holds collateral and accepts payments of principal and interest. If the agent develops financial problems, the Fund may not recover its investment or recovery may be delayed. By investing in a corporate loan, the Fund may become a member of the syndicate.

The market for corporate loans may be subject to irregular trading activity and wide bid/ask spreads.

The corporate loans in which the Fund invests are subject to the risk of loss of principal and income. Although borrowers frequently provide collateral to secure repayment of these obligations they do not always do so. If they do provide collateral, the value of the collateral may not completely cover the borrower's obligations at the time of a default. If a borrower files for protection from its creditors under the U.S. bankruptcy laws, these laws may limit the Fund's rights to its collateral. In addition, the value of collateral may erode during a bankruptcy case. In the event of a bankruptcy, the holder of a corporate loan may not recover its principal, may experience a long delay in recovering its investment and may not receive interest during the delay.

- **Debt Securities Risk** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve risks, such as credit risk, interest rate risk, extension risk, and prepayment risk, each of which are described in further detail below:

Credit Risk — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make payments of interest and principal when due. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund's investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation.

Interest Rate Risk — The market value of bonds and other fixed-income securities changes in response to interest rate changes and other factors. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise. The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. For example, if interest rates increase by 1%, assuming a current portfolio duration of ten years, and all other factors being equal, the value of the Fund's investments would be expected to decrease by 10%. (Duration is a measure of the price sensitivity of a debt security or portfolio of debt securities to relative changes in interest rates.) The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of bonds and other fixed-income securities is generally greater for those securities with longer maturities. Fluctuations in the market price of the Fund's investments will not affect interest income derived from instruments already owned by the Fund, but will be reflected in the Fund's net asset value. The Fund may lose money if short-term or long-term interest rates rise sharply in a manner not anticipated by Fund management. Since rates on certain floating rate debt securities typically reset only periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates (and particularly sudden and significant changes) can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the net asset value of the Fund to the extent that it invests in floating rate debt securities. These basic principles of bond prices also apply to U.S. Government securities. A security backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. Government is guaranteed only as to its stated interest rate and face value at maturity, not its current market price. Just like other fixed-income securities, government-guaranteed securities will fluctuate in value when interest rates change.

The Federal Reserve has recently begun to raise the federal funds rate as part of its efforts to address rising inflation. There is a risk that interest rates will continue to rise, which will likely drive down the prices of bonds and other fixed income securities. A general rise in interest rates has the potential to cause investors to move out of fixed-income securities on a large scale, which may increase redemptions from mutual funds that hold large amounts of fixed-income securities. Heavy redemptions could cause the Fund to sell assets at inopportune times or at a loss or depressed value and could hurt the Fund's performance.

During periods of very low or negative interest rates, the Fund may be unable to maintain positive returns. Certain countries have recently experienced negative interest rates on certain fixed-income instruments. Very low or negative interest rates may magnify interest rate risk. Changing interest rates, including rates that fall below zero, may have unpredictable effects on markets, may result in heightened market volatility and may detract from Fund performance to the extent the Fund is exposed to such interest rates.

Extension Risk — When interest rates rise, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more slowly than anticipated, causing the value of these obligations to fall. Rising interest rates tend to extend the duration of securities, making them more sensitive to changes in interest rates. The value of longer-term securities generally changes more in response to changes in interest rates than shorter-term securities. As a result, in a period of rising interest rates, securities may exhibit additional volatility and may lose value.

Prepayment Risk — When interest rates fall, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more quickly than originally anticipated, and the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields. In periods of falling interest rates, the rate of prepayments tends to increase (as does price fluctuation) as borrowers are motivated to pay off debt and refinance at new lower rates. During such periods, reinvestment of the prepayment

proceeds by the management team will generally be at lower rates of return than the return on the assets that were prepaid. Prepayment reduces the yield to maturity and the average life of the security.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives may reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund's distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well

as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps – Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard “swap” transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Credit Default Swaps – Credit default swaps may have as reference obligations one or more securities that are not currently held by the Fund. The protection “buyer” may be obligated to pay the protection “seller” an up-front payment or a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract, provided generally that no credit event on a reference obligation has occurred. Credit default swaps involve special risks in addition to those mentioned above because they are difficult to value, are highly susceptible to illiquid investments risk and credit risk, and generally pay a return to the party that has paid the premium only in the event of an actual default by the issuer of the underlying obligation (as opposed to a credit downgrade or other indication of financial difficulty).

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts – Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures – Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Options – An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a “call option”) or sell (a “put option”) the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the “exercise price”) during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or below the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

Commodity-Linked Derivatives – The value of a commodity-linked derivative investment typically is based upon the price movements of a commodity, a commodity futures contract or commodity index, or some other readily measurable economic variable. The value of commodity-linked derivative instruments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, volatility of the underlying benchmark, changes in inflation, interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, livestock disease, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments. The value of commodity-linked derivatives will rise or fall in response to changes in the underlying commodity or related index. Investments in commodity-linked derivatives may be subject to greater volatility than non-derivative based investments. A highly liquid secondary market may not exist for certain commodity-linked derivatives, and there can be no assurance that one will develop.

Commodity-linked derivatives also may be subject to credit and interest rate risks that in general affect the values of fixed-income securities. Therefore, at maturity, the Fund may receive more or less principal than it originally invested. The Fund might receive interest payments that are more or less than the stated coupon interest payments.

In connection with the Fund's direct and indirect investments in commodity-linked derivatives, the Fund will attempt to manage its counterparty exposure so as to limit its exposure to any one counterparty. However, due to the limited number of entities that may serve as counterparties (and which the Fund believes are creditworthy) at any one time the Fund may enter into swap agreements with a limited number of counterparties and may invest in commodity-linked notes issued by a limited number of issuers that will act as counterparties, which may increase the Fund's exposure to counterparty credit risk. There can be no assurance that the Fund will be able to limit exposure to any one counterparty at all times.

■ **Distressed Securities Risk** — Distressed securities are speculative and involve substantial risks in addition to the risks of investing in junk bonds. The Fund will generally not receive interest payments on the distressed securities and may incur costs to protect its investment. In addition, distressed securities involve the substantial risk that principal will not be repaid. These securities may present a substantial risk of default or may be in default at the time of investment. The Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek recovery upon a default in the payment of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings. In any reorganization or liquidation proceeding relating to a portfolio company, the Fund may lose its entire investment or may be required to accept cash or securities with a value less than its original investment. Distressed securities and any securities received in an exchange for such securities may be subject to restrictions on resale.

■ **Emerging Markets Risk** — The risks of foreign investments are usually much greater for emerging markets. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets may include those in countries considered emerging or developing by the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation or the United Nations.

Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. They are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets. Since these markets are often small, they may be more likely to suffer sharp and frequent price changes or long-term price depression because of adverse publicity, investor perceptions or the actions of a few large investors. In addition, traditional measures of investment value used in the United States, such as price to earnings ratios, may not apply to certain small markets. Also, there may be less publicly available information about issuers in emerging markets than would be available about issuers in more developed capital markets, and such issuers may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject.

Many emerging markets have histories of political instability and abrupt changes in policies. As a result, their governments are more likely to take actions that are hostile or detrimental to private enterprise or foreign investment than those of more developed countries, including expropriation of assets, confiscatory taxation, high rates of inflation or unfavorable diplomatic developments. In the past, governments of such nations have expropriated substantial amounts of private property, and most claims of the property owners have never been fully settled. There is no assurance that such expropriations will not reoccur. In such an event, it is possible that the Fund could lose the entire value of its investments in the affected market. Some countries have pervasive corruption and crime that may hinder investments. Certain emerging markets may also face other significant internal or external risks, including the risk of war, and ethnic, religious and racial conflicts. In addition, governments in many emerging market countries participate to a significant degree in their economies and securities markets, which may impair investment and economic growth. National policies that may limit the Fund's investment opportunities include restrictions on investment in issuers or industries deemed sensitive to national interests.

Emerging markets may also have differing legal systems and the existence or possible imposition of exchange controls, custodial restrictions or other foreign or U.S. governmental laws or restrictions applicable to such investments. Sometimes, they may lack or be in the relatively early development of legal structures governing private and foreign investments and private property. Many emerging markets do not have income tax treaties with the United States, and as a result, investments by the Fund may be subject to higher withholding taxes in such countries. In addition, some countries with emerging markets may impose differential capital gains taxes on foreign investors. Foreign companies with securities listed on U.S. exchanges may be delisted if they do not meet U.S. accounting standards and auditor oversight requirements, which may significantly decrease the liquidity and value of the securities.

Practices in relation to settlement of securities transactions in emerging markets involve higher risks than those in developed markets, in part because the Fund will need to use brokers and counterparties that are less well capitalized, and custody and registration of assets in some countries may be unreliable. The possibility of fraud, negligence, undue influence being exerted by the issuer or refusal to recognize ownership exists in some emerging markets, and, along with other factors, could result in ownership registration being completely lost. The Fund would

absorb any loss resulting from such registration problems and may have no successful claim for compensation. In addition, communications between the United States and emerging market countries may be unreliable, increasing the risk of delayed settlements or losses of security certificates.

■ **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.

■ **Foreign Securities Risk** — Securities traded in foreign markets have often (though not always) performed differently from securities traded in the United States. However, such investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. In particular, the Fund is subject to the risk that because there may be fewer investors on foreign exchanges and a smaller number of securities traded each day, it may be more difficult for the Fund to buy and sell securities on those exchanges. In addition, prices of foreign securities may go up and down more than prices of securities traded in the United States.

Certain Risks of Holding Fund Assets Outside the United States — The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories. Some foreign banks and securities depositories may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business. In addition, there may be limited or no regulatory oversight of their operations. Also, the laws of certain countries limit the Fund's ability to recover its assets if a foreign bank, depository or issuer of a security, or any of their agents, goes bankrupt. In addition, it is often more expensive for the Fund to buy, sell and hold securities in certain foreign markets than in the United States. The increased expense of investing in foreign markets reduces the amount the Fund can earn on its investments and typically results in a higher operating expense ratio for the Fund than for investment companies invested only in the United States.

Currency Risk — Securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests may be denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. For this reason, changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more U.S. dollars. This risk, generally known as "currency risk," means that a strong U.S. dollar will reduce returns for U.S. investors while a weak U.S. dollar will increase those returns.

Should the Fund invest in a debt security denominated in U.S. dollars and issued by an issuer whose functional currency is a currency other than the U.S. dollar, and such currency decreases in value against the U.S. dollar, such issuer's ability to repay its obligation under the U.S. dollar-denominated security may be negatively impacted.

Foreign Economy Risk — The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position. Certain foreign economies may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Investments in foreign markets may also be adversely affected by governmental actions such as the imposition of capital controls, nationalization of companies or industries, expropriation of assets or the imposition of punitive taxes. In addition, economic conditions, such as volatile currency exchange rates and interest rates, political events, military action and other conditions may, without prior warning, lead to the governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, prohibiting or imposing substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries. Capital controls and/or sanctions may include the prohibition of, or restrictions on, the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets and may also include retaliatory actions of one government against another government, such as seizure of assets. Any of these actions could severely impair the Fund's ability to purchase, sell, transfer, receive, deliver or otherwise obtain exposure to foreign securities and assets, including the ability to transfer the Fund's assets or income back into the United States, and could negatively impact the value and/or liquidity of such assets or otherwise adversely affect the Fund's operations, causing the Fund to decline in value.

Other potential foreign market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on foreign government securities, difficulties in enforcing legal judgments in foreign courts and political and social instability. Diplomatic and political developments, including rapid and adverse political changes, social instability, regional conflicts, terrorism and war, could affect the economies, industries and securities and currency markets,

and the value of the Fund's investments, in non-U.S. countries. These factors are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to predict and take into account with respect to the Fund's investments.

Governmental Supervision and Regulation/Accounting Standards — Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as such regulations exist in the United States. They also may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws. For example, some foreign countries may have no laws or rules against insider trading. Insider trading occurs when a person buys or sells a company's securities based on material non-public information about that company. In addition, some countries may have legal systems that may make it difficult for the Fund to vote proxies, exercise shareholder rights, and pursue legal remedies with respect to its foreign investments. Accounting standards in other countries are not necessarily the same as in the United States. If the accounting standards in another country do not require as much detail as U.S. accounting standards, it may be harder for Fund management to completely and accurately determine a company's financial condition.

Settlement Risk — Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets differ significantly from those in the United States. Foreign settlement and clearance procedures and trade regulations also may involve certain risks (such as delays in payment for or delivery of securities) not typically associated with the settlement of U.S. investments.

At times, settlements in certain foreign countries have not kept pace with the number of securities transactions. These problems may make it difficult for the Fund to carry out transactions. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a purchase of securities, it may miss attractive investment opportunities and certain of its assets may be uninvested with no return earned thereon for some period. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a sale of securities, it may lose money if the value of the security then declines or, if it has contracted to sell the security to another party, the Fund could be liable for any losses incurred.

Withholding Tax Reclaims Risk — The Fund may file claims to recover foreign withholding taxes on dividend and interest income (if any) received from issuers in certain countries and capital gains on the disposition of stocks or securities where such withholding tax reclaim is possible. Whether or when the Fund will receive a withholding tax refund is within the control of the tax authorities in such countries. Where the Fund expects to recover withholding taxes, the net asset value of the Fund generally includes accruals for such tax refunds. The Fund regularly evaluates the probability of recovery. If the likelihood of recovery materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders in the Fund at the time an accrual is written down will bear the impact of the resulting reduction in net asset value regardless of whether they were shareholders during the accrual period. Conversely, if the Fund receives a tax refund that has not been previously accrued, shareholders in the Fund at the time of the successful recovery will benefit from the resulting increase in the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders who sold their shares prior to such time will not benefit from such increase in the Fund's net asset value.

European Economic Risk — The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.

Responses to the financial problems by European governments, central banks and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Further defaults or restructurings by governments and others of their debt could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets and asset valuations around the world.

The United Kingdom has withdrawn from the European Union, and one or more other countries may withdraw from the European Union and/or abandon the Euro, the common currency of the European Union. These events and actions have adversely affected, and may in the future adversely affect, the value and exchange rate of the Euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including countries that do not use the Euro and non-European Union member states. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, is not clear but could be significant and far reaching. In addition, Russia launched a large-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The extent and duration of the military action, resulting sanctions and resulting future market disruptions in the region are impossible to predict, but could be significant and have a severe adverse effect on the region, including significant negative impacts on the economy and the markets for certain securities and commodities, such as oil and natural gas, as well as other sectors.

- **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.

■ **High Yield Bonds Risk** — Although junk bonds generally pay higher rates of interest than investment grade bonds, junk bonds are high risk investments that are considered speculative and may cause income and principal losses for the Fund. The major risks of junk bond investments include:

- Junk bonds may be issued by less creditworthy issuers. Issuers of junk bonds may have a larger amount of outstanding debt relative to their assets than issuers of investment grade bonds. In the event of an issuer's bankruptcy, claims of other creditors may have priority over the claims of junk bond holders, leaving few or no assets available to repay junk bond holders.
- Prices of junk bonds are subject to extreme price fluctuations. Adverse changes in an issuer's industry and general economic conditions may have a greater impact on the prices of junk bonds than on other higher rated fixed-income securities.
- Issuers of junk bonds may be unable to meet their interest or principal payment obligations because of an economic downturn, specific issuer developments, or the unavailability of additional financing.
- Junk bonds frequently have redemption features that permit an issuer to repurchase the security from the Fund before it matures. If the issuer redeems junk bonds, the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in bonds with lower yields and may lose income.
- Junk bonds may be less liquid than higher rated fixed-income securities, even under normal economic conditions. There are fewer dealers in the junk bond market, and there may be significant differences in the prices quoted for junk bonds by the dealers. Because they are less liquid than higher rated fixed-income securities, judgment may play a greater role in valuing junk bonds than is the case with securities trading in a more liquid market.
- The Fund may incur expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting issuer.

The credit rating of a high yield security does not necessarily address its market value risk. Ratings and market value may change from time to time, positively or negatively, to reflect new developments regarding the issuer.

■ **Indexed and Inverse Securities Risk** — Indexed and inverse securities provide a potential return based on a particular index of value or interest rates. The Fund's return on these securities will be subject to risk with respect to the value of the particular index. These securities are subject to leverage risk and correlation risk. Certain indexed and inverse securities have greater sensitivity to changes in interest rates or index levels than other securities, and the Fund's investment in such instruments may decline significantly in value if interest rates or index levels move in a way Fund management does not anticipate.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act") and the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Mid Cap Securities Risk** — The securities of mid cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are generally subject to greater and less predictable price changes than the securities of larger capitalization companies.

■ **Mortgage- and Asset-Backed Securities Risks** — Mortgage-backed securities (residential and commercial) and asset-backed securities represent interests in “pools” of mortgages or other assets, including consumer loans or receivables held in trust. Although asset-backed and commercial mortgage-backed securities (“CMBS”) generally experience less prepayment than residential mortgage-backed securities, mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities, like traditional fixed-income securities, are subject to credit, interest rate, prepayment and extension risks.

Small movements in interest rates (both increases and decreases) may quickly and significantly reduce the value of certain mortgage-backed securities. The Fund’s investments in asset-backed securities are subject to risks similar to those associated with mortgage-related securities, as well as additional risks associated with the nature of the assets and the servicing of those assets. These securities also are subject to the risk of default on the underlying mortgages or assets, particularly during periods of economic downturn. Certain CMBS are issued in several classes with different levels of yield and credit protection. The Fund’s investments in CMBS with several classes may be in the lower classes that have greater risks than the higher classes, including greater interest rate, credit and prepayment risks.

Mortgage-backed securities may be either pass-through securities or collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”). Pass-through securities represent a right to receive principal and interest payments collected on a pool of mortgages, which are passed through to security holders. CMOs are created by dividing the principal and interest payments collected on a pool of mortgages into several revenue streams (“tranches”) with different priority rights to portions of the underlying mortgage payments. Certain CMO tranches may represent a right to receive interest only (“IOs”), principal only (“POs”) or an amount that remains after floating-rate tranches are paid (an “inverse floater”). These securities are frequently referred to as “mortgage derivatives” and may be extremely sensitive to changes in interest rates. Interest rates on inverse floaters, for example, vary inversely with a short-term floating rate (which may be reset periodically). Interest rates on inverse floaters will decrease when short-term rates increase, and will increase when short-term rates decrease. These securities have the effect of providing a degree of investment leverage. In response to changes in market interest rates or other market conditions, the value of an inverse floater may increase or decrease at a multiple of the increase or decrease in the value of the underlying securities. If the Fund invests in CMO tranches (including CMO tranches issued by government agencies) and interest rates move in a manner not anticipated by Fund management, it is possible that the Fund could lose all or substantially all of its investment. Certain mortgage-backed securities in which the Fund may invest may also provide a degree of investment leverage, which could cause the Fund to lose all or substantially all of its investment.

The mortgage market in the United States has experienced difficulties that may adversely affect the performance and market value of certain of the Fund’s mortgage-related investments. Delinquencies and losses on mortgage loans (including subprime and second-lien mortgage loans) and a decline in or flattening of real estate values (in each case as has been experienced and may continue to be experienced in many housing markets) may exacerbate such delinquencies and losses. Also, a number of mortgage loan originators have experienced serious financial difficulties or bankruptcy. Reduced investor demand for mortgage loans and mortgage-related securities and increased investor yield requirements have caused limited liquidity in the secondary market for mortgage-related securities, which can adversely affect the market value of mortgage-related securities. It is possible that such limited liquidity in such secondary markets could continue or worsen.

Asset-backed securities entail certain risks not presented by mortgage-backed securities, including the risk that in certain states it may be difficult to perfect the liens securing the collateral backing certain asset-backed securities. In addition, certain asset-backed securities are based on loans that are unsecured, which means that there is no collateral to seize if the underlying borrower defaults.

■ **Precious Metal and Related Securities Risk** — Prices of precious metals and of precious metal related securities historically have been very volatile. The high volatility of precious metal prices may adversely affect the financial condition of companies involved with precious metals. The production and sale of precious metals by governments or central banks or other larger holders can be affected by various economic, financial, social and political factors, which may be unpredictable and may have a significant impact on the prices of precious metals. Other factors that may affect the prices of precious metals and securities related to them include changes in inflation, the outlook for inflation and changes in industrial and commercial demand for precious metals.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Real Estate-Related Securities Risk** — The main risk of real estate-related securities is that the value of the underlying real estate may go down. Many factors may affect real estate values. These factors include both the general and local economies, vacancy rates, changes in rent schedules, tenant bankruptcies, the ability to re-lease space under expiring leases on attractive terms, the amount of new construction in a particular area, the laws and regulations (including zoning, environmental and tax laws) affecting real estate and the costs of owning, maintaining and improving real estate. The availability of mortgage financing and changes in interest rates may also affect real estate values. If the Fund's real estate-related investments are concentrated in one geographic area or in one property type, the Fund will be particularly subject to the risks associated with that area or property type. Many issuers of real estate-related securities are highly leveraged, which increases the risk to holders of such securities. The value of the securities the Fund buys will not necessarily track the value of the underlying investments of the issuers of such securities. In addition, certain issuers of real estate-related securities may have developed or commenced development on properties and may develop additional properties in the future. Real estate development involves significant risks in addition to those involved in the ownership and operation of established properties. Real estate securities may have limited diversification and are, therefore, subject to risks inherent in operating and financing a limited number of projects. Real estate securities are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency and defaults by borrowers or tenants.

■ **REIT Investment Risk** — In addition to the risks facing real estate-related securities, such as a decline in property values due to increasing vacancies, a decline in rents resulting from unanticipated economic, legal or technological developments or a decline in the price of securities of real estate companies due to a failure of borrowers to pay their loans or poor management, investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume, may engage in dilutive offerings of securities and may be more volatile than other securities. REIT issuers may also fail to maintain their exemptions from investment company registration or fail to qualify for the "dividends paid deduction" under the Internal Revenue Code, which allows REITs to reduce their corporate taxable income for dividends paid to their shareholders.

■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

■ **Risks of Loan Assignments and Participations** — As the purchaser of an assignment, the Fund typically succeeds to all the rights and obligations of the assigning institution and becomes a lender under the credit agreement with respect to the debt obligation; however, the Fund may not be able unilaterally to enforce all rights and remedies under the loan and with regard to any associated collateral. Because assignments may be arranged through private negotiations between potential assignees and potential assignors, the rights and obligations acquired by the Fund as the purchaser of an assignment may differ from, and be more limited than, those held by the assigning lender. In addition, if the loan is foreclosed, the Fund could become part owner of any collateral and could bear the costs and liabilities of owning and disposing of the collateral. The Fund may be required to pass along to a purchaser that buys a loan from the Fund by way of assignment a portion of any fees to which the Fund is entitled under the loan. In connection with purchasing participations, the Fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the borrower with the terms of the loan agreement relating to the loan, nor any rights of set-off against the borrower, and the Fund may not directly benefit from any collateral supporting the loan in which it has purchased the participation. As a result, the Fund will be subject to the credit risk of both the borrower and the lender that is selling the participation. In the event of the insolvency of the lender selling a participation, the Fund may be treated as a general creditor of the lender and may not benefit from any set-off between the lender and the borrower.

■ **Small Cap and Emerging Growth Securities Risk** — Small cap or emerging growth companies may have limited product lines or markets. They may be less financially secure than larger, more established companies. They may depend on a small number of key personnel. If a product fails or there are other adverse developments, or if management changes, the Fund's investment in a small cap or emerging growth company may lose substantial value. In addition, it is more difficult to get information on smaller companies, which tend to be less well known, have shorter operating histories, do not have significant ownership by large investors and are followed by relatively few securities analysts.

The securities of small cap and emerging growth companies generally trade in lower volumes and are subject to greater and more unpredictable price changes than larger cap securities or the market as a whole. In addition, small

cap and emerging growth securities may be particularly sensitive to changes in interest rates, borrowing costs and earnings. Investing in small cap and emerging growth securities requires a longer term view.

■ **Sovereign Debt Risk** — Sovereign debt instruments are subject to the risk that a governmental entity may delay or refuse to pay interest or repay principal on its sovereign debt, due, for example, to cash flow problems, insufficient foreign currency reserves, political considerations, the relative size of the governmental entity's debt position in relation to the economy or the failure to put in place economic reforms required by the International Monetary Fund or other multilateral agencies. If a governmental entity defaults, it may ask for more time in which to pay or for further loans. There is no legal process for collecting sovereign debt that a government does not pay nor are there bankruptcy proceedings through which all or part of the sovereign debt that a governmental entity has not repaid may be collected.

■ **Structured Notes Risk** — Structured notes and other related instruments purchased by the Fund are generally privately negotiated debt obligations where the principal and/or interest is determined by reference to the performance of a specific asset, benchmark asset, market or interest rate ("reference measure"). The interest rate or the principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption may increase or decrease, depending upon changes in the value of the reference measure. The terms of a structured note may provide that, in certain circumstances, no principal is due at maturity and, therefore, may result in a loss of invested capital by the Fund. The interest and/or principal payments that may be made on a structured product may vary widely, depending on a variety of factors, including the volatility of the reference measure.

Structured notes may be positively or negatively indexed, so the appreciation of the reference measure may produce an increase or a decrease in the interest rate or the value of the principal at maturity. The rate of return on structured notes may be determined by applying a multiplier to the performance or differential performance of reference measures. Application of a multiplier involves leverage that will serve to magnify the potential for gain and the risk of loss.

The purchase of structured notes exposes the Fund to the credit risk of the issuer of the structured product. Structured notes may also be more volatile, less liquid, and more difficult to price accurately than less complex securities and instruments or more traditional debt securities.

■ **Subsidiary Risk** — By investing in the Subsidiary, the Fund is indirectly exposed to the risks associated with the Subsidiary's investments. The commodity-related instruments held by the Subsidiary are generally similar to those that are permitted to be held by the Fund and are subject to the same risks that apply to similar investments if held directly by the Fund (see "Commodities Related Investments Risk" above). There can be no assurance that the investment objective of the Subsidiary will be achieved. The Subsidiary is not registered under the Investment Company Act, and, unless otherwise noted in this prospectus, is not subject to all the investor protections of the Investment Company Act. However, the Fund wholly owns and controls the Subsidiary, and the Fund and the Subsidiary are both managed by BlackRock, making it unlikely that the Subsidiary will take action contrary to the interests of the Fund and its shareholders. The Board has oversight responsibility for the investment activities of the Fund, including its investment in the Subsidiary, and the Fund's role as sole shareholder of the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary is subject to the same investment restrictions and limitations, and follows the same compliance policies and procedures, as the Fund, except that the Subsidiary may invest without limitation in commodity-related instruments. Changes in the laws of the United States and/or the Cayman Islands could result in the inability of the Fund and/or the Subsidiary to operate as described in this prospectus and the SAI and could adversely affect the Fund.

■ **Warrants Risk** — If the price of the underlying stock does not rise above the exercise price before the warrant expires, the warrant generally expires without any value and the Fund will lose any amount it paid for the warrant. Thus, investments in warrants may involve substantially more risk than investments in common stock. Warrants may trade in the same markets as their underlying stock; however, the price of the warrant does not necessarily move with the price of the underlying stock.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

■ **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.

■ **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.

- **Depository Receipts Risk** — Depository receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. In addition to investment risks associated with the underlying issuer, depository receipts expose the Fund to additional risks associated with the non-uniform terms that apply to depository receipt programs, credit exposure to the depository bank and to the sponsors and other parties with whom the depository bank establishes the programs, currency risk and the risk of an illiquid market for depository receipts. The issuers of unsponsored depository receipts are not obligated to disclose information that is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depository receipts. While depository receipts provide an alternative to directly purchasing underlying foreign securities in their respective markets and currencies, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities, including political, economic, and currency risk.
- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.
- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. The Subsidiary will also limit its investment in illiquid investments to 15% of its net assets. In applying the illiquid investments restriction to the Fund, the Fund's investment in the Subsidiary is considered to be liquid. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the reduced number and capacity of traditional market participants to make a market in fixed-income securities or the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. This may be magnified in a rising interest rate environment or other circumstances where investor redemptions from fixed-income mutual funds may be higher than normal. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.
- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.
- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund's adviser or an affiliate of the Fund's adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund's liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund's net asset value and increase the Fund's brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund's remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund's current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund's expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager's ability to implement a fund's investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund's performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.

- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund’s service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **Reference Rate Replacement Risk** — The Fund may be exposed to financial instruments that recently transitioned from, or continue to be tied to, LIBOR to determine payment obligations, financing terms, hedging strategies or investment value. The United Kingdom’s Financial Conduct Authority (“FCA”), which regulates LIBOR, has ceased publishing all LIBOR settings. In April 2023, however, the FCA announced that some USD LIBOR settings will continue to be published under a synthetic methodology until September 30, 2024 for certain legacy contracts. SOFR is a broad measure of the cost of borrowing cash overnight collateralized by U.S. Treasury securities in the repurchase agreement (“repo”) market and has been used increasingly on a voluntary basis in new instruments and transactions. Under U.S. regulations that implement a statutory fallback mechanism to replace LIBOR, benchmark rates based on SOFR have replaced LIBOR in certain financial contracts. Neither the effect of the LIBOR transition process nor its ultimate success can yet be known. While some existing LIBOR-based instruments may contemplate a scenario where LIBOR is no longer available by providing for an alternative rate-setting methodology, there may be significant uncertainty regarding the effectiveness of any such alternative methodologies to replicate LIBOR. Not all existing LIBOR-based instruments may have alternative rate-setting provisions and there remains uncertainty regarding the willingness and ability of issuers to add alternative rate-setting provisions in certain existing instruments. Parties to contracts, securities or other instruments using LIBOR may disagree on transition rates or the application of transition regulation, potentially resulting in uncertainty of performance and the possibility of litigation. The Fund may have instruments linked to other interbank offered rates that may also cease to be published in the future.
- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock’s parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock’s personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities, the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available, and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC (“BIM”), the Fund’s securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund’s securities lending program.
- **Short Sales Risk** — Because making short sales in securities that it does not own exposes the Fund to the risks associated with those securities, such short sales involve speculative exposure risk. The Fund will incur a loss as a result of a short sale if the price of the security increases between the date of the short sale and the date on which the Fund replaces the security sold short. The Fund will realize a gain if the security declines in price between those dates. As a result, if the Fund makes short sales in securities that increase in value, it will likely underperform similar funds that do not make short sales in securities they do not own. There can be no assurance that the Fund will be able to close out a short sale position at any particular time or at an acceptable price. Although the Fund’s

gain is limited to the amount at which it sold a security short, its potential loss is limited only by the maximum attainable price of the security, less the price at which the security was sold. The Fund may also pay transaction costs and borrowing fees in connection with short sales.

- **Standby Commitment Agreements Risk** — Standby commitment agreements involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery to the Fund and will no longer be worth what the Fund has agreed to pay for it. These agreements also involve the risk that if the security goes up in value, the counterparty will decide not to issue the security. In this case, the Fund loses both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security's price.
- **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund's valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund's ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security's price.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Class I | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 14.77 | \$ 17.79 | \$ 19.49 | \$ 17.11 | \$ 15.19 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.42 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.17 | 0.26 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.48 | (3.08) | 1.05 | 3.41 | 2.45 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.90 | (2.83) | 1.30 | 3.58 | 2.71 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.36) | — | (0.17) | (0.24) | (0.22) |
| From net realized gain | — | (0.19) | (2.83) | (0.96) | (0.57) |
| Total distributions | (0.36) | (0.19) | (3.00) | (1.20) | (0.79) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 16.31 | \$ 14.77 | \$ 17.79 | \$ 19.49 | \$ 17.11 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 12.83% ^(d) | (15.86)% | 6.67% | 21.08% | 17.92% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(e) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.78% | 0.79% | 0.82% | 0.84% | 0.74% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.75% | 0.73% | 0.73% | 0.73% | 0.73% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed and excluding dividend expense, interest expense, broker fees and expenses on short sales and professional fees for foreign withholding taxes | 0.73% | 0.72% | 0.73% | 0.73% | 0.73% |
| Net investment income | 2.73% | 1.59% | 1.23% | 0.95% | 1.60% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$892,706 | \$859,808 | \$1,606,132 | \$1,368,516 | \$1,192,769 |
| Portfolio turnover rate ^(f) | 215% ^(g) | 110% ^(h) | 133% | 161% | 198% |

(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

(d) Includes payment from an affiliate, which had no impact on the Fund's total return.

(e) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

(f) Includes mortgage dollar roll transactions ("MDRs"). Additional information regarding portfolio turnover rate is as follows:

| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Portfolio turnover rate (excluding MDRs) | 154% | 102% | 123% | 161% | 198% |

(g) Excludes underlying investments in total return swaps.

(h) Portfolio turnover rate excludes in-kind transactions.

Financial Highlights (continued)

| | BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Class II | | | | |
| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 14.67 | \$ 17.71 | \$ 19.41 | \$ 17.05 | \$ 15.14 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.40 | 0.22 | 0.22 | 0.14 | 0.23 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.46 | (3.07) | 1.05 | 3.39 | 2.44 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.86 | (2.85) | 1.27 | 3.53 | 2.67 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.33) | — | (0.14) | (0.21) | (0.19) |
| From net realized gain | — | (0.19) | (2.83) | (0.96) | (0.57) |
| Total distributions | (0.33) | (0.19) | (2.97) | (1.17) | (0.76) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 16.20 | \$ 14.67 | \$ 17.71 | \$ 19.41 | \$ 17.05 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 12.67% ^(d) | (16.04)% | 6.55% | 20.88% | 17.76% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(e) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.04% | 1.04% | 1.02% | 1.02% | 1.02% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.91% | 0.90% | 0.88% | 0.88% | 0.88% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed and excluding dividend expense, interest expense, broker fees and expenses on short sales and professional fees for foreign withholding taxes | 0.89% | 0.89% | 0.88% | 0.88% | 0.88% |
| Net investment income | 2.57% | 1.44% | 1.07% | 0.80% | 1.41% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$196,730 | \$196,732 | \$255,542 | \$243,361 | \$224,159 |
| Portfolio turnover rate ^(f) | 215% ^(g) | 110% ^(h) | 133% | 161% | 198% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Includes payment from an affiliate, which had no impact on the Fund's total return.

^(e) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

^(f) Includes mortgage dollar roll transactions ("MDRs"). Additional information regarding portfolio turnover rate is as follows:

| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Portfolio turnover rate (excluding MDRs) | 154% | 102% | 123% | 161% | 198% |

^(g) Excludes underlying investments in total return swaps.

^(h) Portfolio turnover rate excludes in-kind transactions.

Financial Highlights (concluded)

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Class III | | | | |
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 11.87 | \$ 14.38 | \$ 16.29 | \$ 14.47 | \$ 12.95 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.31 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.10 | 0.19 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.17 | (2.49) | 0.87 | 2.88 | 2.08 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.48 | (2.32) | 1.04 | 2.98 | 2.27 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.32) | — | (0.12) | (0.20) | (0.18) |
| From net realized gain | — | (0.19) | (2.83) | (0.96) | (0.57) |
| Total distributions | (0.32) | (0.19) | (2.95) | (1.16) | (0.75) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 13.03 | \$ 11.87 | \$ 14.38 | \$ 16.29 | \$ 14.47 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 12.49% ^(d) | (16.07)% | 6.42% | 20.79% | 17.67% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(e) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.13% | 1.13% | 1.12% | 1.11% | 1.14% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 1.01% | 1.00% | 0.98% | 0.98% | 0.98% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed and excluding dividend expense, interest expense, broker fees and expenses on short sales and professional fees for foreign withholding taxes | 0.99% | 0.99% | 0.98% | 0.98% | 0.98% |
| Net investment income | 2.47% | 1.33% | 0.99% | 0.70% | 1.32% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$3,407,552 | \$3,437,102 | \$5,676,492 | \$6,966,480 | \$6,702,938 |
| Portfolio turnover rate ^(f) | 215% ^(g) | 110% ^(h) | 133% | 161% | 198% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Includes payment from an affiliate, which had no impact on the Fund's total return.

^(e) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

^(f) Includes mortgage dollar roll transactions ("MDRs"). Additional information regarding portfolio turnover rate is as follows:

| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Portfolio turnover rate (excluding MDRs) | 154% | 102% | 123% | 161% | 198% |

^(g) Excludes underlying investments in total return swaps.

^(h) Portfolio turnover rate excludes in-kind transactions.

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Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund (Class I)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek to preserve capital, maintain liquidity and achieve the highest possible current income consistent with the foregoing.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares |
|---|---------------------------|
| Management Fees | 0.50% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None |
| Other Expenses | 0.06% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses | 0.56% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ¹ | (0.26)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ¹ | 0.30% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.30% (for Class I Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. This contractual agreement may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$31 | \$153 | \$287 | \$677 |

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund invests at least 99.5% of its total assets in cash, U.S. Treasury bills, notes and other obligations issued or guaranteed as to principal and interest by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities, and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations or cash. The Fund invests in securities maturing in 397 days or less (with certain exceptions) and the portfolio will have a dollar-weighted average maturity of 60 days or less and a dollar-weighted average life of 120 days or less. The Fund may invest in variable and floating rate instruments, and transact in securities on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment basis.

The Fund will invest, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in U.S. Treasury bills, notes, and other obligations issued or guaranteed as to principal and interest by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities, and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations. This policy is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund, and the Fund will not change the policy without providing shareholders with at least 60 days’ prior notice of any change in the policy.

The securities purchased by the Fund are subject to the quality, diversification, and other requirements of Rule 2a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”), and other rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. You could lose money by investing in the Fund. Although the Fund seeks to preserve the value of your investment at \$1.00 per share, it cannot guarantee it will do so. An investment in the Fund is not a bank account and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. The Fund’s sponsor is not required to reimburse the Fund for losses, and you should not expect that the sponsor will provide financial support to the Fund at any time, including during periods of market stress. The following is a summary description of principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

- **Interest Rate Risk** — Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a debt security may fall when interest rates rise. In general, the market price of debt securities with longer maturities will go up or down more in response to changes in interest rates than the market price of shorter-term securities. Due to fluctuations in interest rates, the market value of such securities may vary during the period shareholders own shares of the Fund. Very low or negative interest rates may magnify interest rate risk. During periods of very low or negative interest rates, the Fund may be unable to maintain positive returns or pay dividends to Fund shareholders. The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. The Federal Reserve has recently begun to raise the federal funds rate as part of its efforts to address rising inflation. There is a risk that interest rates will continue to rise, which will likely drive down the prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities. Changing interest rates may have unpredictable effects on markets, may result in heightened market volatility and may detract from the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **Treasury Obligations Risk** — Direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury have historically involved little risk of loss of principal if held to maturity. However, due to fluctuations in interest rates, the market value of such securities may vary during the period shareholders own shares of the Fund. In addition, notwithstanding that U.S. Treasury obligations are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, circumstances could arise that could prevent the timely payment of interest or principal, such as reaching the legislative “debt ceiling.” Such non-payment could result in losses to the Fund and substantial negative consequences for the U.S. economy and the global financial system.
- **U.S. Government Obligations Risk** — Certain securities in which the Fund may invest, including securities issued by certain U.S. Government agencies and U.S. Government sponsored enterprises, are not guaranteed by the U.S. Government or supported by the full faith and credit of the United States. In addition, circumstances could arise that could prevent the timely payment of interest or principal on U.S. Government obligations, such as reaching the legislative “debt ceiling.” Such non-payment could result in losses to the Fund and substantial negative consequences for the U.S. economy and the global financial system.
- **Repurchase Agreements Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.
- **Credit Risk** — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will be unable or unwilling to make timely payments of interest and principal when due or otherwise honor their obligations. Changes in an issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of an issuer’s creditworthiness may also adversely affect the value of the Fund’s investment in that issuer.
- **Income Risk** — Income risk is the risk that the Fund’s yield will vary as short-term securities in its portfolio mature and the proceeds are reinvested in securities with different interest rates.
- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact

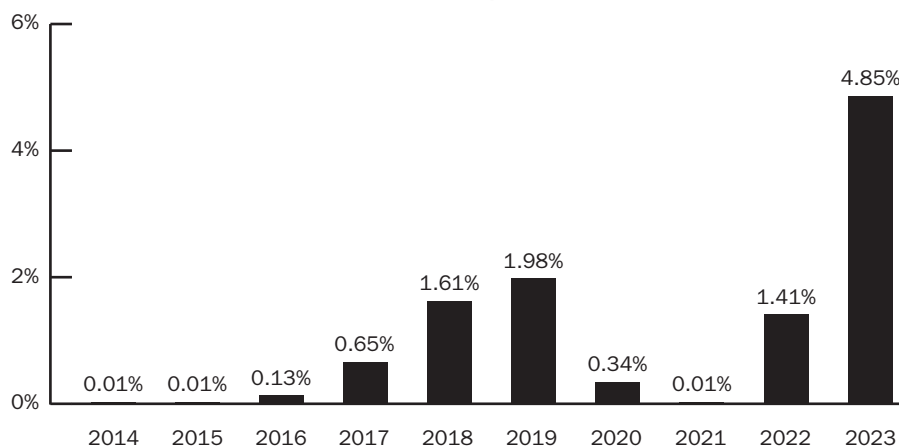
leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.
- **Stable Net Asset Value Risk** — The Fund may not be able to maintain a stable net asset value (“NAV”) of \$1.00 per share at all times. If the Fund fails to maintain a stable NAV (or if there is a perceived threat of such a failure), the Fund, along with other money market funds, could be subject to increased redemption activity.
- **Variable and Floating Rate Instrument Risk** — Variable and floating rate securities provide for periodic adjustment in the interest rate paid on the securities. These securities may be subject to greater illiquidity risk than other fixed income securities, meaning the absence of an active market for these securities could make it difficult for the Fund to dispose of them at any given time.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security’s price.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund’s performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The Fund is a money market fund managed pursuant to the requirements of Rule 2a-7 under the Investment Company Act. Effective September 1, 2015, the Fund changed its investment strategies in order to be categorized as a “government money market fund” under Rule 2a-7, as more fully described in “Fund Overview — Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund.” Performance for the periods shown below prior to September 1, 2015 is the performance of the Fund when it followed the prior investment strategy under the name “BlackRock Money Market V.I. Fund,” which permitted investment in a wider range of money market securities and instruments and was not constrained by the requirement to invest at least 99.5% of the Fund’s assets in cash, U.S. Government securities and repurchase agreements secured by such securities or cash. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund’s investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund’s returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares
ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS
BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund
As of 12/31



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 1.30% (quarter ended December 31, 2023) and the lowest return for a quarter was 0.00% (quarter ended March 31, 2022).

For the periods ended 12/31/23
Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|---|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 4.85% | 1.70% | 1.09% |

To obtain the Fund's current 7-day yield, visit the Fund's website at www.blackrock.com/cash.

Investment Manager

The Fund's investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as "BlackRock").

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the "Insurance Companies") and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the "Accounts") to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company's website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund (the “Fund”), and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek to preserve capital, maintain liquidity and achieve the highest possible current income consistent with the foregoing.

Investment Process

The Fund is a government money market fund managed pursuant to Rule 2a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”).

- The Fund seeks to maintain a net asset value (“NAV”) of \$1.00 per share.
- The Fund invests in securities maturing in 397 days or less from the date of purchase (with certain exceptions). For example, certain government securities held by the Fund may have remaining maturities exceeding 397 days if such securities provide for adjustments in their interest rates not less frequently than every 397 days. The Fund will maintain a dollar-weighted average maturity of 60 days or less and a dollar-weighted average life of 120 days or less. The average maturity of the Fund is the average amount of time until the organizations that issued the debt securities in the Fund’s portfolio must pay off the principal amount of the debt. The average life of the Fund’s portfolio is calculated without reference to the exceptions used for variable or floating rate securities regarding the use of the interest rate reset dates in lieu of the security’s actual maturity date. “Dollar-weighted” means the larger the dollar value of a debt security based on its market value in the Fund, the more weight it gets in calculating this average.
- Pursuant to Rule 2a-7, the Fund is subject to a “general liquidity requirement” that requires that the Fund hold securities that are sufficiently liquid to meet reasonably foreseeable shareholder redemptions in light of its obligations under Section 22(e) of the Investment Company Act regarding share redemptions and any commitments the Fund has made to shareholders. To comply with this general liquidity requirement, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) must consider factors that could affect the Fund’s liquidity needs, including characteristics of the Fund’s investors and their likely redemptions. Depending upon the volatility of its cash flows (particularly shareholder redemptions), this may require the Fund to maintain greater liquidity than would be required by the daily and weekly minimum liquidity requirements discussed below.
- The Fund will not acquire any illiquid security (*i.e.*, securities that cannot be sold or disposed of in the ordinary course of business within seven days at approximately the value ascribed to them by the Fund) if, immediately following such purchase, more than 5% of the Fund’s total assets are invested in illiquid securities. The Fund will not acquire any security other than a daily liquid asset unless, immediately following such purchase, at least 25% of its total assets would be invested in daily liquid assets. The Fund will not acquire any security other than a weekly liquid asset unless, immediately following such purchase, at least 50% of its total assets would be invested in weekly liquid assets. “Daily liquid assets” include (i) cash; (ii) direct obligations of the U.S. Government; (iii) securities that will mature, as determined without reference to the maturity shortening provisions of Rule 2a-7 regarding interest rate readjustments, or are subject to a demand feature that is exercisable and payable within one business day; and (iv) amounts receivable and due unconditionally within one business day on pending sales of portfolio securities. “Weekly liquid assets” include (i) and (ii) above as well as (iii) Government securities issued by a person controlled or supervised by and acting as an instrumentality of the U.S. Government pursuant to authority granted by the U.S. Congress, that are issued at a discount to the principal amount to be repaid at maturity without provision for the payment of interest and have a remaining maturity of 60 days or less; (iv) securities that will mature, as determined without reference to the maturity shortening provisions of Rule 2a-7 regarding interest rate readjustments, or are subject to a demand feature that is exercisable and payable within five business days; and (v) amounts receivable and due unconditionally within five business days on pending sales of portfolio securities.
- The Board of Directors of the Fund (the “Board”) has chosen not to subject the Fund to discretionary liquidity fees. If the Board changes this policy with respect to discretionary liquidity fees, such change would become effective only after shareholders are provided with advance notice of the change.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund seeks to produce current income while attempting to maintain a share net asset value of \$1.00. The Fund invests at least 99.5% of its total assets in cash, U.S. Treasury bills, notes and other obligations issued or guaranteed as to principal and interest by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities, and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations or cash.

The U.S. Government securities in which the Fund may invest include:

- **Repurchase Agreements** — The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements. Repurchase agreements are similar in certain respects to collateralized loans, but are structured as a purchase of securities by the Fund, subject to the seller's agreement to repurchase the securities at a mutually agreed upon date and price. Under a repurchase agreement, the seller is required to furnish collateral at least equal in value or market price to the amount of the seller's repurchase obligation. The Fund may engage in repurchase agreements secured by U.S. Treasury bills, notes and other obligations issued or guaranteed as to principal and interest by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities and cash.
- **U.S. Government Obligations** — The Fund may purchase obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or its agencies, authorities, instrumentalities and sponsored enterprises, and related custodial receipts.
- **U.S. Treasury Obligations** — The Fund may invest in obligations that are direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury. The Fund may also invest in Treasury receipts where the principal and interest components are traded separately under the Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal of Securities ("STRIPS") program.
- **Variable and Floating Rate Instruments** — The Fund may purchase variable or floating rate notes, which are instruments that provide for adjustments in the interest rate on certain reset dates or whenever a specified interest rate index changes, respectively.
- **When-Issued, Delayed Delivery and Forward Commitment Transactions** — The Fund may transact in securities on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment basis. The Fund does not intend to purchase securities on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment basis for speculative purposes but only in furtherance of its investment objective. The Fund does not receive income from securities purchased on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment basis prior to delivery of such securities.

The Fund will invest, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in U.S. Treasury bills, notes and other obligations issued or guaranteed as to principal and interest by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities, and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations. This policy is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund, and the Fund will not change the policy without providing shareholders with at least 60 days' prior notice of any change in the policy.

The securities purchased by the Fund are also subject to the quality, diversification, and other requirements of Rule 2a-7 under the Investment Company Act, and other rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Fund will purchase only securities that are "Eligible Securities" under Rule 2a-7 pursuant to guidelines approved by the Board. Applicable "Eligible Securities" include (i) securities with a remaining maturity of 397 calendar days or less (with certain exceptions) that BlackRock determines present minimal credit risks to the fund after considering certain factors; (ii) securities issued by other registered investment companies that are money market funds; or (iii) securities issued or guaranteed as to principal or interest by the U.S. Government or any of its agencies or instrumentalities.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions, subject to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act, the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.
- **Reverse Repurchase Agreements** — Reverse repurchase agreements are transactions in which the Fund sells a security with the obligation to repurchase the security shortly thereafter at a specified price which reflects a payment by the Fund. The Fund profits from entering into a reverse repurchase agreement by reinvesting the proceeds of the sale at a higher return than it has to pay to repurchase its security.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of certain risks of investing in the Fund. The "Investment Objectives and Policies" section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. Risk is inherent in all investing. You could lose money by investing in the Fund. Although the Fund

seeks to preserve the value of your investment at \$1.00 per share, it cannot guarantee it will do so. An investment in the Fund is not a bank account and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. The Fund's sponsor is not required to reimburse the Fund for losses, and you should not expect that the sponsor will provide financial support to the Fund at any time, including during periods of market stress.

The following is a description of certain risks of investing in the Fund. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

- **Credit Risk** — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will be unable or unwilling to make timely payments of interest and principal when due or otherwise honor their obligations. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund's investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation.
- **Income Risk** — The Fund's yield will vary as the short-term securities in its portfolio mature and the proceeds are reinvested in securities with different interest rates.
- **Interest Rate Risk** — Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a debt security may fall when interest rates rise. In general, the market price of debt securities with longer maturities will go up or down more in response to changes in interest rates than the market price of shorter-term securities. Due to fluctuations in interest rates, the market value of such securities may vary during the period shareholders own shares of the Fund. Very low or negative interest rates may magnify interest rate risk. During periods of very low or negative interest rates, the Fund may be unable to maintain positive returns or pay dividends to Fund shareholders. The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. The Federal Reserve has recently begun to raise the federal funds rate as part of its efforts to address rising inflation. There is a risk that interest rates will continue to rise, which will likely drive down the prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities. Changing interest rates may have unpredictable effects on markets, may result in heightened market volatility and may detract from the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

- **Repurchase Agreements Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.
- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as

significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

- **Stable Net Asset Value Risk** — The Fund may not be able to maintain a stable NAV of \$1.00 per share at all times. If the Fund fails to maintain a stable NAV (or if there is a perceived threat of such a failure), the Fund, along with other money market funds, could be subject to increased redemption activity.
- **Treasury Obligations Risk** — Direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury have historically involved little risk of loss of principal if held to maturity. However, due to fluctuations in interest rates, the market value of such securities may vary during the period shareholders own shares of the Fund. In addition, notwithstanding that U.S. Treasury obligations are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, circumstances could arise that could prevent the timely payment of interest or principal, such as reaching the legislative “debt ceiling.” Such non-payment could result in losses to the Fund and substantial negative consequences for the U.S. economy and the global financial system.
- **U.S. Government Obligations Risk** — Not all U.S. Government securities are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. Obligations of certain agencies, authorities, instrumentalities and sponsored enterprises of the U.S. Government are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States (e.g., the Government National Mortgage Association); other obligations are backed by the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury (e.g., the Federal Home Loan Banks) and others are supported by the discretionary authority of the U.S. Government to purchase an agency’s obligations. Still others are backed only by the credit of the agency, authority, instrumentality or sponsored enterprise issuing the obligation. No assurance can be given that the U.S. Government would provide financial support to any of these entities if it is not obligated to do so by law. In addition, circumstances could arise that could prevent the timely payment of interest or principal on U.S. Government obligations, such as reaching the legislative “debt ceiling.” Such non-payment could result in losses to the Fund and substantial negative consequences for the U.S. economy and the global financial system.
- **Variable and Floating Rate Instrument Risk** — Variable and floating rate securities provide for periodic adjustment in the interest rate paid on the securities. These securities may be subject to greater illiquidity risk than other fixed income securities, meaning the absence of an active market for these securities could make it difficult for the Fund to dispose of them at any given time.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security’s price.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

- **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund’s portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund’s return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.
- **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund’s adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund’s business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund’s service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.
- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund’s net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund’s net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund’s expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund’s expense ratio could be significant.
- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund’s adviser or an affiliate of the Fund’s adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund’s liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund

to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund's current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally could result in an increase in the Fund's expense ratio.

- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock's parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock's personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Reverse Repurchase Agreements Risk** — Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities held by the Fund with an agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price, date and interest payment. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the other party may fail to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by the Fund, including the value of the investments made with cash collateral, is less than the value of the securities. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. In addition, reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the interest income earned in the investment of the proceeds will be less than the interest expense.
- **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC ("BIM"), the Fund's securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund's securities lending program.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights table is intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund | | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Class I | | | | |
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 1.00 | \$ 1.00 | \$ 1.00 | \$ 1.00 | \$ 1.00 |
| Net investment income | 0.0476 | 0.0146 | 0.0000 ^(a) | 0.0032 | 0.0196 |
| Net realized gain (loss) | 0.0000 ^(a) | (0.0008) ^(b) | 0.0001 | 0.0002 | 0.0000 ^(a) |
| Net increase from investment operations | 0.0476 | 0.0138 | 0.0001 | 0.0034 | 0.0196 |
| Distributions^(c) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.0476) | (0.0138) | (0.0001) | (0.0034) | (0.0196) |
| From net realized gain | (0.0000) ^(d) | (0.0000) ^(d) | (0.0000) ^(d) | (0.0000) ^(d) | (0.0000) ^(d) |
| Total distributions | (0.0476) | (0.0138) | (0.0001) | (0.0034) | (0.0196) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 1.00 | \$ 1.00 | \$ 1.00 | \$ 1.00 | \$ 1.00 |
| Total Return^(e) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 4.85% | 1.41% | 0.01% | 0.34% | 1.98% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.56% | 0.55% | 0.56% | 0.65% | 0.64% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.30% | 0.26% | 0.08% | 0.24% | 0.30% |
| Net investment income | 4.76% | 1.46% | 0.00% ^(f) | 0.32% | 1.96% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$271,085 | \$428,933 | \$349,408 | \$261,398 | \$201,318 |

^(a) Amount is less than \$0.00005 per share.

^(b) The amounts reported for a share outstanding may not accord with the change in aggregate gains and losses in securities for the fiscal period due to the timing of capital share transactions in relation to the fluctuating market values of the Fund's underlying securities.

^(c) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(d) Amount is greater than \$(0.00005) per share.

^(e) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(f) Amount is less than 0.005%.

Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek to match the performance of the MSCI EAFE Index (Europe, Australasia, Far East) (the “MSCI EAFE Index” or the “Underlying Index”) in U.S. dollars with net dividends as closely as possible before the deduction of Fund expenses.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management Fee ¹ | 0.08% | 0.08% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1 Fees) | None | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses | 0.21% | 0.21% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses | 0.29% | 0.54% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | (0.02)% | (0.02)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | 0.27% | 0.52% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.27% (for Class I Shares) and 0.52% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. The Fund may have to repay some of these waivers and/or reimbursements to BlackRock in the two years following such waivers and/or reimbursements. Any such repayment obligation will terminate on October 26, 2025. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0.05% (for Class I Shares) and 0.05% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$28 | \$ 91 | \$161 | \$366 |
| Class III Shares | \$53 | \$171 | \$300 | \$675 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 2% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund employs a “passive” management approach, attempting to invest in a portfolio of assets whose performance is expected to match approximately the performance of the MSCI EAFE Index. The Fund will be substantially invested in securities in the MSCI EAFE Index, and will invest, under normal circumstances, at least 90% of its assets in securities or other financial instruments that are components of or have economic characteristics similar to the securities included in the MSCI EAFE Index. The Fund may change its target index if Fund management believes a different index would better enable the Fund to match the performance of the market segment represented by the current index.

The Fund invests in a statistically selected sample of equity securities included in the MSCI EAFE Index and in derivative instruments linked to the MSCI EAFE Index, which include equity index futures, currency forwards and total return swaps. Equity securities include common stock, preferred stock and securities or other instruments whose price is linked to the value of common stock. The Fund will, under normal circumstances, invest in all of the countries represented in the MSCI EAFE Index. The Fund may not, however, invest in all of the companies within a country represented in the MSCI EAFE Index, or in the same weightings as in the MSCI EAFE Index.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of the principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

- **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company’s financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.
- **Foreign Securities Risk** — Foreign investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. These risks include:
 - The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories, which may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business and may be subject to only limited or no regulatory oversight.
 - Changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund’s portfolio.
 - The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position.
 - The governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, may prohibit or impose substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries, which may prohibit or restrict the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets.
 - Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as does the United States and may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws.
 - Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets may result in delays in payment for or delivery of securities not typically associated with settlement and clearance of U.S. investments.
 - The Fund’s claims to recover foreign withholding taxes may not be successful, and if the likelihood of recovery of foreign withholding taxes materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund’s net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund’s net asset value.
 - The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund’s investments.
- **Index-Related Risk** — There is no guarantee that the Fund’s investment results will have a high degree of correlation to those of the Underlying Index or that the Fund will achieve its investment objective. Market disruptions or high volatility, other unusual market circumstances and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund’s ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Underlying Index. Errors in index data, index computations or the construction of the Underlying Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the index provider for a period of time or at all, which

may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. Unusual market conditions or other unforeseen circumstances (such as natural disasters, political unrest or war) may impact the index provider or a third-party data provider and could cause the index provider to postpone a scheduled rebalance. This could cause the Underlying Index to vary from its normal or expected composition.

An index fund has operating and other expenses while an index does not. As a result, while the Fund will attempt to track the Underlying Index as closely as possible, it will tend to underperform the Underlying Index to some degree over time. If an index fund is properly correlated to its stated index, the fund will perform poorly when the index performs poorly.

- **Passive Investment Risk** — Because BlackRock does not select individual companies in the index that the Fund tracks, the Fund may hold securities of companies that present risks that an investment adviser researching individual securities might seek to avoid.
- **Tracking Error Risk** — The Fund may be subject to tracking error, which is the divergence of the Fund's performance from that of the Underlying Index. Tracking error may occur because of differences between the securities and other instruments held in the Fund's portfolio and those included in the Underlying Index, pricing differences (including, as applicable, differences between a security's price at the local market close and the Fund's valuation of a security at the time of calculation of the Fund's net asset value), differences in transaction costs, the Fund's holding of uninvested cash, differences in timing of the accrual of or the valuation of dividends or other distributions, interest, the requirements to maintain pass-through tax treatment, portfolio transactions carried out to minimize the distribution of capital gains to shareholders, changes to the Underlying Index and the cost to the Fund of complying with various new or existing regulatory requirements. These risks may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or other unusual market conditions. In addition, tracking error may result because the Fund incurs fees and expenses, while the Underlying Index does not.
- **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:
 - Leverage Risk* — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.
 - Market Risk* — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.
 - Counterparty Risk* — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.
 - Illiquidity Risk* — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.
 - Operational Risk* — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.
 - Legal Risk* — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.
 - Volatility and Correlation Risk* — Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.
 - Valuation Risk* — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them.
 - Hedging Risk* — Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences.
 - Tax Risk* — Certain aspects of the tax treatment of derivative instruments, including swap agreements and commodity-linked derivative instruments, are currently unclear and may be affected by changes in legislation, regulations or other legally binding authority. Such treatment may be less favorable than that given to a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments.

- **Geographic Concentration Risk** — From time to time the Fund may invest a substantial amount of its assets in issuers located in a single country or a limited number of countries. If the Fund concentrates its investments in this manner, it assumes the risk that economic, political and social conditions in those countries will have a significant impact on its investment performance. The Fund's investment performance may also be more volatile if it concentrates its investments in certain countries, especially emerging market countries.
- **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.
- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

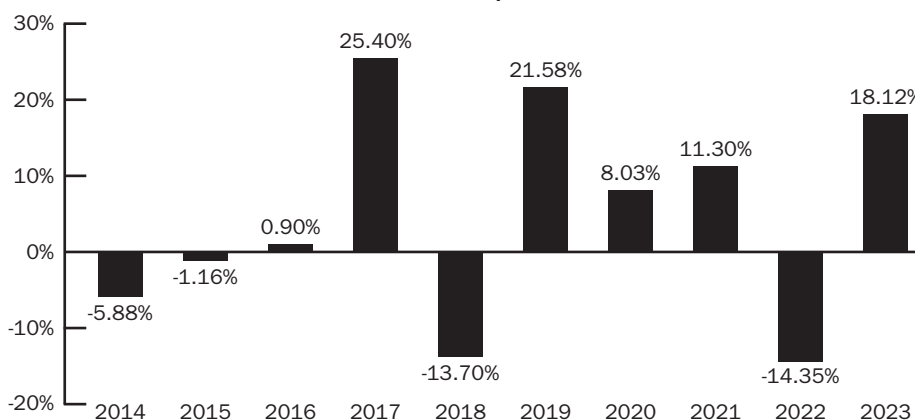
- **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company's preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.
- **Representative Sampling Risk** — Representative sampling is a method of indexing that involves investing in a representative sample of securities that collectively have a similar investment profile to the Underlying Index and resemble the Underlying Index in terms of risk factors and other key characteristics. The Fund may or may not hold every security in the Underlying Index. When the Fund deviates from a full replication indexing strategy to utilize a representative sampling strategy, the Fund is subject to an increased risk of tracking error, in that the securities selected in the aggregate for the Fund may not have an investment profile similar to those of the Underlying Index.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund's performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The returns for Class III Shares prior to February 9, 2021, the commencement of Class III Shares, are based upon performance of the Fund's Class I Shares, as adjusted to reflect the distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees applicable to Class III Shares. This information may be considered when assessing the performance of Class III Shares, but does not represent the actual performance of Class III Shares.

As a result of a reorganization (the "Reorganization") which occurred on October 29, 2018, the Fund acquired all of the assets and assumed certain stated liabilities of the International Equity Index Fund (the "Predecessor Fund"), a series of State Farm Variable Product Trust. The Fund adopted the performance of the Predecessor Fund as a result of the Reorganization on October 29, 2018. The performance information below is based on the performance of the Predecessor Fund for periods prior to the date of the Reorganization. The Predecessor Fund had similar investment objectives and strategies as the Fund as of the date of the Reorganization. The Predecessor Fund was managed by a different investment adviser but was subadvised by BlackRock and had the same portfolio management team as the Fund as of the date of the Reorganization. The table compares the Fund's performance to that of the MSCI EAFE Index. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund's investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund's returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund As of 12/31



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 18.10% (quarter ended December 31, 2022) and the lowest return for a quarter was -23.11% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

For the periods ended 12/31/23 Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|---|--------|---------|----------|
| BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 18.12% | 8.14% | 4.16% |
| BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 17.83% | 7.85% | 3.89% |
| MSCI EAFE Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 18.24% | 8.16% | 4.28% |

Investment Manager

The Fund's investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as "BlackRock").

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Paul Whitehead | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Jennifer Hsui, CFA | 2018 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the “Insurance Companies”) and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the “Accounts”) to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company’s website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek to match the performance of the MSCI EAFE Index (Europe, Australasia, Far East) (the “MSCI EAFE Index” or the “Underlying Index”) in U.S. dollars with net dividends as closely as possible before the deduction of Fund expenses.

The Fund’s investment objective is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without 60 days’ prior notice to shareholders.

Investment Process

The MSCI EAFE Index is composed of equity securities of approximately 768 companies from various industrial sectors whose primary trading markets are located outside the United States. Equity securities include common stock, preferred stock and securities or other instruments whose price is linked to the value of common stock. Companies included in the MSCI EAFE Index are selected from among the larger capitalization companies in these markets. The countries currently included in the MSCI EAFE Index are Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. The weighting of the MSCI EAFE Index among these countries is based upon each country’s relative market capitalization and not its gross domestic product, which means that the index contains more companies from countries with larger capital markets (like Japan and the United Kingdom) and these countries have the most effect on the index’s performance. The stocks in the MSCI EAFE Index are chosen by MSCI Inc. (“MSCI” or the “Index Provider”). MSCI chooses stocks for inclusion in the MSCI EAFE Index based on market capitalization, trading activity and the overall mix of industries represented in the index, among other factors. The MSCI EAFE Index is generally considered broadly representative of the performance of stocks traded in the developed international markets. MSCI’s selection of a stock for the MSCI EAFE Index does not mean that MSCI believes the stock to be an attractive investment.

The Fund will not attempt to buy or sell securities based on Fund management’s economic, financial or market analysis, but will instead employ a “passive” investment approach. This means that Fund management will attempt to remain invested at all times in a portfolio of assets the performance of which is expected to match approximately that of the MSCI EAFE Index. The Fund will only buy or sell securities when Fund management believes it is necessary to do so in order to match the performance of the MSCI EAFE Index. Accordingly, it is anticipated that the Fund’s portfolio turnover and trading costs will be lower than actively managed funds.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund employs a “passive” management approach, attempting to invest in a portfolio of assets whose performance is expected to match approximately the performance of the MSCI EAFE Index. The Fund will be substantially invested in securities in the MSCI EAFE Index, and will invest, under normal circumstances, at least 90% of its assets in securities or other financial instruments that are components of or have economic characteristics similar to the securities included in the MSCI EAFE Index. The Fund may change its target index if Fund management believes a different index would better enable the Fund to match the performance of the market segment represented by the current index.

The Fund invests in a statistically selected sample of equity securities included in the MSCI EAFE Index and in derivative instruments linked to the MSCI EAFE Index, which include equity index futures, currency forwards and total return swaps. Equity securities include common stock, preferred stock and securities or other instruments whose price is linked to the value of common stock. The Fund will, under normal circumstances, invest in all of the countries represented in the MSCI EAFE Index. The Fund may not, however, invest in all of the companies within a country represented in the MSCI EAFE Index, or in the same weightings as in the MSCI EAFE Index.

The past performance of the Underlying Index is not a guide to future performance. BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) does not guarantee the accuracy or the completeness of the Underlying Index or any data included therein and BlackRock shall have no liability for any errors, omissions or interruptions therein. BlackRock makes no warranty, express or implied, to the owners of shares of the Fund or to any other person or entity, as to results to be obtained by the Fund from the use of the Underlying Index or any data included therein. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall BlackRock have any liability for any special, punitive, direct, indirect or consequential damages (including lost profits), even if notified of the possibility of such damages.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the investments/strategies listed below.

Fund management may also purchase stocks not included in the MSCI EAFE Index when it believes that it would be a cost efficient way of approximating the MSCI EAFE Index's performance to do so. If Fund management uses these techniques, the Fund may not track the MSCI EAFE Index as closely as it would if it were fully replicating the MSCI EAFE Index.

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow up to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.
- **Depository Receipts** — The Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers in the form of depository receipts or other securities that are convertible into securities of foreign issuers. The Fund may invest in unsponsored depository receipts.
- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.
- **Investment Companies** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs.
- **Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs")** — The Fund may invest in REITs.
- **Repurchase Agreements, Purchase and Sale Contracts** — The Fund may enter into certain types of repurchase agreements or purchase and sale contracts. Under a repurchase agreement, the seller agrees to repurchase a security at a mutually agreed-upon time and price. A purchase and sale contract is similar to a repurchase agreement, but purchase and sale contracts also provide that the purchaser receives any interest on the security paid during the period.
- **Restricted Securities** — Restricted securities are securities that cannot be offered for public resale unless registered under the applicable securities laws or that have a contractual restriction that prohibits or limits their resale. They may include Rule 144A securities, which are privately placed securities that can be resold to qualified institutional buyers but not to the general public, and securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are offered pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33⅓% of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Short-Term Money Market Instruments** — The Fund will also invest in short-term money market instruments as cash reserves. The Fund will not invest in options, futures, other derivative instruments or short-term money market instruments in order to lessen the Fund's exposure to common stocks as a defensive strategy, but will instead attempt to remain fully invested at all times.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis or on a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF INTERNATIONAL INDEX V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Paul Whitehead and Jennifer Hsui, CFA are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see "Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information" for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives can magnify the Fund’s gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund’s derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives may reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund’s use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund’s hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund’s distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”). If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial

margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps — Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts – Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures – Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

■ **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.

■ **Foreign Securities Risk** — Securities traded in foreign markets have often (though not always) performed differently from securities traded in the United States. However, such investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. In particular, the Fund is subject to the risk that because there may be fewer investors on foreign exchanges and a smaller number of securities traded each day, it may be more difficult for the Fund to buy and sell securities on those exchanges. In addition, prices of foreign securities may go up and down more than prices of securities traded in the United States.

Certain Risks of Holding Fund Assets Outside the United States — The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories. Some foreign banks and securities depositories may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business. In addition, there may be limited or no regulatory oversight of their operations. Also, the laws of certain countries limit the Fund's ability to recover its assets if a foreign bank, depository or issuer of a security, or any of their agents, goes bankrupt. In addition, it is often more expensive for the Fund to buy,

sell and hold securities in certain foreign markets than in the United States. The increased expense of investing in foreign markets reduces the amount the Fund can earn on its investments and typically results in a higher operating expense ratio for the Fund than for investment companies invested only in the United States.

Currency Risk — Securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests may be denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. For this reason, changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio. Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more U.S. dollars. This risk, generally known as "currency risk," means that a strong U.S. dollar will reduce returns for U.S. investors while a weak U.S. dollar will increase those returns.

Foreign Economy Risk — The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position. Certain foreign economies may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Investments in foreign markets may also be adversely affected by governmental actions such as the imposition of capital controls, nationalization of companies or industries, expropriation of assets or the imposition of punitive taxes. In addition, economic conditions, such as volatile currency exchange rates and interest rates, political events, military action and other conditions may, without prior warning, lead to the governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, prohibiting or imposing substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries. Capital controls and/or sanctions may include the prohibition of, or restrictions on, the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets and may also include retaliatory actions of one government against another government, such as seizure of assets. Any of these actions could severely impair the Fund's ability to purchase, sell, transfer, receive, deliver or otherwise obtain exposure to foreign securities and assets, including the ability to transfer the Fund's assets or income back into the United States, and could negatively impact the value and/or liquidity of such assets or otherwise adversely affect the Fund's operations, causing the Fund to decline in value.

Other potential foreign market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on foreign government securities, difficulties in enforcing legal judgments in foreign courts and political and social instability. Diplomatic and political developments, including rapid and adverse political changes, social instability, regional conflicts, terrorism and war, could affect the economies, industries and securities and currency markets, and the value of the Fund's investments, in non-U.S. countries. These factors are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to predict and take into account with respect to the Fund's investments.

Governmental Supervision and Regulation/Accounting Standards — Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as such regulations exist in the United States. They also may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws. For example, some foreign countries may have no laws or rules against insider trading. Insider trading occurs when a person buys or sells a company's securities based on material non-public information about that company. In addition, some countries may have legal systems that may make it difficult for the Fund to vote proxies, exercise shareholder rights, and pursue legal remedies with respect to its foreign investments. Accounting standards in other countries are not necessarily the same as in the United States. If the accounting standards in another country do not require as much detail as U.S. accounting standards, it may be harder for Fund management to completely and accurately determine a company's financial condition.

Settlement Risk — Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets differ significantly from those in the United States. Foreign settlement and clearance procedures and trade regulations also may involve certain risks (such as delays in payment for or delivery of securities) not typically associated with the settlement of U.S. investments.

At times, settlements in certain foreign countries have not kept pace with the number of securities transactions. These problems may make it difficult for the Fund to carry out transactions. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a purchase of securities, it may miss attractive investment opportunities and certain of its assets may be uninvested with no return earned thereon for some period. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a sale of securities, it may lose money if the value of the security then declines or, if it has contracted to sell the security to another party, the Fund could be liable for any losses incurred.

Withholding Tax Reclaims Risk — The Fund may file claims to recover foreign withholding taxes on dividend and interest income (if any) received from issuers in certain countries and capital gains on the disposition of stocks or securities where such withholding tax reclaim is possible. Whether or when the Fund will receive a withholding tax refund is within the control of the tax authorities in such countries. Where the Fund expects to recover withholding taxes, the net asset value of the Fund generally includes accruals for such tax refunds. The Fund regularly evaluates

the probability of recovery. If the likelihood of recovery materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders in the Fund at the time an accrual is written down will bear the impact of the resulting reduction in net asset value regardless of whether they were shareholders during the accrual period. Conversely, if the Fund receives a tax refund that has not been previously accrued, shareholders in the Fund at the time of the successful recovery will benefit from the resulting increase in the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders who sold their shares prior to such time will not benefit from such increase in the Fund's net asset value.

European Economic Risk — The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.

Responses to the financial problems by European governments, central banks and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Further defaults or restructurings by governments and others of their debt could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets and asset valuations around the world.

The United Kingdom has withdrawn from the European Union, and one or more other countries may withdraw from the European Union and/or abandon the Euro, the common currency of the European Union. These events and actions have adversely affected, and may in the future adversely affect, the value and exchange rate of the Euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including countries that do not use the Euro and non-European Union member states. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, is not clear but could be significant and far reaching. In addition, Russia launched a large-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The extent and duration of the military action, resulting sanctions and resulting future market disruptions in the region are impossible to predict, but could be significant and have a severe adverse effect on the region, including significant negative impacts on the economy and the markets for certain securities and commodities, such as oil and natural gas, as well as other sectors.

■ **Geographic Concentration Risk** — From time to time the Fund may invest a substantial amount of its assets in issuers located in a single country or a limited number of countries. If the Fund concentrates its investments in this manner, it assumes the risk that economic, political and social conditions in those countries will have a significant impact on its investment performance. The Fund's investment performance may also be more volatile if it concentrates its investments in certain countries, especially emerging market countries.

■ **Index-Related Risk** — The Fund seeks to achieve a return that corresponds generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the Underlying Index as published by the Index Provider. There is no assurance that the Index Provider or any agents that may act on its behalf will compile the Underlying Index accurately, or that the Underlying Index will be determined, composed or calculated accurately. While the Index Provider provides descriptions of what the Underlying Index is designed to achieve, neither the Index Provider nor its agents provide any warranty or accept any liability in relation to the quality, accuracy or completeness of the Underlying Index or its related data, and they do not guarantee that the Underlying Index will be in line with the Index Provider's methodology. BlackRock's mandate as described in this prospectus is to manage the Fund consistently with the Underlying Index provided by the Index Provider to BlackRock. BlackRock does not provide any warranty or guarantee against the Index Provider's or any agent's errors. Errors in respect of the quality, accuracy and completeness of the data used to compile the Underlying Index may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Index Provider for a period of time or at all, particularly where the indices are less commonly used as benchmarks by funds or managers. Such errors may negatively or positively impact the Fund and its shareholders. For example, during a period where the Underlying Index contains incorrect constituents, the Fund would have market exposure to such constituents and would be underexposed to the Underlying Index's other constituents. Shareholders should understand that any gains from Index Provider errors will be kept by the Fund and its shareholders and any losses or costs resulting from Index Provider errors will be borne by the Fund and its shareholders.

Unusual market conditions or other unforeseen circumstances (such as natural disasters, political unrest or war) may impact the index provider or a third-party data provider and could cause the Index Provider to postpone a scheduled rebalance to the Underlying Index. This could cause the Underlying Index to vary from its normal or expected composition. The postponement of a scheduled rebalance could mean that constituents that would otherwise be removed at rebalance due to changes in market capitalizations, issuer credit ratings, or other reasons may remain, causing the performance and constituents of the Underlying Index to vary from those expected under normal conditions. Apart from scheduled rebalances, the Index Provider or its agents may carry out additional ad hoc rebalances to the Underlying Index due to reaching certain weighting constraints, unusual market conditions or in order, for example, to correct an error in the selection of index constituents. When the Underlying Index is rebalanced and the Fund in turn rebalances its portfolio to attempt to increase the correlation between the Fund's portfolio and the Underlying Index, any transaction costs and market exposure arising from such portfolio rebalancing will be borne directly by the Fund and its shareholders. Therefore, errors and additional ad hoc rebalances carried out by the Index Provider or its agents to the Underlying Index may increase the costs to and the tracking error risk of the Fund.

An index fund has operating and other expenses while an index does not. As a result, while the Fund will attempt to track the Underlying Index as closely as possible, it will tend to underperform the Underlying Index to some degree over time. If an index fund is properly correlated to its stated index, the fund will perform poorly when the index performs poorly.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”) and the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund’s portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Passive Investment Risk** — Because BlackRock does not select individual companies in the index that the Fund tracks, the Fund may hold securities of companies that present risks that an investment adviser researching individual securities might seek to avoid.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Representative Sampling Risk** — Representative sampling is a method of indexing that involves investing in a representative sample of securities that collectively have a similar investment profile to the Underlying Index and resemble the Underlying Index in terms of risk factors and other key characteristics. The Fund may or may not hold every security in the Underlying Index. When the Fund deviates from a full replication indexing strategy to utilize a representative sampling strategy, the Fund is subject to an increased risk of tracking error, in that the securities selected in the aggregate for the Fund may not have an investment profile similar to those of the Underlying Index.

■ **Tracking Error Risk** — The Fund may be subject to tracking error, which is the divergence of the Fund’s performance from that of the Underlying Index. Tracking error may occur because of differences between the securities and other instruments held in the Fund’s portfolio and those included in the Underlying Index, pricing differences (including, as applicable, differences between a security’s price at the local market close and the Fund’s valuation of a security at the time of calculation of the Fund’s net asset value), differences in transaction costs, the Fund’s holding of uninvested cash, differences in timing of the accrual of or the valuation of dividends or other distributions, interest, the requirements to maintain pass-through tax treatment, portfolio transactions carried out to minimize the distribution of capital gains to shareholders, changes to the Underlying Index and the cost to the Fund of complying with various new or existing regulatory requirements. These risks may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or other unusual market conditions. In addition, tracking error may result because the Fund incurs fees and expenses, while the Underlying Index does not.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

- **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.
- **Concentration Risk** — The Fund reserves the right to concentrate its investments (*i.e.*, invest 25% or more of its total assets in securities of issuers in a particular industry) to approximately the same extent that the Underlying Index concentrates in a particular industry. To the extent the Fund concentrates in a particular industry, it may be more susceptible to economic conditions and risks affecting that industry.
- **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.
- **Depository Receipts Risk** — Depository receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. In addition to investment risks associated with the underlying issuer, depository receipts expose the Fund to additional risks associated with the non-uniform terms that apply to depository receipt programs, credit exposure to the depository bank and to the sponsors and other parties with whom the depository bank establishes the programs, currency risk and the risk of an illiquid market for depository receipts. The issuers of unsponsored depository receipts are not obligated to disclose information that is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depository receipts. While depository receipts provide an alternative to directly purchasing underlying foreign securities in their respective markets and currencies, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities, including political, economic, and currency risk.
- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.
- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.
- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.

- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund’s adviser or an affiliate of the Fund’s adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund’s liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund’s net asset value and increase the Fund’s brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund’s remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund’s current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund’s expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager’s ability to implement a fund’s investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund’s performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.
- **Money Market Securities Risk** — If market conditions improve while the Fund has invested some or all of its assets in high quality money market securities, this strategy could result in reducing the potential gain from the market upswing, thus reducing the Fund’s opportunity to achieve its investment objective.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund’s service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **REIT Investment Risk** — In addition to the risks facing real estate-related securities, such as a decline in property values due to increasing vacancies, a decline in rents resulting from unanticipated economic, legal or technological developments or a decline in the price of securities of real estate companies due to a failure of borrowers to pay their loans or poor management, investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume, may engage in dilutive offerings of securities and may be more volatile than other securities. REIT issuers may also fail to maintain their exemptions from investment company registration or fail to qualify for the “dividends paid deduction” under the Internal Revenue Code, which allows REITs to reduce their corporate taxable income for dividends paid to their shareholders.
- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock’s parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock’s personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities, the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available, and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.

- **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC (“BIM”), the Fund’s securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund’s securities lending program.
- **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund’s valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund’s ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security’s price.

Financial Highlights

As a result of the Reorganization, the Fund adopted the financial history of the Predecessor Fund. Therefore, the Financial Highlights information presented for the Fund prior to the date of the Reorganization is the financial history of the Predecessor Fund. The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that a shareholder would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's audited financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report. The Fund's Annual Report is available on request.

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund | | | | |
|--|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Class I | | | | |
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 8.94 | \$ 10.70 | \$ 9.95 | \$ 9.39 | \$ 7.98 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.27 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.19 | 0.28 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.34 | (1.80) | 0.86 | 0.56 | 1.45 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.61 | (1.54) | 1.12 | 0.75 | 1.73 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.31) | (0.22) | (0.37) | (0.19) | (0.31) |
| From net realized gain | — | — | — | — | (0.01) |
| Return of capital | — | — | (0.00) ^(c) | — | — |
| Total distributions | (0.31) | (0.22) | (0.37) | (0.19) | (0.32) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 10.24 | \$ 8.94 | \$ 10.70 | \$ 9.95 | \$ 9.39 |
| Total Return^(d) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 18.12% | (14.35)% | 11.30% | 8.03% | 21.58% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(e) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.29% ^(f) | 0.32% | 0.32% | 0.43% | 0.39% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.27% | 0.27% | 0.27% | 0.27% | 0.27% |
| Net investment income | 2.78% | 2.81% | 2.41% | 2.14% | 3.13% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$204,880 | \$181,598 | \$218,702 | \$202,576 | \$196,366 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 2% | 3% | 4% | 5% | 3% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Amount is greater than \$(0.005) per share.

^(d) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(e) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

^(f) Includes recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees Excluding the recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees for the year ended December 31, 2023, the expense ratio would have been 0.27%.

Financial Highlights (concluded)

| | BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund Class III | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------|---|
| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Period from 02/09/21^(a) to 12/31/21 |
| Net asset value, beginning of period | \$ 8.91 | \$ 10.68 | \$10.26 |
| Net investment income ^(b) | 0.24 | 0.23 | 0.15 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.34 | (1.79) | 0.63 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.58 | (1.56) | 0.78 |
| Distributions^(c) | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.29) | (0.21) | (0.35) |
| Return of capital | — | — | (0.01) |
| Total distributions | (0.29) | (0.21) | (0.36) |
| Net asset value, end of period | \$10.20 | \$ 8.91 | \$10.68 |
| Total Return^(d) | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 17.83% | (14.59)% | 7.65% ^(e) |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(f) | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.54% ^(g) | 0.59% | 0.50% ^(h) |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.52% | 0.51% | 0.49% ^(h) |
| Net investment income | 2.45% | 2.51% | 1.59% ^(h) |
| Supplemental Data | | | |
| Net assets, end of period (000) | \$1,686 | \$ 1,099 | \$ 348 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 2% | 3% | 4% ⁽ⁱ⁾ |

^(a) Commencement of operations.

^(b) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(c) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(d) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(e) Not annualized.

^(f) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

^(g) Includes recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees. Excluding the recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees for the year ended December 31, 2023, the expense ratio would have been 0.52%.

^(h) Annualized.

⁽ⁱ⁾ Portfolio turnover rate is representative of the portfolio for the entire year.

Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock International V.I. Fund (Class I)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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BlackRock International V.I. Fund

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock International V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock International V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is long-term capital growth.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares |
|---|---------------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.75% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None |
| Other Expenses | 0.42% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses | 1.17% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | (0.31)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | 0.86% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.86% (for Class I Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0.08% (for Class I Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$88 | \$341 | \$614 | \$1,393 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 102% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund invests primarily in stocks of companies located outside the United States. The Fund may purchase common stock, preferred stock, convertible securities and other instruments.

The Fund will invest at least 75% of its total assets in global equity securities of any market capitalization, selected for their above-average return potential. The Fund may invest in securities issued by companies of all sizes but will focus mainly on medium and large capitalization companies. Companies will be located in developed countries of Europe and the Far East, and in countries with emerging capital markets anywhere in the world. The Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets in global fixed income securities, including corporate bonds, U.S. Government debt securities, non-U.S. Government and supranational debt securities, asset-backed securities, mortgage-backed securities, emerging market debt securities and non-investment grade debt securities (commonly called high yield or “junk” bonds) or debt securities determined by Fund management to be of similar quality.

Fund management selects companies that it believes are undervalued or have good prospects for earnings growth. The Fund chooses investments predominantly using a “bottom up” investment style using a global sector-based investment process. The Fund’s allocations to particular countries are based on Fund management’s evaluation of individual companies.

Under normal circumstances, the Fund will allocate a substantial amount (approximately 40% or more—unless market conditions are not deemed favorable by Fund management, in which case the Fund would invest at least 30%) of its total assets in securities (i) of foreign government issuers, (ii) of issuers organized or located outside the United States, (iii) of issuers which primarily trade in a market located outside the United States, or (iv) of issuers doing a substantial amount of business outside the United States, which the Fund considers to be companies that derive at least 50% of their revenue or profits from business outside the United States or have at least 50% of their sales or assets outside the United States. The Fund will allocate its assets among various regions and countries, including the United States (but in no less than three different countries). For temporary defensive purposes the Fund may deviate very substantially from the allocation described above.

Fund management may, when consistent with the Fund’s investment objective, buy or sell options or futures on a security or an index of securities, or enter into interest rate or foreign currency transactions, including swaps (collectively, commonly known as derivatives).

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

- **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company’s financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.
- **Foreign Securities Risk** — Foreign investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. These risks include:
 - The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories, which may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business and may be subject to only limited or no regulatory oversight.
 - Changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund’s portfolio.
 - The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position.
 - The governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, may prohibit or impose substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries, which may prohibit or restrict the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets.
 - Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as does the United States and may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws.
 - Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets may result in delays in payment for or delivery of securities not typically associated with settlement and clearance of U.S. investments.
 - The Fund’s claims to recover foreign withholding taxes may not be successful, and if the likelihood of recovery of foreign withholding taxes materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund’s net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund’s net asset value.

■ The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.

■ **Debt Securities Risk** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve risks, such as credit risk, interest rate risk, extension risk, and prepayment risk, each of which are described in further detail below:

Credit Risk — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make payments of interest and principal when due. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund's investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation.

Interest Rate Risk — The market value of bonds and other fixed-income securities changes in response to interest rate changes and other factors. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise.

The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. For example, if interest rates increase by 1%, assuming a current portfolio duration of ten years, and all other factors being equal, the value of the Fund's investments would be expected to decrease by 10%. (Duration is a measure of the price sensitivity of a debt security or portfolio of debt securities to relative changes in interest rates.) The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of bonds and other fixed-income securities is generally greater for those securities with longer maturities. Fluctuations in the market price of the Fund's investments will not affect interest income derived from instruments already owned by the Fund, but will be reflected in the Fund's net asset value. The Fund may lose money if short-term or long-term interest rates rise sharply in a manner not anticipated by Fund management.

To the extent the Fund invests in debt securities that may be prepaid at the option of the obligor (such as mortgage-backed securities), the sensitivity of such securities to changes in interest rates may increase (to the detriment of the Fund) when interest rates rise. Moreover, because rates on certain floating rate debt securities typically reset only periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates (and particularly sudden and significant changes) can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the net asset value of the Fund to the extent that it invests in floating rate debt securities.

These basic principles of bond prices also apply to U.S. Government securities. A security backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. Government is guaranteed only as to its stated interest rate and face value at maturity, not its current market price. Just like other fixed-income securities, government-guaranteed securities will fluctuate in value when interest rates change.

A general rise in interest rates has the potential to cause investors to move out of fixed-income securities on a large scale, which may increase redemptions from funds that hold large amounts of fixed-income securities. Heavy redemptions could cause the Fund to sell assets at inopportune times or at a loss or depressed value and could hurt the Fund's performance.

Extension Risk — When interest rates rise, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more slowly than anticipated, causing the value of these obligations to fall.

Prepayment Risk — When interest rates fall, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more quickly than originally anticipated, and the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields.

■ **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of the issuer's creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them.

Hedging Risk — Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences.

Tax Risk — Certain aspects of the tax treatment of derivative instruments, including swap agreements and commodity-linked derivative instruments, are currently unclear and may be affected by changes in legislation, regulations or other legally binding authority. Such treatment may be less favorable than that given to a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments.

- **Emerging Markets Risk** — Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging securities markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets.
- **Focus Risk** — Under normal circumstances, the Fund focuses its investments in the securities of a limited number of issuers. This may subject the Fund to greater issuer-specific risk and potential losses than a fund that invests in the securities of a greater number of issuers.
- **Geographic Concentration Risk** — From time to time the Fund may invest a substantial amount of its assets in issuers located in a single country or a limited number of countries. If the Fund concentrates its investments in this manner, it assumes the risk that economic, political and social conditions in those countries will have a significant impact on its investment performance. The Fund's investment performance may also be more volatile if it concentrates its investments in certain countries, especially emerging market countries.
- **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.
- **High Yield Bonds Risk** — Although junk bonds generally pay higher rates of interest than investment grade bonds, junk bonds are high risk investments that are considered speculative and may cause income and principal losses for the Fund.
- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, growth investments have performed better during the later stages of economic expansion and value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, these investment styles may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.
- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that

are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Mid Cap Securities Risk** — The securities of mid cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are generally subject to greater and less predictable price changes than the securities of larger capitalization companies.

■ **Mortgage- and Asset-Backed Securities Risks** — Mortgage- and asset-backed securities represent interests in “pools” of mortgages or other assets, including consumer loans or receivables held in trust. Mortgage- and asset-backed securities are subject to credit, interest rate, prepayment and extension risks. These securities also are subject to risk of default on the underlying mortgage or asset, particularly during periods of economic downturn. Small movements in interest rates (both increases and decreases) may quickly and significantly reduce the value of certain mortgage-backed securities.

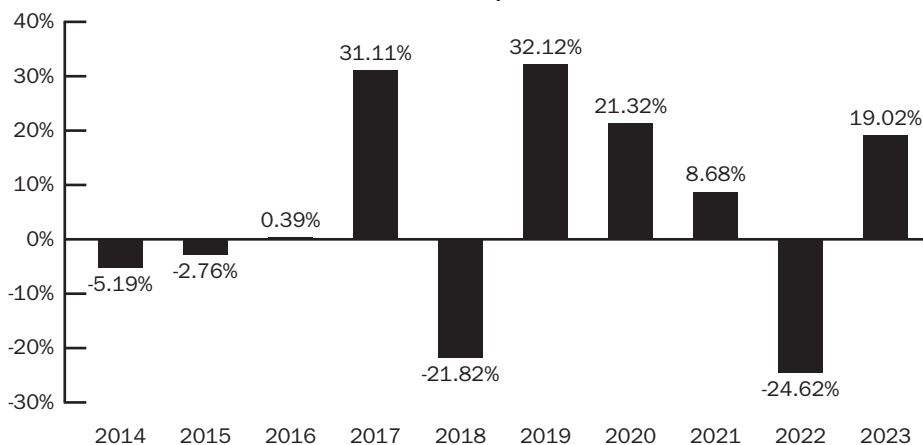
■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Supranational Entities Risk** — The Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by the World Bank. The government members, or “stockholders,” usually make initial capital contributions to the World Bank and in many cases are committed to make additional capital contributions if the World Bank is unable to repay its borrowings. There is no guarantee that one or more stockholders of the World Bank will continue to make any necessary additional capital contributions. If such contributions are not made, the entity may be unable to pay interest or repay principal on its debt securities, and the Fund may lose money on such investments.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund’s performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The table compares the Fund’s performance to that of the MSCI All Country World Ex-USA Index. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. If the Fund’s investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund’s returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares
ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS
BlackRock International V.I. Fund
As of 12/31



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 27.04% (quarter ended June 30, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was –25.54% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

For the periods ended 12/31/23

Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|--|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| BlackRock International V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 19.02% | 9.34% | 4.02% |
| MSCI All Country World Ex-USA Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 15.62% | 7.08% | 3.83% |

Investment Manager

The Fund’s investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as “BlackRock”). The Fund’s sub-adviser is BlackRock International Limited. Where applicable, the use of the term BlackRock also refers to the Fund’s sub-adviser.

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Gareth Williams, CFA | 2011 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Sophie Steel | 2023 | Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the “Insurance Companies”) and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the “Accounts”) to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company’s website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock International V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is long-term capital growth.

This investment objective is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without 60 days’ prior notice to shareholders.

Investment Process

The Fund chooses investments predominantly using a “bottom up” investment style using a global sector-based investment process.

In selecting securities, the Fund emphasizes those securities that Fund management believes are undervalued or have good prospects for earnings growth. A company’s stock is considered to be undervalued when the stock’s current price is less than what Fund management believes a share of the company is worth. Fund management feels a company’s worth can be assessed by factors such as:

- financial resources;
- value of assets;
- sales and earnings growth;
- product development;
- quality of management; and
- overall business prospects.

A company’s stock may become undervalued when most investors fail to perceive the company’s strengths in one or more of these areas. A company whose earnings per share grow faster than inflation and the economy in general usually has a higher stock price over time than a company with slower earnings growth. The Fund’s evaluation of the prospects for a company’s industry or market sector is an important factor in evaluating a particular company’s earnings potential. Current income from dividends and interest will not be an important consideration in selecting portfolio securities. Fund management analyzes individual stocks within specific sectors and compares them to investment opportunities in other areas of the market. Fund management then allocates the Fund’s investments to those areas of each market that it believes provide the best combination of risk versus reward.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund will invest at least 75% of its total assets in global equity securities of any market capitalization, selected for their above-average return potential. The Fund primarily seeks to buy common stock but may also invest in preferred stock, convertible securities and other instruments. The Fund will allocate its assets among various regions and countries, including the United States (but in no less than three different countries). Under normal circumstances, the Fund will allocate a substantial amount (approximately 40% or more — unless market conditions are not deemed favorable by BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”), in which case the Fund would invest at least 30%) of its total assets in securities (i) of foreign government issuers, (ii) of issuers organized or located outside the United States, (iii) of issuers which primarily trade in a market located outside the United States, or (iv) of issuers doing a substantial amount of business outside the United States, which the Fund considers to be companies that derive at least 50% of their revenue or profits from business outside the United States or have at least 50% of their sales or assets outside the United States. For temporary defensive purposes the Fund may deviate very substantially from the allocation described above.

Investment in fixed income securities will be made on an opportunistic basis. Securities will be identified based on factors such as relative value and earnings estimate revisions. The Fund may invest up to 25% of total assets in global fixed income securities, including corporate bonds, U.S. Government debt securities, non-U.S. Government and supranational debt securities, asset-backed securities, mortgage-backed securities, emerging market debt securities and non-investment grade debt securities (commonly called high yield or “junk” bonds) or debt securities determined by Fund management to be of similar quality. Split rated bonds will be considered to have the higher credit rating as determined by Fund management.

The Fund will invest in securities of non-U.S. issuers that can be U.S.-dollar based or non-U.S.-dollar based on a hedged or unhedged basis. The Fund may enter into currency transactions on a hedged or unhedged basis in order to seek total return.

The Fund may, when consistent with the Fund's investment objective, buy or sell options or futures on a security or an index of securities and may buy options on a currency or a basket of currencies, or enter into interest rate or foreign currency transactions, including swaps (collectively, commonly known as derivatives). An option is the right to buy or sell a security or an index of securities at a specific price on or before a specific date. A future is an agreement to buy or sell a security or an index of securities at a specific price on a specific date. A swap is an agreement whereby one party exchanges its right to receive or its obligation to pay one type of currency for another party's obligation to pay or its right to receive another type of currency in the future or for a period of time. The Fund typically uses derivatives as a substitute for taking a position in the underlying asset and/or as part of a strategy designed to reduce exposure to other risks, such as currency risk. The Fund may also use derivatives to enhance returns, in which case their use would involve leveraging risk. The Fund may seek to obtain market exposure to the securities in which it primarily invests by entering into a series of purchase and sale contracts or by using other investment techniques (such as reverse repurchase agreements or dollar rolls). The Fund may also use forward foreign currency exchange contracts (obligations to buy or sell a currency at a set rate in the future).

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions, subject to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.
- **Depository Receipts** — The Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers in the form of depository receipts or other securities that are convertible into securities of foreign issuers. American Depository Receipts are receipts typically issued by an American bank or trust company that evidence underlying securities issued by a foreign corporation. European Depository Receipts (issued in Europe) and Global Depository Receipts (issued throughout the world) each evidence a similar ownership arrangement. The Fund may invest in unsponsored depository receipts.
- **Foreign Exchange Transactions** — The Fund may engage in foreign exchange transactions to seek to hedge against the risk of loss from changes in currency exchange rates, but Fund management cannot guarantee that it will be able to enter into such transactions or that such transactions will be effective.
- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.
- **Indexed and Inverse Securities** — The Fund may invest in securities that provide a return based on fluctuations in a stock or other financial index. For example, the Fund may invest in a security that increases in value with the price of a particular securities index. In some cases, the return of the security may be inversely related to the price of the index. This means that the value of the security will rise as the price of the index falls and vice versa. Although these types of securities can make it easier for the Fund to access certain markets or hedge risks of other assets held by the Fund, these securities are subject to the risks related to the underlying index or other assets.
- **Investment Companies** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act, and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs. When determining what country an investment company is located in for purposes of the allocation test described in the Principal Investment Strategies section of this Prospectus, the Fund may consider investment companies to be located in the country or countries in which they primarily make their portfolio investments.
- **"New Issues"** — From time to time, the Fund may invest in shares of companies through initial public offerings ("IPOs").
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts** — The Fund may enter into certain types of repurchase agreements or purchase and sale contracts. Under a repurchase agreement, the seller agrees to repurchase a security at a mutually agreed-upon time and price. A purchase and sale contract is similar to a repurchase agreement, but purchase and sale contracts also provide that the purchaser receives any interest on the security paid during the period.
- **Restricted Securities** — Restricted securities are securities that cannot be offered for public resale unless registered under the applicable securities laws or that have a contractual restriction that prohibits or limits their resale. They may include Rule 144A securities, which are privately placed securities that can be resold to qualified institutional buyers but not to the general public, and securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are offered pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

- **Reverse Repurchase Agreements** — The Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements. The Fund is permitted to invest up to one-third of its total assets in reverse repurchase agreements. Investments in reverse repurchase agreements and securities lending transactions (described below) will be aggregated for purposes of this investment limitation.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33⅓% of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Standby Commitment Agreements** — Standby commitment agreements commit the Fund, for a stated period of time, to purchase a stated amount of securities that may be issued and sold to the Fund at the option of the issuer.
- **Temporary Defensive Strategies** — For temporary defensive purposes, for example, to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and may restrict the markets in which it invests and may invest without limitation in cash, cash equivalents, money market securities, such as U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, other U.S. Government securities, short-term debt obligations of corporate issuers, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances, commercial paper (short-term, unsecured, negotiable promissory notes of a domestic or foreign issuer) or other high quality fixed income securities, including repurchase agreements. The Fund may also buy or sell derivatives. In addition, we expect that a portion of the Fund's assets will be held in these short-term instruments in anticipation of making investments in accordance with its investment objectives and strategies or to meet redemptions or when Fund management is unable to find attractive investments. Temporary defensive positions may affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **Warrants** — A warrant gives the Fund the right to buy stock. The warrant specifies the amount of underlying stock, the purchase (or "exercise") price, and the date the warrant expires. The Fund has no obligation to exercise the warrant and buy the stock. A warrant has value only if the Fund is able to exercise it or sell it before it expires.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis, on a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF INTERNATIONAL V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Gareth Williams, CFA and Sophie Steel are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see "Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information" for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The "Investment Objectives and Policies" section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund's performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of the issuer's creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.
- **Debt Securities Risk** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve risks, such as credit risk, interest rate risk, extension risk, and prepayment risk, each of which are described in further detail below:

Credit Risk — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make payments of interest and principal when due. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund's investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation.

Interest Rate Risk — The market value of bonds and other fixed-income securities changes in response to interest rate changes and other factors. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise.

The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. For example, if interest rates increase by 1%, assuming a current portfolio duration of ten years, and all other factors being equal, the value of the Fund's investments would be expected to decrease by 10%. (Duration is a measure of the price sensitivity of a debt security or portfolio of debt securities to relative changes in interest rates.) The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of bonds and other fixed-income securities is generally greater for those securities with longer maturities. Fluctuations in the market price of the Fund's investments will not affect interest income derived from instruments already owned by the Fund, but will be reflected in the Fund's net asset value. The Fund may lose money if short-term or long-term interest rates rise sharply in a manner not anticipated by Fund management.

To the extent the Fund invests in debt securities that may be prepaid at the option of the obligor (such as mortgage-backed securities), the sensitivity of such securities to changes in interest rates may increase (to the detriment of the Fund) when interest rates rise. Moreover, because rates on certain floating rate debt securities typically reset only periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates (and particularly sudden and significant changes) can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the net asset value of the Fund to the extent that it invests in floating rate debt securities.

These basic principles of bond prices also apply to U.S. Government securities. A security backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. Government is guaranteed only as to its stated interest rate and face value at maturity, not its current market price. Just like other fixed-income securities, government-guaranteed securities will fluctuate in value when interest rates change.

The Federal Reserve has recently begun to raise the federal funds rate as part of its efforts to address rising inflation. There is a risk that interest rates will continue to rise, which will likely drive down the prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities. A general rise in interest rates has the potential to cause investors to move out of fixed-income securities on a large scale, which may increase redemptions from mutual funds that hold large amounts of fixed-income securities. Heavy redemptions could cause the Fund to sell assets at inopportune times or at a loss or depressed value and could hurt the Fund's performance.

During periods of very low or negative interest rates, the Fund may be unable to maintain positive returns. Certain countries have recently experienced negative interest rates on certain fixed-income instruments. Very low or negative interest rates may magnify interest rate risk. Changing interest rates, including rates that fall below zero, may have unpredictable effects on markets, may result in heightened market volatility and may detract from Fund performance to the extent the Fund is exposed to such interest rates.

Extension Risk — When interest rates rise, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more slowly than anticipated, causing the value of these obligations to fall. Rising interest rates tend to extend the duration of securities, making them more sensitive to changes in interest rates. The value of longer-term securities generally changes more in response to changes in interest rates than shorter-term securities. As a result, in a period of rising interest rates, securities may exhibit additional volatility and may lose value.

Prepayment Risk — When interest rates fall, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more quickly than originally anticipated, and the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields. In periods of falling interest rates, the rate of prepayments tends to increase (as does price fluctuation) as borrowers are motivated to pay off debt and refinance at new lower rates. During such periods, reinvestment of the prepayment proceeds by the management team will generally be at lower rates of return than the return on the assets that were prepaid. Prepayment reduces the yield to maturity and the average life of the security.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives may reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund's distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps – Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts – Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures – Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Options – An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a “call option”) or sell (a “put option”) the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the “exercise price”) during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or below the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

- **Emerging Markets Risk** — The risks of foreign investments are usually much greater for emerging markets. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets may include those in countries considered emerging or developing by the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation or the United Nations. Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. They are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets. Since these markets are often small, they may be more likely to suffer sharp and frequent price changes or long-term price depression because of adverse publicity, investor perceptions or the actions of a few large investors. In addition, traditional measures of investment value used in the United States, such as price to earnings ratios, may not apply to certain small markets. Also, there may be less publicly available information about issuers in emerging markets than would be available about issuers in more developed capital markets, and such issuers may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject.

Many emerging markets have histories of political instability and abrupt changes in policies. As a result, their governments are more likely to take actions that are hostile or detrimental to private enterprise or foreign investment than those of more developed countries, including expropriation of assets, confiscatory taxation, high rates of inflation or unfavorable diplomatic developments. In the past, governments of such nations have expropriated substantial amounts of private property, and most claims of the property owners have never been fully settled. There is no assurance that such expropriations will not reoccur. In such an event, it is possible that the Fund could lose the entire value of its investments in the affected market. Some countries have pervasive corruption and crime that may hinder investments. Certain emerging markets may also face other significant internal or external risks, including the risk of war, and ethnic, religious and racial conflicts. In addition, governments in many emerging market countries participate to a significant degree in their economies and securities markets, which may impair investment and economic growth. National policies that may limit the Fund's investment opportunities include restrictions on investment in issuers or industries deemed sensitive to national interests.

Emerging markets may also have differing legal systems and the existence or possible imposition of exchange controls, custodial restrictions or other foreign or U.S. governmental laws or restrictions applicable to such investments. Sometimes, they may lack or be in the relatively early development of legal structures governing private and foreign investments and private property. Many emerging markets do not have income tax treaties with the United States, and as a result, investments by the Fund may be subject to higher withholding taxes in such countries. In addition, some countries with emerging markets may impose differential capital gains taxes on foreign investors. Foreign companies with securities listed on U.S. exchanges may be delisted if they do not meet U.S. accounting standards and auditor oversight requirements, which may significantly decrease the liquidity and value of the securities.

Practices in relation to settlement of securities transactions in emerging markets involve higher risks than those in developed markets, in part because the Fund will need to use brokers and counterparties that are less well capitalized, and custody and registration of assets in some countries may be unreliable. The possibility of fraud, negligence, undue influence being exerted by the issuer or refusal to recognize ownership exists in some emerging markets, and, along with other factors, could result in ownership registration being completely lost. The Fund would absorb any loss resulting from such registration problems and may have no successful claim for compensation. In addition, communications between the United States and emerging market countries may be unreliable, increasing the risk of delayed settlements or losses of security certificates.

- **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.
- **Focus Risk** — Under normal circumstances, the Fund focuses its investments in the securities of a limited number of issuers. This may subject the Fund to greater issuer-specific risk and potential losses than a fund that invests in the securities of a greater number of issuers.
- **Foreign Securities Risk** — Securities traded in foreign markets have often (though not always) performed differently from securities traded in the United States. However, such investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. In particular, the Fund is subject to the risk that because there may be fewer investors on foreign exchanges and a smaller number of securities traded each day, it may be more difficult for the Fund to buy and sell securities on those exchanges. In addition, prices of foreign securities may go up and down more than prices of securities traded in the United States.

Certain Risks of Holding Fund Assets Outside the United States — The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories. Some foreign banks and securities depositories may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business. In addition, there may be limited or no regulatory oversight of their operations. Also, the laws of certain countries limit the Fund's ability to recover its assets if a foreign bank, depository or issuer of a security, or any of their agents, goes bankrupt. In addition, it is often more expensive for the Fund to buy, sell and hold securities in certain foreign markets than in the United States. The increased expense of investing in foreign markets reduces the amount the Fund can earn on its investments and typically results in a higher operating expense ratio for the Fund than for investment companies invested only in the United States.

Currency Risk — Securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests may be denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. For this reason, changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more U.S. dollars. This risk, generally known as "currency risk," means that a strong U.S. dollar will reduce returns for U.S. investors while a weak U.S. dollar will increase those returns.

Should the Fund invest in a debt security denominated in U.S. dollars and issued by an issuer whose functional currency is a currency other than the U.S. dollar, and such currency decreases in value against the U.S. dollar, such issuer's ability to repay its obligation under the U.S. dollar-denominated security may be negatively impacted.

Foreign Economy Risk — The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position. Certain foreign economies may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Investments in foreign markets may also be adversely affected by governmental actions such as the imposition of capital controls, nationalization of companies or industries, expropriation of assets or the imposition of punitive taxes. In addition, economic conditions, such as volatile currency exchange rates and interest rates, political events, military action and other conditions may, without prior warning, lead to the governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, prohibiting or imposing substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries. Capital controls and/or sanctions may include the prohibition of, or restrictions on, the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets and may also include retaliatory

actions of one government against another government, such as seizure of assets. Any of these actions could severely impair the Fund's ability to purchase, sell, transfer, receive, deliver or otherwise obtain exposure to foreign securities and assets, including the ability to transfer the Fund's assets or income back into the United States, and could negatively impact the value and/or liquidity of such assets or otherwise adversely affect the Fund's operations, causing the Fund to decline in value.

Other potential foreign market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on foreign government securities, difficulties in enforcing legal judgments in foreign courts and political and social instability. Diplomatic and political developments, including rapid and adverse political changes, social instability, regional conflicts, terrorism and war, could affect the economies, industries and securities and currency markets, and the value of the Fund's investments, in non-U.S. countries. These factors are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to predict and take into account with respect to the Fund's investments.

Governmental Supervision and Regulation/Accounting Standards — Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as such regulations exist in the United States. They also may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws. For example, some foreign countries may have no laws or rules against insider trading. Insider trading occurs when a person buys or sells a company's securities based on material non-public information about that company. In addition, some countries may have legal systems that may make it difficult for the Fund to vote proxies, exercise shareholder rights, and pursue legal remedies with respect to its foreign investments. Accounting standards in other countries are not necessarily the same as in the United States. If the accounting standards in another country do not require as much detail as U.S. accounting standards, it may be harder for Fund management to completely and accurately determine a company's financial condition.

Settlement Risk — Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets differ significantly from those in the United States. Foreign settlement and clearance procedures and trade regulations also may involve certain risks (such as delays in payment for or delivery of securities) not typically associated with the settlement of U.S. investments.

At times, settlements in certain foreign countries have not kept pace with the number of securities transactions. These problems may make it difficult for the Fund to carry out transactions. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a purchase of securities, it may miss attractive investment opportunities and certain of its assets may be uninvested with no return earned thereon for some period. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a sale of securities, it may lose money if the value of the security then declines or, if it has contracted to sell the security to another party, the Fund could be liable for any losses incurred.

Withholding Tax Reclaims Risk — The Fund may file claims to recover foreign withholding taxes on dividend and interest income (if any) received from issuers in certain countries and capital gains on the disposition of stocks or securities where such withholding tax reclaim is possible. Whether or when the Fund will receive a withholding tax refund is within the control of the tax authorities in such countries. Where the Fund expects to recover withholding taxes, the net asset value of the Fund generally includes accruals for such tax refunds. The Fund regularly evaluates the probability of recovery. If the likelihood of recovery materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders in the Fund at the time an accrual is written down will bear the impact of the resulting reduction in net asset value regardless of whether they were shareholders during the accrual period. Conversely, if the Fund receives a tax refund that has not been previously accrued, shareholders in the Fund at the time of the successful recovery will benefit from the resulting increase in the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders who sold their shares prior to such time will not benefit from such increase in the Fund's net asset value.

European Economic Risk — The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.

Responses to the financial problems by European governments, central banks and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Further defaults or restructurings by governments and others of their debt could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets and asset valuations around the world.

The United Kingdom has withdrawn from the European Union, and one or more other countries may withdraw from the European Union and/or abandon the Euro, the common currency of the European Union. These events and actions have adversely affected, and may in the future adversely affect, the value and exchange rate of the Euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including countries that do not use the Euro and non-European Union member states. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, is not clear but could be significant and far reaching. In addition, Russia launched a large-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The extent and duration of the military action, resulting sanctions and

resulting future market disruptions in the region are impossible to predict, but could be significant and have a severe adverse effect on the region, including significant negative impacts on the economy and the markets for certain securities and commodities, such as oil and natural gas, as well as other sectors.

- **Geographic Concentration Risk** — From time to time the Fund may invest a substantial amount of its assets in issuers located in a single country or a limited number of countries. If the Fund concentrates its investments in this manner, it assumes the risk that economic, political and social conditions in those countries will have a significant impact on its investment performance. The Fund's investment performance may also be more volatile if it concentrates its investments in certain countries, especially emerging market countries.
- **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.
- **High Yield Bonds Risk** — Although junk bonds generally pay higher rates of interest than investment grade bonds, junk bonds are high risk investments that are considered speculative and may cause income and principal losses for the Fund. The major risks of junk bond investments include:
 - Junk bonds may be issued by less creditworthy issuers. Issuers of junk bonds may have a larger amount of outstanding debt relative to their assets than issuers of investment grade bonds. In the event of an issuer's bankruptcy, claims of other creditors may have priority over the claims of junk bond holders, leaving few or no assets available to repay junk bond holders.
 - Prices of junk bonds are subject to extreme price fluctuations. Adverse changes in an issuer's industry and general economic conditions may have a greater impact on the prices of junk bonds than on other higher rated fixed-income securities.
 - Issuers of junk bonds may be unable to meet their interest or principal payment obligations because of an economic downturn, specific issuer developments, or the unavailability of additional financing.
 - Junk bonds frequently have redemption features that permit an issuer to repurchase the security from the Fund before it matures. If the issuer redeems junk bonds, the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in bonds with lower yields and may lose income.
 - Junk bonds may be less liquid than higher rated fixed-income securities, even under normal economic conditions. There are fewer dealers in the junk bond market, and there may be significant differences in the prices quoted for junk bonds by the dealers. Because they are less liquid than higher rated fixed-income securities, judgment may play a greater role in valuing junk bonds than is the case with securities trading in a more liquid market.
 - The Fund may incur expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting issuer.

The credit rating of a high yield security does not necessarily address its market value risk. Ratings and market value may change from time to time, positively or negatively, to reflect new developments regarding the issuer.

- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, growth investments have performed better during the later stages of economic expansion and value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, these investment styles may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.
- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its

investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Mid Cap Securities Risk** — The securities of mid cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are generally subject to greater and less predictable price changes than the securities of larger capitalization companies.

■ **Mortgage- and Asset-Backed Securities Risks** — Mortgage-backed securities (residential and commercial) and asset-backed securities represent interests in “pools” of mortgages or other assets, including consumer loans or receivables held in trust. Although asset-backed and commercial mortgage-backed securities (“CMBS”) generally experience less prepayment than residential mortgage-backed securities, mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities, like traditional fixed-income securities, are subject to credit, interest rate, prepayment and extension risks.

Small movements in interest rates (both increases and decreases) may quickly and significantly reduce the value of certain mortgage-backed securities. The Fund’s investments in asset-backed securities are subject to risks similar to those associated with mortgage-related securities, as well as additional risks associated with the nature of the assets and the servicing of those assets. These securities also are subject to the risk of default on the underlying mortgages or assets, particularly during periods of economic downturn. Certain CMBS are issued in several classes with different levels of yield and credit protection. The Fund’s investments in CMBS with several classes may be in the lower classes that have greater risks than the higher classes, including greater interest rate, credit and prepayment risks.

Mortgage-backed securities may be either pass-through securities or collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”). Pass-through securities represent a right to receive principal and interest payments collected on a pool of mortgages, which are passed through to security holders. CMOs are created by dividing the principal and interest payments collected on a pool of mortgages into several revenue streams (“tranches”) with different priority rights to portions of the underlying mortgage payments. Certain CMO tranches may represent a right to receive interest only (“IOs”), principal only (“POs”) or an amount that remains after floating-rate tranches are paid (an “inverse floater”). These securities are frequently referred to as “mortgage derivatives” and may be extremely sensitive to changes in interest rates. Interest rates on inverse floaters, for example, vary inversely with a short-term floating rate (which may be reset periodically). Interest rates on inverse floaters will decrease when short-term rates increase, and will increase when short-term rates decrease. These securities have the effect of providing a degree of investment leverage. In response to changes in market interest rates or other market conditions, the value of an inverse floater may increase or decrease at a multiple of the increase or decrease in the value of the underlying securities. If the Fund invests in CMO tranches (including CMO tranches issued by government agencies) and interest rates move in a manner not anticipated by Fund management, it is possible that the Fund could lose all or substantially all of its investment. Certain mortgage-backed securities in which the Fund may invest may also provide a degree of investment leverage, which could cause the Fund to lose all or substantially all of its investment.

The mortgage market in the United States has experienced difficulties that may adversely affect the performance and market value of certain of the Fund’s mortgage-related investments. Delinquencies and losses on mortgage loans (including subprime and second-lien mortgage loans) and a decline in or flattening of real estate values (in each case as has been experienced and may continue to be experienced in many housing markets) may exacerbate such delinquencies and losses. Also, a number of mortgage loan originators have experienced serious financial difficulties or bankruptcy. Reduced investor demand for mortgage loans and mortgage-related securities and increased investor yield requirements have caused limited liquidity in the secondary market for mortgage-related securities, which can adversely affect the market value of mortgage-related securities. It is possible that such limited liquidity in such secondary markets could continue or worsen.

Asset-backed securities entail certain risks not presented by mortgage-backed securities, including the risk that in certain states it may be difficult to perfect the liens securing the collateral backing certain asset-backed securities. In addition, certain asset-backed securities are based on loans that are unsecured, which means that there is no collateral to seize if the underlying borrower defaults.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Supranational Entities Risk** — The Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by the World Bank. The government members, or “stockholders,” usually make initial capital contributions to the World Bank and in many cases are committed to make additional capital contributions if the World Bank is unable to repay its borrowings. There is no guarantee that one or more stockholders of the World Bank will continue to make any necessary additional capital contributions. If such contributions are not made, the entity may be unable to pay interest or repay principal on its debt securities, and the Fund may lose money on such investments.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

■ **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund’s portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund’s return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.

■ **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund’s adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund’s business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund’s service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.

■ **Depository Receipts Risk** — Depository receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. In addition to investment risks associated with the underlying issuer, depository receipts expose the Fund to additional risks associated with the non-uniform terms that apply to depository receipt programs, credit exposure to the depository bank and to the sponsors and other parties with whom the depository bank establishes the programs, currency risk and the risk of an illiquid market for depository receipts. The issuers of unsponsored depository receipts are not obligated to disclose information that is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depository receipts. While depository receipts provide an alternative to directly purchasing underlying foreign securities in their respective markets and currencies, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities, including political, economic, and currency risk.

■ **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund’s net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund’s net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund’s expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund’s expense ratio could be significant.

■ **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund’s liquidity risk management program. The Fund’s illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund’s holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund’s principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.

■ **Indexed and Inverse Securities Risk** — Indexed and inverse securities provide a potential return based on a particular index of value or interest rates. The Fund’s return on these securities will be subject to risk with respect to the value of the particular index. These securities are subject to leverage risk and correlation risk. Certain indexed and inverse securities have greater sensitivity to changes in interest rates or index levels than other securities, and the Fund’s investment in such instruments may decline significantly in value if interest rates or index levels move in a way Fund management does not anticipate.

- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.
- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund’s adviser or an affiliate of the Fund’s adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund’s liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund’s NAV and increase the Fund’s brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund’s remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund’s current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund’s expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager’s ability to implement a fund’s investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund’s performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.
- **“New Issues” Risk** — “New issues” are IPOs of equity securities. Investments in companies that have recently gone public have the potential to produce substantial gains for the Fund. However, there is no assurance that the Fund will have access to profitable IPOs and therefore investors should not rely on these past gains as an indication of future performance. The investment performance of the Fund during periods when it is unable to invest significantly or at all in IPOs may be lower than during periods when the Fund is able to do so. In addition, as the Fund increases in size, the impact of IPOs on the Fund’s performance will generally decrease. Securities issued in IPOs are subject to many of the same risks as investing in companies with smaller market capitalizations. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO. When an IPO is brought to the market, availability may be limited and the Fund may not be able to buy any shares at the offering price, or, if it is able to buy shares, it may not be able to buy as many shares at the offering price as it would like.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund’s service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock’s parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock’s personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities,

the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available, and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.

■ **Reverse Repurchase Agreements Risk** — Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities held by the Fund with an agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price, date and interest payment. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the other party may fail to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by the Fund, including the value of the investments made with cash collateral, is less than the value of the securities. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. In addition, reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the interest income earned in the investment of the proceeds will be less than the interest expense.

■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

■ **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC (“BIM”), the Fund’s securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund’s securities lending program.

■ **Small Cap and Emerging Growth Securities Risk** — Small cap or emerging growth companies may have limited product lines or markets. They may be less financially secure than larger, more established companies. They may depend on a small number of key personnel. If a product fails or there are other adverse developments, or if management changes, the Fund’s investment in a small cap or emerging growth company may lose substantial value. In addition, it is more difficult to get information on smaller companies, which tend to be less well known, have shorter operating histories, do not have significant ownership by large investors and are followed by relatively few securities analysts.

The securities of small cap and emerging growth companies generally trade in lower volumes and are subject to greater and more unpredictable price changes than larger cap securities or the market as a whole. In addition, small cap and emerging growth securities may be particularly sensitive to changes in interest rates, borrowing costs and earnings. Investing in small cap and emerging growth securities requires a longer term view.

■ **Sovereign Debt Risk** — Sovereign debt instruments are subject to the risk that a governmental entity may delay or refuse to pay interest or repay principal on its sovereign debt, due, for example, to cash flow problems, insufficient foreign currency reserves, political considerations, the relative size of the governmental entity’s debt position in relation to the economy or the failure to put in place economic reforms required by the International Monetary Fund or other multilateral agencies. If a governmental entity defaults, it may ask for more time in which to pay or for further loans. There is no legal process for collecting sovereign debt that a government does not pay nor are there bankruptcy proceedings through which all or part of the sovereign debt that a governmental entity has not repaid may be collected.

■ **Standby Commitment Agreements Risk** — Standby commitment agreements involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery to the Fund and will no longer be worth what the Fund has agreed to pay for it. These agreements also involve the risk that if the security goes up in value, the counterparty will decide not to issue the security. In this case, the Fund loses both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security’s price.

■ **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund’s valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that

are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund's ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.

- **Warrants Risk** — If the price of the underlying stock does not rise above the exercise price before the warrant expires, the warrant generally expires without any value and the Fund will lose any amount it paid for the warrant. Thus, investments in warrants may involve substantially more risk than investments in common stock. Warrants may trade in the same markets as their underlying stock; however, the price of the warrant does not necessarily move with the price of the underlying stock.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security's price.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights table is intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | BlackRock International V.I. Fund | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Class I | | | | |
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 8.55 | \$ 11.88 | \$ 14.27 | \$ 12.02 | \$ 9.20 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.10 | 0.07 | 0.11 | 0.05 | 0.14 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.52 | (3.01) | 1.12 | 2.46 | 2.81 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.62 | (2.94) | 1.23 | 2.51 | 2.95 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.08) | (0.08) | (0.11) | (0.06) | (0.13) |
| From net realized gain | — | (0.31) | (3.51) | (0.20) | — |
| Total distributions | (0.08) | (0.39) | (3.62) | (0.26) | (0.13) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 10.09 | \$ 8.55 | \$ 11.88 | \$ 14.27 | \$ 12.02 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 19.02% | (24.62)% | 8.68% | 21.32% | 32.12% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.17% | 1.17% | 1.12% | 1.14% | 1.12% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.86% | 0.90% | 0.93% | 0.93% | 0.97% |
| Net investment income | 1.02% | 0.77% | 0.69% | 0.43% | 1.31% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$81,725 | \$74,381 | \$103,072 | \$102,753 | \$95,143 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 102% | 102% | 80% | 98% | 104% |

(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

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Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek long-term capital growth.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.65% | 0.65% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses ^{2,3} | 0.27% | 0.30% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses ^{2,3} | 0.92% | 1.20% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,4} | (0.13)% | (0.16)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,4} | 0.79% | 1.04% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2026. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2026. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² Other Expenses have been restated to reflect current fees.

³ The Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses do not correlate to the ratios of expenses to average net assets given in the Fund’s most recent annual report, due to the restatement of Other Expenses to reflect current fees.

⁴ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.79% (for Class I Shares) and 1.04% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2026. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0.07% (for Class I Shares) and 0.07% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2026. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$ 81 | \$267 | \$483 | \$1,107 |
| Class III Shares | \$106 | \$348 | \$628 | \$1,425 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 27% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

Under normal circumstances, the Fund seeks to invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in large cap equity securities and derivatives that have similar economic characteristics to such securities. For purposes of the Fund's 80% policy, large cap equity securities are equity securities that at the time of purchase have a market capitalization within the range of companies included in the Russell 1000[®] Growth Index. The Fund primarily intends to invest in equity securities, which include common stock, preferred stock and convertible securities, or other financial instruments that are components of, or have characteristics similar to, the securities included in the Russell 1000[®] Growth Index. The Russell 1000[®] Growth Index is a capitalization-weighted index from a broad range of industries chosen for market size, liquidity and industry group representation.

The Fund is a growth fund that invests primarily in common stock. The Fund may invest without limitation in the securities of foreign companies in the form of American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs").

In addition to ADRs, the Fund may also invest up to 20% of its total assets in other forms of securities of foreign companies, including European Depositary Receipts, which are receipts typically issued in Europe evidencing an ownership arrangement with the foreign company or other securities of foreign companies.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of the principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

- **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.
- **Focus Risk** — Under normal circumstances, the Fund focuses its investments in the securities of a limited number of issuers. This may subject the Fund to greater issuer-specific risk and potential losses than a fund that invests in the securities of a greater number of issuers.
- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, growth investments have performed better during the later stages of economic expansion. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Commodities Related Investments Risk** — Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of commodity-linked derivative investments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in inflation, interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments.
- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of the issuer's creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.
- **Depositary Receipts Risk** — Depositary receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. In addition to investment risks associated with the underlying issuer, depositary receipts expose the Fund to additional risks associated with the non-uniform terms that apply to depositary receipt programs, credit exposure to the depository bank and to the sponsors and other parties with whom the depository bank establishes the programs, currency risk and the risk of an illiquid market for depositary receipts. The issuers of unsponsored depositary receipts are not obligated to disclose information that is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depositary receipts. While depositary receipts provide an alternative to directly purchasing underlying foreign securities in their respective markets and currencies, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities, including political, economic, and currency risk.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them.

Hedging Risk — Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences.

Tax Risk — Certain aspects of the tax treatment of derivative instruments, including swap agreements and commodity-linked derivative instruments, are currently unclear and may be affected by changes in legislation, regulations or other legally binding authority. Such treatment may be less favorable than that given to a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments.

■ **Foreign Securities Risk** — Foreign investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. These risks include:

■ The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories, which may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business and may be subject to only limited or no regulatory oversight.

■ Changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.

■ The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position.

■ The governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, may prohibit or impose substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries, which may prohibit or restrict the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets.

■ Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as does the United States and may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws.

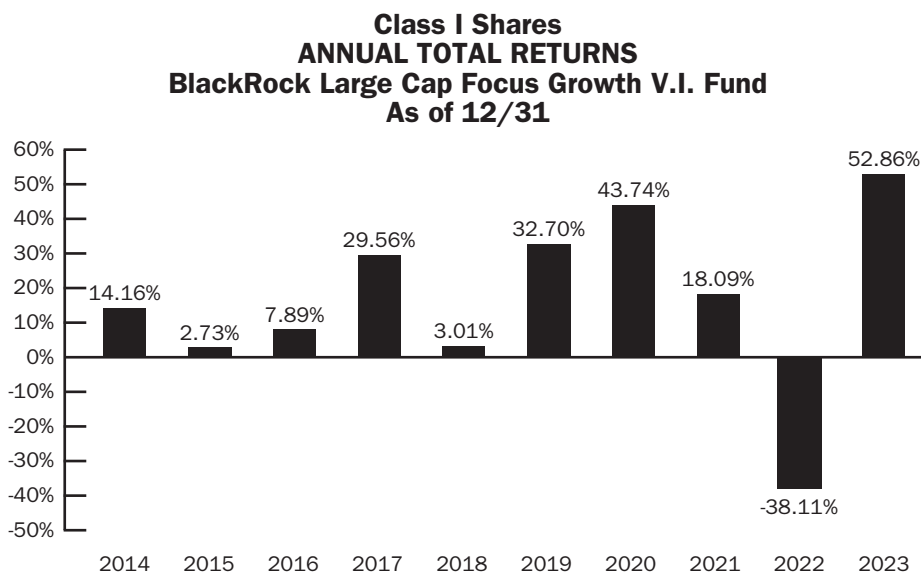
■ Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets may result in delays in payment for or delivery of securities not typically associated with settlement and clearance of U.S. investments.

- The Fund's claims to recover foreign withholding taxes may not be successful, and if the likelihood of recovery of foreign withholding taxes materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value.
- The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.
- **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.
- **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.
- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.
- **"New Issues" Risk** — "New issues" are initial public offerings ("IPOs") of equity securities. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO.
- **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company's preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.
- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund's performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The Fund's returns prior to June 12, 2017 as reflected in the bar chart and the table are the returns of the Fund when it followed different investment strategies under the name "BlackRock Large Cap Growth V.I. Fund." The table compares the Fund's performance to that of the Russell 1000® Growth Index. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund's investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund's returns would have been lower.



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 29.89% (quarter ended June 30, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was -22.79% (quarter ended June 30, 2022).

For the periods ended 12/31/23 Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|--|--------|---------|----------|
| BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 52.86% | 16.34% | 13.66% |
| BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 52.47% | 16.05% | 13.38% |
| Russell 1000® Growth Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 42.68% | 19.50% | 14.86% |

Investment Manager

The Fund's investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as "BlackRock").

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Phil Ruvinsky | 2020 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Caroline Bottinelli | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the "Insurance Companies") and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the "Accounts") to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company's website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek long-term capital growth.

This investment objective is a fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without approval of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”).

Investment Process

Companies are selected through a process of both top-down macro-economic analysis of economic and business conditions, and bottom-up analysis of the business fundamentals of individual companies. The Fund will emphasize common stock of companies with mid to large stock market capitalizations; however, the Fund also may invest in the common stock of small companies. The stocks are selected from a universe of companies that Fund management believes have above average growth potential. Fund management will make investment decisions based on judgments regarding several valuation parameters relative to anticipated rates of growth in earnings and potential rates of return on equity.

Principal Investment Strategies

Under normal circumstances, the Fund seeks to invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in large cap equity securities, and derivatives that have similar economic characteristics to such securities. For purposes of the Fund’s 80% policy, large cap equity securities are equity securities that at the time of purchase have a market capitalization within the range of companies included in the Russell 1000[®] Growth Index. The Fund primarily intends to invest in equity securities, which include common stock, preferred stock and convertible securities, or other financial instruments that are components of, or have characteristics similar to, the securities included in the Russell 1000[®] Growth Index. The Russell 1000[®] Growth Index is a capitalization-weighted index from a broad range of industries chosen for market size, liquidity and industry group representation.

The Fund is a growth fund that invests primarily in common stock. The Fund may invest without limitation in the securities of foreign companies in the form of American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”).

In addition to ADRs, the Fund may also invest up to 20% of its total assets in other forms of securities of foreign companies, including European Depositary Receipts, which are receipts typically issued in Europe evidencing an ownership arrangement with the foreign company or other securities of foreign companies.

The above 80% policy is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without 60 days’ prior notice to shareholders.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions.
- **Emerging Market Issuers** — The Fund may also invest a portion of its assets in securities of issuers located in emerging markets.
- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.
- **Investment Companies** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs.

- **Money Market Securities** — The Fund may invest in money market securities or commercial paper.
- **Real Estate Investment Trusts (“REITs”)** — The Fund may invest in REITs. REITs are companies that own interests in real estate or in real estate related loans or other interests, and have revenue primarily consisting of rent derived from owned, income producing real estate properties and capital gains from the sale of such properties. REITs can generally be classified as equity REITs, mortgage REITs and hybrid REITs. Equity REITs invest the majority of their assets directly in real property and derive their income primarily from rents. Equity REITs can also realize capital gains by selling properties that have appreciated in value.
Mortgage REITs invest the majority of their assets in real estate mortgages and derive their income primarily from interest payments. Hybrid REITs combine the characteristics of both equity REITs and mortgage REITs. REITs are not taxed on income distributed to shareholders provided they comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”).
- **Restricted Securities** — Restricted securities are securities that cannot be offered for public resale unless registered under the applicable securities laws or that have a contractual restriction that prohibits or limits their resale. They may include Rule 144A securities, which are privately placed securities that can be resold to qualified institutional buyers but not to the general public, and securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are offered pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Temporary Defensive Strategies** — For temporary defensive purposes, for example, to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and may restrict the markets in which it invests and may invest without limitation in cash, cash equivalents, money market securities, such as U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, other U.S. Government securities, short-term debt obligations of corporate issuers, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances, commercial paper (short-term, unsecured, negotiable promissory notes of a domestic or foreign issuer) or other high quality fixed income securities. Temporary defensive positions may affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF LARGE CAP FOCUS GROWTH V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Phil Ruvinsky and Caroline Bottinelli are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

- **Commodities Related Investments Risk** — Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of commodity-linked derivative investments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in inflation, interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments.
- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.
- **Depository Receipts Risk** — Depository receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. In addition to investment risks associated with the underlying issuer, depository receipts expose the Fund to additional risks associated with the non-uniform terms that apply to depository receipt programs, credit exposure to the depository bank and to the sponsors and other

parties with whom the depository bank establishes the programs, currency risk and the risk of an illiquid market for depository receipts. The issuers of unsponsored depository receipts are not obligated to disclose information that is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depository receipts. While depository receipts provide an alternative to directly purchasing underlying foreign securities in their respective markets and currencies, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities, including political, economic, and currency risk.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives may reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund's distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS").

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators

that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps – Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard “swap” transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts – Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures – Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Options – An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a “call option”) or sell (a “put option”) the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the “exercise price”) during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or below the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

■ **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.

■ **Focus Risk** — Under normal circumstances, the Fund focuses its investments in the securities of a limited number of issuers. This may subject the Fund to greater issuer-specific risk and potential losses than a fund that invests in the securities of a greater number of issuers.

■ **Foreign Securities Risk** — Securities traded in foreign markets have often (though not always) performed differently from securities traded in the United States. However, such investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. In particular, the Fund is subject to the risk that because there may be fewer investors on foreign exchanges and a smaller number of securities traded each day, it may be more difficult for the Fund to buy and sell securities on those exchanges. In addition, prices of foreign securities may go up and down more than prices of securities traded in the United States.

Certain Risks of Holding Fund Assets Outside the United States — The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories. Some foreign banks and securities depositories may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business. In addition, there may be limited or no regulatory oversight of their operations. Also, the laws of certain countries limit the Fund's ability to recover its assets if a foreign bank, depository or issuer of a security, or any of their agents, goes bankrupt. In addition, it is often more expensive for the Fund to buy, sell and hold securities in certain foreign markets than in the United States. The increased expense of investing in foreign markets reduces the amount the Fund can earn on its investments and typically results in a higher operating expense ratio for the Fund than for investment companies invested only in the United States.

Currency Risk — Securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests may be denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. For this reason, changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more U.S. dollars. This risk, generally known as "currency risk," means that a strong U.S. dollar will reduce returns for U.S. investors while a weak U.S. dollar will increase those returns.

Foreign Economy Risk — The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position. Certain foreign economies may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Investments in foreign markets may also be adversely affected by governmental actions such as the imposition of capital controls, nationalization of companies or industries, expropriation of assets or the imposition of punitive taxes. In addition, economic conditions, such as volatile currency exchange rates and interest rates, political events, military action and other conditions may, without prior warning, lead to the governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, prohibiting or imposing substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries. Capital controls and/or sanctions may include the prohibition of, or restrictions on, the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets and may also include retaliatory actions of one government against another government, such as seizure of assets. Any of these actions could severely impair the Fund's ability to purchase, sell, transfer, receive, deliver or otherwise obtain exposure to foreign securities and assets, including the ability to transfer the Fund's assets or income back into the United States, and could negatively impact the value and/or liquidity of such assets or otherwise adversely affect the Fund's operations, causing the Fund to decline in value.

Other potential foreign market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on foreign government securities, difficulties in enforcing legal judgments in foreign courts and political and social instability. Diplomatic and political developments, including rapid and adverse political changes, social instability, regional conflicts, terrorism and war, could affect the economies, industries and securities and currency markets, and the value of the Fund's investments, in non-U.S. countries. These factors are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to predict and take into account with respect to the Fund's investments.

Governmental Supervision and Regulation/Accounting Standards — Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as such regulations exist in the United States. They also may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws. For example, some foreign countries may have no laws or rules against insider trading. Insider trading occurs when a person buys or sells a company's securities based on material non-public information about that company. In addition, some countries may have legal systems that may make it difficult for the Fund to vote proxies, exercise shareholder rights, and pursue legal remedies with respect to its foreign investments. Accounting standards in other countries are not necessarily the same as in the United States. If the accounting standards in another country do not require as much detail as U.S. accounting standards, it may be harder for Fund management to completely and accurately determine a company's financial condition.

Settlement Risk — Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets differ significantly from those in the United States. Foreign settlement and clearance procedures and trade regulations also may involve certain risks (such as delays in payment for or delivery of securities) not typically associated with the settlement of U.S. investments.

At times, settlements in certain foreign countries have not kept pace with the number of securities transactions. These problems may make it difficult for the Fund to carry out transactions. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a purchase of securities, it may miss attractive investment opportunities and certain of its assets may be uninvested with no return earned thereon for some period. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a sale of securities, it may lose money if the value of the security then declines or, if it has contracted to sell the security to another party, the Fund could be liable for any losses incurred.

Withholding Tax Reclaims Risk — The Fund may file claims to recover foreign withholding taxes on dividend and interest income (if any) received from issuers in certain countries and capital gains on the disposition of stocks or securities where such withholding tax reclaim is possible. Whether or when the Fund will receive a withholding tax refund is within the control of the tax authorities in such countries. Where the Fund expects to recover withholding taxes, the net asset value of the Fund generally includes accruals for such tax refunds. The Fund regularly evaluates the probability of recovery. If the likelihood of recovery materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders in the Fund at the time an accrual is written down will bear the impact of the resulting reduction in net asset value regardless of whether they were shareholders during the accrual period. Conversely, if the Fund receives a tax refund that has not been previously accrued, shareholders in the Fund at the time of the successful recovery will benefit from the resulting increase in the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders who sold their shares prior to such time will not benefit from such increase in the Fund's net asset value.

European Economic Risk — The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.

Responses to the financial problems by European governments, central banks and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Further defaults or restructurings by governments and others of their debt could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets and asset valuations around the world.

The United Kingdom has withdrawn from the European Union, and one or more other countries may withdraw from the European Union and/or abandon the Euro, the common currency of the European Union. These events and actions have adversely affected, and may in the future adversely affect, the value and exchange rate of the Euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including countries that do not use the Euro and non-European Union member states. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, is not clear but could be significant and far reaching. In addition, Russia launched a large-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The extent and duration of the military action, resulting sanctions and resulting future market disruptions in the region are impossible to predict, but could be significant and have a severe adverse effect on the region, including significant negative impacts on the economy and the markets for certain securities and commodities, such as oil and natural gas, as well as other sectors.

■ **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.

■ **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, growth investments have performed better during the later stages of economic expansion. Therefore, this investment style may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the SEC the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that

are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

- **“New Issues” Risk** — “New issues” are initial public offerings (“IPOs”) of equity securities. Investments in companies that have recently gone public have the potential to produce substantial gains for the Fund. However, there is no assurance that the Fund will have access to profitable IPOs and therefore investors should not rely on these past gains as an indication of future performance. The investment performance of the Fund during periods when it is unable to invest significantly or at all in IPOs may be lower than during periods when the Fund is able to do so. In addition, as the Fund increases in size, the impact of IPOs on the Fund’s performance will generally decrease. Securities issued in IPOs are subject to many of the same risks as investing in companies with smaller market capitalizations. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO. When an IPO is brought to the market, availability may be limited and the Fund may not be able to buy any shares at the offering price, or, if it is able to buy shares, it may not be able to buy as many shares at the offering price as it would like.
- **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.
- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

- **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund’s portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund’s return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.
- **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund’s adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund’s business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund’s service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.

■ **Emerging Markets Risk** — The risks of foreign investments are usually much greater for emerging markets. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets may include those in countries considered emerging or developing by the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation or the United Nations. Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. They are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets. Since these markets are often small, they may be more likely to suffer sharp and frequent price changes or long-term price depression because of adverse publicity, investor perceptions or the actions of a few large investors. In addition, traditional measures of investment value used in the United States, such as price to earnings ratios, may not apply to certain small markets. Also, there may be less publicly available information about issuers in emerging markets than would be available about issuers in more developed capital markets, and such issuers may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject. Communications between the United States and emerging market countries may be unreliable, increasing the risk of delayed settlements or losses of security certificates. In addition, foreign companies with securities listed on U.S. exchanges may be delisted if they do not meet U.S. accounting standards and auditor oversight requirements, which may significantly decrease the liquidity and value of the securities.

Many emerging markets have histories of political instability and abrupt changes in policies. As a result, their governments are more likely to take actions that are hostile or detrimental to private enterprise or foreign investment than those of more developed countries. Some countries have pervasive corruption and crime that may hinder investments. Certain emerging markets may also face other significant internal or external risks, including the risk of war, and ethnic, religious and racial conflicts. In addition, governments in many emerging market countries participate to a significant degree in their economies and securities markets, which may impair investment and economic growth.

■ **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.

■ **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.

■ **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.

■ **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund's adviser or an affiliate of the Fund's adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund's liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund's NAV and increase the Fund's brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income

and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund's remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund's current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund's expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager's ability to implement a fund's investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund's performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.

- **Money Market Securities Risk** — If market conditions improve while the Fund has invested some or all of its assets in high quality money market securities, this strategy could result in reducing the potential gain from the market upswing, thus reducing the Fund's opportunity to achieve its investment objective.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **Real Estate-Related Securities Risk** — The main risk of real estate-related securities is that the value of the underlying real estate may go down. Many factors may affect real estate values. These factors include both the general and local economies, vacancy rates, change in rent schedules, tenant bankruptcies, the ability to re-lease space under expiring leases on attractive terms, the amount of new construction in a particular area, the laws and regulations (including zoning, environmental and tax laws) affecting real estate and the costs of owning, maintaining and improving real estate. The availability of mortgage financing and changes in interest rates may also affect real estate values. If the Fund's real estate-related investments are concentrated in one geographic area or in one property type, the Fund will be particularly subject to the risks associated with that area or property type. Many issuers of real estate-related securities are highly leveraged, which increases the risk to holders of such securities. The value of the securities the Fund buys will not necessarily track the value of the underlying investments of the issuers of such securities. In addition, certain issuers of real estate-related securities may have developed or commenced development on properties and may develop additional properties in the future. Real estate development involves significant risks in addition to those involved in the ownership and operation of established properties. Real estate securities may have limited diversification and are, therefore, subject to risks inherent in operating and financing a limited number of projects. Real estate securities are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency and defaults by borrowers or tenants.
- **REIT Investment Risk** — In addition to the risks facing real estate-related securities, such as a decline in property values due to increasing vacancies, a decline in rents resulting from unanticipated economic, legal or technological developments or a decline in the price of securities of real estate companies due to a failure of borrowers to pay their loans or poor management, investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume, may engage in dilutive offerings of securities and may be more volatile than other securities. REIT issuers may also fail to maintain their exemptions from investment company registration or fail to qualify for the "dividends paid deduction" under the Internal Revenue Code, which allows REITs to reduce their corporate taxable income for dividends paid to their shareholders.
- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock's parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock's personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities, the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available,

and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.

■ **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC (“BIM”), the Fund’s securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund’s securities lending program.

■ **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund’s valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund’s ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

| BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Class I | | | | | |
| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 12.67 | \$ 21.82 | \$ 21.58 | \$ 15.91 | \$ 13.32 |
| Net investment loss ^(a) | (0.02) | (0.02) | (0.09) | (0.06) | (0.04) |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 6.70 | (8.23) | 3.89 | 6.97 | 4.36 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 6.68 | (8.25) | 3.80 | 6.91 | 4.32 |
| Distributions from net realized gain^(b) | (0.33) | (0.90) | (3.56) | (1.24) | (1.73) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 19.02 | \$ 12.67 | \$ 21.82 | \$ 21.58 | \$ 15.91 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 52.86% | (38.11)% | 18.09% | 43.74% | 32.70% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.93% | 0.91% | 0.90% | 0.91% | 0.95% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.83% | 0.79% | 0.77% | 0.78% | 0.81% |
| Net investment loss | (0.15)% | (0.11)% | (0.40)% | (0.35)% | (0.27)% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$106,676 | \$87,220 | \$150,211 | \$139,807 | \$106,238 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 27% | 50% | 52% | 54% | 58% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

Financial Highlights (concluded)

BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Class III | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 12.25 | \$ 21.19 | \$ 21.10 | \$ 15.61 | \$ 13.13 |
| Net investment loss ^(a) | (0.06) | (0.05) | (0.15) | (0.11) | (0.08) |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 6.47 | (7.99) | 3.80 | 6.84 | 4.29 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 6.41 | (8.04) | 3.65 | 6.73 | 4.21 |
| Distributions from net realized gain^(b) | (0.29) | (0.90) | (3.56) | (1.24) | (1.73) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 18.37 | \$ 12.25 | \$ 21.19 | \$ 21.10 | \$ 15.61 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 52.47% | (38.25)% | 17.78% | 43.43% | 32.33% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.21% | 1.18% | 1.16% | 1.16% | 1.20% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 1.08% | 1.04% | 1.02% | 1.03% | 1.06% |
| Net investment loss | (0.40)% | (0.36)% | (0.65)% | (0.60)% | (0.52)% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$134,133 | \$83,884 | \$162,772 | \$146,794 | \$92,261 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 27% | 50% | 52% | 54% | 58% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

The Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission have not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek a level of current income and degree of stability of principal not normally available from an investment solely in equity securities, as well as the opportunity for capital appreciation greater than is normally available from an investment solely in debt securities.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.55% | 0.55% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses | 0.55% | 0.55% |
| Interest Expense | 0.02% | 0.02% |
| Miscellaneous Other Expenses | 0.53% | 0.53% |
| Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses ² | 0.01% | 0.01% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses ² | 1.11% | 1.36% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,3} | (0.49)% | (0.49)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,3} | 0.62% | 0.87% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² The Total Annual Operating Expenses do not correlate to the ratios of expenses to average net assets given in the Fund’s most recent annual report, which do not include Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses.

³ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.59% (for Class I Shares) and 0.84% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0% (for Class I Shares) and 0% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| Class I Shares | \$63 | \$304 | \$564 | \$1,308 |
| Class III Shares | \$89 | \$382 | \$698 | \$1,592 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 166% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund uses an asset allocation strategy, investing varying percentages of its portfolio in three major categories: stocks, bonds and money market instruments. The Fund has wide flexibility in the relative weightings given to each category. The Fund seeks to provide total return through its equity, fixed-income and other investment strategies.

With respect to its equity investments, the Fund may invest in individual equity securities to an unlimited extent. The Fund may invest in common stock, preferred stock, securities convertible into common stock, non-convertible preferred stock and depositary receipts. The Fund may invest in securities of both U.S. and non-U.S. issuers without limit, which can be U.S. dollar-based or non-U.S. dollar-based and may be currency hedged or unhedged. The Fund may invest in securities of companies of any market capitalization.

With respect to its fixed-income investments, the Fund may invest in individual fixed-income securities to an unlimited extent. The Fund may invest in a portfolio of fixed-income securities such as corporate bonds and notes, commercial and residential mortgage-backed securities (bonds that are backed by a mortgage loan or pools of loans secured either by commercial property or residential mortgages, as applicable), collateralized mortgage obligations (bonds that are backed by cash flows from pools of mortgages and may have multiple classes with different payment rights and protections), collateralized debt obligations, asset-backed securities, convertible securities, debt obligations of governments and their sub-divisions (including those of non-U.S. governments), other floating or variable rate obligations, municipal obligations and zero coupon debt securities. The Fund may also invest a significant portion of its assets in non-investment grade bonds (commonly called “junk” bonds or distressed securities), non-investment grade bank loans, foreign bonds (both U.S. dollar- and non-U.S. dollar-denominated) and bonds of emerging market issuers. The Fund may invest in non-U.S. dollar-denominated bonds on a currency hedged or unhedged basis.

With respect to its cash investments, the Fund may hold high quality money market securities, including short term U.S. Government securities, U.S. Government agency securities, securities issued by U.S. Government-sponsored enterprises and U.S. Government instrumentalities, bank obligations, commercial paper, including asset-backed commercial paper, corporate notes and repurchase agreements. The Fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in money market funds, including those advised by BlackRock or its affiliates.

The Fund may invest in derivatives, including, but not limited to, interest rate, total return and credit default swaps, options, futures, options on futures and swaps and foreign currency transactions (including swaps), for hedging purposes, as well as to increase the return on its portfolio investments. The Fund may seek to obtain market exposure to the securities in which it primarily invests by entering into a series of purchase and sale contracts or by using other investment techniques (such as reverse repurchase agreements or dollar rolls). The Fund may also use forward foreign currency exchange contracts (obligations to buy or sell a currency at a set rate in the future) to hedge against movement in the value of non-U.S. currencies.

The Fund may invest in indexed and inverse floating rate securities.

The Fund may invest in U.S. and non-U.S. real estate investment trusts (“REITs”), structured products (including, but not limited to, structured notes, credit linked notes and participation notes, or other instruments evidencing interests in special purpose vehicles, trusts, or other entities that hold or represent interests in fixed-income securities) and floating rate securities (such as bank loans).

The Fund incorporates a volatility control process that seeks to reduce risk when the portfolio’s volatility is expected to exceed 10%. Volatility is a statistical measurement of the magnitude of up and down fluctuations in the value of a financial instrument or index. Volatility may result in rapid and dramatic price swings. While BlackRock attempts to manage the Fund’s volatility to stabilize performance, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will be successful. The Fund may without limitation allocate assets into cash or short-term fixed-income securities, and away from riskier assets such as equity and high yield fixed-income securities. At any given time, the Fund may be invested entirely in equities, fixed-income or cash. As part of its attempt to manage the Fund’s volatility exposure, during certain periods the Fund may make significant investments in index futures or other derivative instruments designed to reduce the Fund’s exposure to portfolio volatility. The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of portfolio securities to achieve its primary investment strategies.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

■ **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.

■ **Debt Securities Risk** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve risks, such as credit risk, interest rate risk, extension risk, and prepayment risk, each of which are described in further detail below:

Credit Risk — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make payments of interest and principal when due. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund's investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation.

Interest Rate Risk — The market value of bonds and other fixed-income securities changes in response to interest rate changes and other factors. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise. The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. For example, if interest rates increase by 1%, assuming a current portfolio duration of ten years, and all other factors being equal, the value of the Fund's investments would be expected to decrease by 10%. (Duration is a measure of the price sensitivity of a debt security or portfolio of debt securities to relative changes in interest rates.) The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of bonds and other fixed-income securities is generally greater for those securities with longer maturities. Fluctuations in the market price of the Fund's investments will not affect interest income derived from instruments already owned by the Fund, but will be reflected in the Fund's net asset value. The Fund may lose money if short-term or long-term interest rates rise sharply in a manner not anticipated by Fund management. To the extent the Fund invests in debt securities that may be prepaid at the option of the obligor (such as mortgage-backed securities), the sensitivity of such securities to changes in interest rates may increase (to the detriment of the Fund) when interest rates rise. Moreover, because rates on certain floating rate debt securities typically reset only periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates (and particularly sudden and significant changes) can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the net asset value of the Fund to the extent that it invests in floating rate debt securities. These basic principles of bond prices also apply to U.S. Government securities. A security backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. Government is guaranteed only as to its stated interest rate and face value at maturity, not its current market price. Just like other fixed-income securities, government-guaranteed securities will fluctuate in value when interest rates change. A general rise in interest rates has the potential to cause investors to move out of fixed-income securities on a large scale, which may increase redemptions from funds that hold large amounts of fixed-income securities. Heavy redemptions could cause the Fund to sell assets at inopportune times or at a loss or depressed value and could hurt the Fund's performance.

Extension Risk — When interest rates rise, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more slowly than anticipated, causing the value of these obligations to fall.

Prepayment Risk — When interest rates fall, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more quickly than originally anticipated, and the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them.

Hedging Risk — Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences.

Tax Risk — Certain aspects of the tax treatment of derivative instruments, including swap agreements and commodity-linked derivative instruments, are currently unclear and may be affected by changes in legislation, regulations or other legally binding authority. Such treatment may be less favorable than that given to a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments.

- **Collateralized Debt Obligations Risk** — In addition to the typical risks associated with fixed-income securities and asset-backed securities, collateralized debt obligations ("CDOs"), including collateralized loan obligations (CLOs), carry additional risks including, but not limited to: (i) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments; (ii) the risk that the collateral may default or decline in value or be downgraded, if rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization; (iii) the Fund may invest in tranches of CDOs that are subordinate to other tranches; (iv) the structure and complexity of the transaction and the legal documents could lead to disputes among investors regarding the characterization of proceeds; (v) the investment return achieved by the Fund could be significantly different than those predicted by financial models; (vi) the lack of a readily available secondary market for CDOs; (vii) the risk of forced "fire sale" liquidation due to technical defaults such as coverage test failures; and (viii) the CDO's manager may perform poorly.
- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of the issuer's creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.
- **Corporate Loans Risk** — Commercial banks and other financial institutions or institutional investors make corporate loans to companies that need capital to grow or restructure. Borrowers generally pay interest on corporate loans at rates that change in response to changes in market interest rates such as the Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR"), London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") or the prime rates of U.S. banks. As a result, the value of corporate loan investments is generally less exposed to the adverse effects of shifts in market interest rates than investments that pay a fixed rate of interest. The market for corporate loans may be subject to irregular trading activity and wide bid/ask spreads. In addition, transactions in corporate loans may settle on a delayed basis. As a result, the proceeds from the sale of corporate loans may not be readily available to make additional investments or to meet the Fund's redemption obligations. To the extent the extended settlement process gives rise to short-term liquidity needs, the Fund may hold additional cash, sell investments or temporarily borrow from banks and other lenders.
- **Depository Receipts Risk** — Depository receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. In addition to investment risks associated with the underlying issuer, depository receipts expose the Fund to additional risks associated with the non-uniform terms that apply to depository receipt programs, credit exposure to the depository bank and to the sponsors and other parties with whom the depository bank establishes the programs, currency risk and the risk of an illiquid market for depository receipts. The issuers of unsponsored depository receipts are not obligated to disclose information that is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depository receipts. While depository receipts provide an alternative to directly purchasing underlying foreign securities in their respective markets and currencies, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities, including political, economic, and currency risk.

- **Distressed Securities Risk** — Distressed securities are speculative and involve substantial risks in addition to the risks of investing in junk bonds. The Fund will generally not receive interest payments on the distressed securities and may incur costs to protect its investment. In addition, distressed securities involve the substantial risk that principal will not be repaid. These securities may present a substantial risk of default or may be in default at the time of investment. The Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek recovery upon a default in the payment of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings. In any reorganization or liquidation proceeding relating to a portfolio company, the Fund may lose its entire investment or may be required to accept cash or securities with a value less than its original investment. Distressed securities and any securities received in an exchange for such securities may be subject to restrictions on resale.
- **Dollar Rolls Risk** — Dollar rolls involve the risk that the market value of the securities that the Fund is committed to buy may decline below the price of the securities the Fund has sold. These transactions may involve leverage.
- **Emerging Markets Risk** — Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging securities markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets.
- **Foreign Securities Risk** — Foreign investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. These risks include:
 - The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories, which may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business and may be subject to only limited or no regulatory oversight.
 - Changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.
 - The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position.
 - The governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, may prohibit or impose substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries, which may prohibit or restrict the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets.
 - Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as does the United States and may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws.
 - Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets may result in delays in payment for or delivery of securities not typically associated with settlement and clearance of U.S. investments.
 - The Fund's claims to recover foreign withholding taxes may not be successful, and if the likelihood of recovery of foreign withholding taxes materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value.
 - The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.
- **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.
- **High Yield Bonds Risk** — Although junk bonds generally pay higher rates of interest than investment grade bonds, junk bonds are high risk investments that are considered speculative and may cause income and principal losses for the Fund.
- **Indexed and Inverse Securities Risk** — Indexed and inverse securities provide a potential return based on a particular index of value or interest rates. The Fund's return on these securities will be subject to risk with respect to the value of the particular index. These securities are subject to leverage risk and correlation risk. Certain indexed and inverse securities have greater sensitivity to changes in interest rates or index levels than other securities, and the Fund's investment in such instruments may decline significantly in value if interest rates or index levels move in a way Fund management does not anticipate.

- **Inflation-Indexed Bonds Risk** — The principal value of an investment is not protected or otherwise guaranteed by virtue of the Fund’s investments in inflation-indexed bonds.

Inflation-indexed bonds are fixed-income securities whose principal value is periodically adjusted according to the rate of inflation. If the index measuring inflation falls, the principal value of inflation-indexed bonds will be adjusted downward, and consequently the interest payable on these securities (calculated with respect to a smaller principal amount) will be reduced.

Repayment of the original bond principal upon maturity (as adjusted for inflation) is guaranteed in the case of U.S. Treasury inflation-indexed bonds. For bonds that do not provide a similar guarantee, the adjusted principal value of the bond repaid at maturity may be less than the original principal value.

The value of inflation-indexed bonds is expected to change in response to changes in real interest rates. Real interest rates are tied to the relationship between nominal interest rates and the rate of inflation. If nominal interest rates increase at a faster rate than inflation, real interest rates may rise, leading to a decrease in value of inflation-indexed bonds. Short-term increases in inflation may lead to a decline in value. Any increase in the principal amount of an inflation-indexed bond will be considered taxable ordinary income, even though investors do not receive their principal until maturity.

Periodic adjustments for inflation to the principal amount of an inflation-indexed bond may give rise to original issue discount, which will be includable in the Fund’s gross income. Due to original issue discount, the Fund may be required to make annual distributions to shareholders that exceed the cash received, which may cause the Fund to liquidate certain investments when it is not advantageous to do so. Also, if the principal value of an inflation-indexed bond is adjusted downward due to deflation, amounts previously distributed in the taxable year may be characterized in some circumstances as a return of capital.

- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, growth investments have performed better during the later stages of economic expansion and value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, these investment styles may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.

- **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act, and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund’s portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

- **Mid Cap Securities Risk** — The securities of mid cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are generally subject to greater and less predictable price changes than the securities of larger capitalization companies.

- **Money Market Securities Risk** — If market conditions improve while the Fund has invested some or all of its assets in high quality money market securities, this strategy could result in reducing the potential gain from the market upswing, thus reducing the Fund’s opportunity to achieve its investment objective.

- **Mortgage- and Asset-Backed Securities Risks** — Mortgage- and asset-backed securities represent interests in “pools” of mortgages or other assets, including consumer loans or receivables held in trust. Mortgage- and asset-backed securities are subject to credit, interest rate, prepayment and extension risks. These securities also are subject to risk of default on the underlying mortgage or asset, particularly during periods of economic downturn. Small movements in interest rates (both increases and decreases) may quickly and significantly reduce the value of certain mortgage-backed securities.

■ **Municipal Securities Risks** — Municipal securities risks include the ability of the issuer to repay the obligation, the relative lack of information about certain issuers of municipal securities, and the possibility of future legislative changes which could affect the market for and value of municipal securities. Budgetary constraints of local, state, and federal governments upon which the issuers may be relying for funding may also impact municipal securities. These risks include:

General Obligation Bonds Risks — Timely payments depend on the issuer’s credit quality, ability to raise tax revenues and ability to maintain an adequate tax base.

Revenue Bonds Risks — These payments depend on the money earned by the particular facility or class of facilities, or the amount of revenues derived from another source.

Private Activity Bonds Risks — Municipalities and other public authorities issue private activity bonds to finance development of industrial facilities for use by a private enterprise. The private enterprise pays the principal and interest on the bond, and the issuer does not pledge its full faith, credit and taxing power for repayment.

Moral Obligation Bonds Risks — Moral obligation bonds are generally issued by special purpose public authorities of a state or municipality. If the issuer is unable to meet its obligations, repayment of these bonds becomes a moral commitment, but not a legal obligation, of the state or municipality.

Municipal Notes Risks — Municipal notes are shorter term municipal debt obligations. If there is a shortfall in the anticipated proceeds, the notes may not be fully repaid and the Fund may lose money.

Municipal Lease Obligations Risks — In a municipal lease obligation, the issuer agrees to make payments when due on the lease obligation. Although the issuer does not pledge its unlimited taxing power for payment of the lease obligation, the lease obligation is secured by the leased property.

Tax-Exempt Status Risk — The Fund and its investment manager will rely on the opinion of issuers’ bond counsel and, in the case of derivative securities, sponsors’ counsel, on the tax-exempt status of interest on municipal bonds and payments under derivative securities. Neither the Fund nor its investment manager will independently review the bases for those tax opinions, which may ultimately be determined to be incorrect and subject the Fund and its shareholders to substantial tax liabilities.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Real Estate-Related Securities Risk** — The main risk of real estate-related securities is that the value of the underlying real estate may go down. Many factors may affect real estate values. These factors include both the general and local economies, vacancy rates, changes in rent schedules, tenant bankruptcies, the ability to re-lease space under expiring leases on attractive terms, the amount of new construction in a particular area, the laws and regulations (including zoning, environmental and tax laws) affecting real estate and the costs of owning, maintaining and improving real estate. The availability of mortgage financing and changes in interest rates may also affect real estate values. If the Fund’s real estate-related investments are concentrated in one geographic area or in one property type, the Fund will be particularly subject to the risks associated with that area or property type. Many issuers of real estate-related securities are highly leveraged, which increases the risk to holders of such securities. The value of the securities the Fund buys will not necessarily track the value of the underlying investments of the issuers of such securities. In addition, certain issuers of real estate-related securities may have developed or commenced development on properties and may develop additional properties in the future. Real estate development involves significant risks in addition to those involved in the ownership and operation of established properties. Real estate securities may have limited diversification and are, therefore, subject to risks inherent in operating and financing a limited number of projects. Real estate securities are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency and defaults by borrowers or tenants.

■ **REIT Investment Risk** — Investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume, may engage in dilutive offerings of securities and may be more volatile than other securities. REIT issuers may also fail to maintain their exemptions from investment company registration or fail to qualify for the “dividends paid deduction” under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which allows REITs to reduce their corporate taxable income for dividends paid to their shareholders.

■ **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.

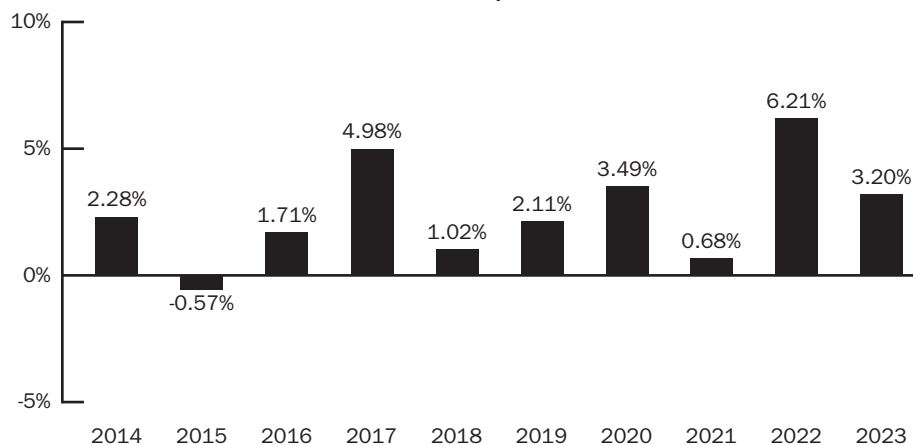
- **Reverse Repurchase Agreements Risk** — Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities held by the Fund with an agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price, date and interest payment. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the other party may fail to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by the Fund, including the value of the investments made with cash collateral, is less than the value of the securities. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. In addition, reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the interest income earned in the investment of the proceeds will be less than the interest expense.
- **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.
- **Risks of Loan Assignments and Participations** — As the purchaser of an assignment, the Fund typically succeeds to all the rights and obligations of the assigning institution and becomes a lender under the credit agreement with respect to the debt obligation; however, the Fund may not be able unilaterally to enforce all rights and remedies under the loan and with regard to any associated collateral. Because assignments may be arranged through private negotiations between potential assignees and potential assignors, the rights and obligations acquired by the Fund as the purchaser of an assignment may differ from, and be more limited than, those held by the assigning lender. In addition, if the loan is foreclosed, the Fund could become part owner of any collateral and could bear the costs and liabilities of owning and disposing of the collateral. The Fund may be required to pass along to a purchaser that buys a loan from the Fund by way of assignment a portion of any fees to which the Fund is entitled under the loan. In connection with purchasing participations, the Fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the borrower with the terms of the loan agreement relating to the loan, nor any rights of set-off against the borrower, and the Fund may not directly benefit from any collateral supporting the loan in which it has purchased the participation. As a result, the Fund will be subject to the credit risk of both the borrower and the lender that is selling the participation. In the event of the insolvency of the lender selling a participation, the Fund may be treated as a general creditor of the lender and may not benefit from any set-off between the lender and the borrower.
- **Small Cap and Emerging Growth Securities Risk** — Small cap or emerging growth companies may have limited product lines or markets. They may be less financially secure than larger, more established companies. They may depend on a more limited management group than larger capitalized companies.
- **Sovereign Debt Risk** — Sovereign debt instruments are subject to the risk that a governmental entity may delay or refuse to pay interest or repay principal on its sovereign debt, due, for example, to cash flow problems, insufficient foreign currency reserves, political considerations, the relative size of the governmental entity's debt position in relation to the economy or the failure to put in place economic reforms required by the International Monetary Fund or other multilateral agencies.
- **Structured Notes Risk** — Structured notes and other related instruments purchased by the Fund are generally privately negotiated debt obligations where the principal and/or interest is determined by reference to the performance of a specific asset, benchmark asset, market or interest rate ("reference measure"). The purchase of structured notes exposes the Fund to the credit risk of the issuer of the structured product. Structured notes may be leveraged, increasing the volatility of each structured note's value relative to the change in the reference measure. Structured notes may also be less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than less complex securities and instruments or more traditional debt securities.
- **Structured Securities Risk** — Because structured securities of the type in which the Fund may invest typically involve no credit enhancement, their credit risk generally will be equivalent to that of the underlying instruments, index or reference obligation and will also be subject to counterparty risk. The Fund may have the right to receive payments only from the structured security, and generally does not have direct rights against the issuer or the entity that sold the assets to be securitized. In addition to the general risks associated with debt securities discussed herein, structured securities carry additional risks, including, but not limited to: the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments; the quality of the collateral may decline in value or default; and the possibility that the structured securities are subordinate to other classes. The Fund is permitted to invest in a class of structured securities that is either subordinated or unsubordinated to the right of payment of another class. Subordinated structured securities typically have higher yields and present greater risks than unsubordinated structured securities. Structured securities are typically sold in private placement transactions, and there currently is no active trading market for structured securities. Structured securities are based upon the movement of one or more factors, including currency exchange rates, interest rates, reference bonds and stock indices, and changes in interest rates and impact of these factors may cause significant price fluctuations. Additionally, changes in the reference instrument or security may cause the interest rate on the structured security to be reduced to zero. Certain issuers of such structured securities may be deemed to be "investment companies" as defined in the Investment Company Act. As a result, the Fund's investment in such securities may be limited by certain investment restrictions contained in the Investment Company Act.

- **Supranational Entities Risk** — The Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by the World Bank. The government members, or “stockholders,” usually make initial capital contributions to the World Bank and in many cases are committed to make additional capital contributions if the World Bank is unable to repay its borrowings. There is no guarantee that one or more stockholders of the World Bank will continue to make any necessary additional capital contributions. If such contributions are not made, the entity may be unable to pay interest or repay principal on its debt securities, and the Fund may lose money on such investments.
- **U.S. Government Mortgage-Related Securities Risk** — There are a number of important differences among the agencies and instrumentalities of the U.S. Government that issue mortgage-related securities and among the securities that they issue. Mortgage-related securities guaranteed by the Government National Mortgage Association (“GNMA” or “Ginnie Mae”) are guaranteed as to the timely payment of principal and interest by GNMA and such guarantee is backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. GNMA securities also are supported by the right of GNMA to borrow funds from the U.S. Treasury to make payments under its guarantee. Mortgage-related securities issued by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac are solely the obligations of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, as the case may be, and are not backed by or entitled to the full faith and credit of the United States but are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the Treasury.
- **U.S. Government Obligations Risk** — Certain securities in which the Fund may invest, including securities issued by certain U.S. Government agencies and U.S. Government sponsored enterprises, are not guaranteed by the U.S. Government or supported by the full faith and credit of the United States. In addition, circumstances could arise that could prevent the timely payment of interest or principal on U.S. Government obligations, such as reaching the legislative “debt ceiling.” Such non-payment could result in losses to the Fund and substantial negative consequences for the U.S. economy and the global financial system.
- **Variable and Floating Rate Instrument Risk** — Variable and floating rate securities provide for periodic adjustment in the interest rate paid on the securities. These securities may be subject to greater illiquidity risk than other fixed-income securities, meaning the absence of an active market for these securities could make it difficult for the Fund to dispose of them at any given time.
- **Zero Coupon Securities Risk** — While interest payments are not made on such securities, holders of such securities are deemed to have received income (“phantom income”) annually, notwithstanding that cash may not be received currently. The effect of owning instruments that do not make current interest payments is that a fixed yield is earned not only on the original investment but also, in effect, on all discount accretion during the life of the obligations. This implicit reinvestment of earnings at a fixed rate eliminates the risk of being unable to invest distributions at a rate as high as the implicit yield on the zero coupon bond, but at the same time eliminates the holder’s ability to reinvest at higher rates in the future. For this reason, some of these securities may be subject to substantially greater price fluctuations during periods of changing market interest rates than are comparable securities that pay interest currently. Longer term zero coupon bonds are more exposed to interest rate risk than shorter term zero coupon bonds. These investments benefit the issuer by mitigating its need for cash to meet debt service, but also require a higher rate of return to attract investors who are willing to defer receipt of cash.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund’s performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The returns for Class III Shares prior to February 14, 2018, the recommencement of Class III Shares, are based upon performance of the Fund’s Class I Shares, as adjusted to reflect the distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees applicable to Class III Shares. This information may be considered when assessing the performance of Class III Shares, but does not represent the actual performance of Class III Shares. The table compares the Fund’s performance to that of the ICE BofA 3-Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index, the MSCI All Country World Index, the FTSE WGBI (hedged into USD) and the MSCI All Country World Index (50%)/FTSE WGBI (hedged into USD) (50%), which are relevant to the Fund because they have characteristics similar to the Fund’s investment strategies. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund’s investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund’s returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares
ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS
BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund
As of 12/31



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 5.89% (quarter ended December 31, 2022) and the lowest return for a quarter was –3.43% (quarter ended September 30, 2015).

For the periods ended 12/31/23
Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|---|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 3.20% | 3.12% | 2.49% |
| BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 2.88% | 2.87% | 2.24% |
| ICE BofA 3-Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) ¹ | 5.02% | 1.88% | 1.25% |
| MSCI All Country World Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 22.20% | 11.72% | 7.93% |
| FTSE WGBI (hedged into USD) (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 6.42% | 0.68% | 2.13% |
| MSCI All Country World Index (50%)/FTSE WGBI (hedged into USD) (50%) (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 14.22% | 6.43% | 5.26% |

¹ Index returns shown for periods prior to March 1, 2021 reflect the 3 p.m. pricing variant of the index. Index returns shown for periods on and after March 1, 2021 through November 30, 2023 reflect the 4 p.m. pricing variant of the index. Index returns beginning on December 1, 2023 reflect the index's new standard pricing time of 4 p.m. The change of the index's standard pricing time from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. resulted in the discontinuation of the custom 4 p.m. pricing variant used from March 1, 2021 through November 30, 2023.

Investment Manager

The Fund's investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as "BlackRock"). The Fund's sub-advisers are BlackRock International Limited, BlackRock Asset Management North Asia Limited and BlackRock (Singapore) Limited. Where applicable, the use of the term BlackRock also refers to the Fund's sub-advisers.

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Philip Green | 2008 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Michael Pensky | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the "Insurance Companies") and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the "Accounts") to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company's website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek a level of current income and degree of stability of principal not normally available from an investment solely in equity securities, as well as the opportunity for capital appreciation greater than is normally available from an investment solely in debt securities.

This investment objective is a fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without approval of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”).

Investment Process

The Fund management team will tactically allocate to asset classes around the world that are deemed to offer attractive levels of return relative to the level of expected risk. In selecting investments, the Fund management team will identify global macro opportunities and position the Fund using a combination of individual securities, derivatives and money market funds advised by BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) and its affiliates.

Investments are selected to achieve asset and sector allocations tactically set by the Fund management team. In selecting fixed-income investments, the Fund management team evaluates sectors of the bond market including, but not limited to, U.S. Treasuries and agency securities, commercial and residential mortgage-backed securities, collateralized mortgage obligations, asset-backed securities and corporate bonds. The Fund management team may shift the Fund’s assets among these various sectors based upon changing market conditions. Investments are made when the Fund management team believes that they have the potential for above-average total return.

In selecting equity investments, the Fund management team evaluates the attractiveness of countries and sectors as well as average market capitalization, and will assess each investment’s changing characteristics relative to its contribution to portfolio risk within that discipline and will sell the investment when it no longer offers an appropriate return-to-risk trade-off. The Fund will make investments that the Fund management team believes offer attractive returns through long-term capital appreciation and income.

The Fund incorporates a volatility control process that seeks to reduce risk when the portfolio’s volatility is expected to exceed 10%. Volatility is a statistical measurement of the magnitude of up and down fluctuations in the value of a financial instrument or index. Volatility may result in rapid and dramatic price swings. While BlackRock attempts to manage the Fund’s volatility to stabilize performance, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will be successful. The Fund may without limitation allocate assets into cash or short-term fixed-income securities, and away from riskier assets such as equity and high yield fixed-income securities. At any given time, the Fund may be invested entirely in equities, fixed-income securities or cash. As part of its attempt to manage the Fund’s volatility exposure, during certain periods the Fund may make significant investments in index futures or other derivative instruments designed to reduce the Fund’s exposure to portfolio volatility. The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of portfolio securities to achieve its primary investment strategies.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund uses an asset allocation strategy, investing varying percentages of its portfolio in three major categories: stocks, bonds and money market instruments. The Fund has wide flexibility in the relative weightings given to each category. The Fund seeks to provide total return through its equity, fixed-income and other investment strategies.

With respect to its equity investments, the Fund may invest in individual equity securities to an unlimited extent. The Fund may invest in common stock, preferred stock, securities convertible into common stock, non-convertible preferred stock and depositary receipts. Preferred stock is a class of stock that often pays dividends at a specified rate and has preference over common stock in dividend payments and liquidation of assets. Convertible securities typically pay current income as either interest (debt security convertibles) or dividends (preferred stock), and their value usually reflects both the stream of current income payments and the market value of the underlying common stock. The Fund may invest in securities of both U.S. and non-U.S. issuers without limit, which can be U.S. dollar-based or non-U.S. dollar-based and may be currency hedged or unhedged. The Fund may invest in securities of companies of any market capitalization.

With respect to its fixed-income investments, the Fund may invest in individual fixed-income securities to an unlimited extent. The Fund may invest in a portfolio of fixed-income securities such as corporate bonds and notes, commercial and residential mortgage-backed securities (bonds that are backed by a mortgage loan or pools of loans secured either by commercial property or residential mortgages, as applicable), collateralized mortgage obligations (bonds that are backed by cash flows from pools of mortgages and may have multiple classes with different payment rights and protections), collateralized debt obligations, asset-backed securities, convertible securities, debt obligations of governments and their sub-divisions (including those of non-U.S. governments), other floating or variable rate obligations, municipal obligations and zero coupon debt securities. The Fund may also invest a significant portion of its assets in non-investment grade bonds (commonly called “junk” bonds or distressed securities), non-investment grade bank loans, foreign bonds (both U.S. dollar- and non-U.S. dollar-denominated) and bonds of emerging market issuers. The Fund may invest in non-U.S. dollar-denominated bonds on a currency hedged or unhedged basis.

Non-investment grade bonds acquired by the Fund will generally be in the lower categories of the major rating agencies at the time of purchase (BB or lower by S&P Global Ratings, a division of S&P Global, Inc. (“S&P”), or Ba or lower by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”)) or will be determined by the Fund management team to be of similar quality. Split-rated bonds will be considered to have the higher credit rating. The average portfolio duration of the fixed-income investments held by the Fund will vary based on the Fund management team’s forecast of interest rates and there are no limits regarding portfolio duration or average maturity.

With respect to its cash investments, the Fund may hold high quality money market securities, including short term U.S. Government securities, U.S. Government agency securities, securities issued by U.S. Government-sponsored enterprises and U.S. Government instrumentalities, bank obligations, commercial paper, including asset-backed commercial paper, corporate notes and repurchase agreements. The Fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in money market funds, including those advised by BlackRock or its affiliates.

The Fund may invest in derivatives, including, but not limited to, interest rate, total return and credit default swaps, options, futures, options on futures and swaps and foreign currency transactions (including swaps), for hedging purposes, as well as to increase the return on its portfolio investments. An option is the right to buy or sell a security or an index of securities at a specific price on or before a specific date. A future is an agreement to buy or sell a security or an index of securities at a specific price on a specific date. A credit default swap is an agreement whereby one party would pay a counterparty a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract, provided that no event of default on a specific bond has occurred. In return, upon any event of default on such bond, the first party would receive from the counterparty a payment equal to the par (or other agreed-upon) value of such bond. A swap is an agreement whereby one party exchanges its right to receive or its obligation to pay one type of interest or currency for another party’s obligation to pay or its right to receive another type of interest or currency in the future or for a period of time. The Fund may seek to obtain market exposure to the securities in which it primarily invests by entering into a series of purchase and sale contracts or by using other investment techniques (such as reverse repurchase agreements or dollar rolls). A dollar roll transaction involves a sale by the Fund of a mortgage-backed or other security concurrently with an agreement by the Fund to repurchase a similar security at a later date at an agreed-upon price. The securities that are repurchased will bear the same interest rate and stated maturity as those sold, but pools of mortgages collateralizing those securities may have different prepayment histories than those sold. The Fund may also use forward foreign currency exchange contracts (obligations to buy or sell a currency at a set rate in the future) to hedge against movement in the value of non-U.S. currencies.

The Fund may invest in indexed and inverse floating rate securities.

The Fund may invest in U.S. and non-U.S. REITs, structured products (including, but not limited to, structured notes, credit linked notes and participation notes, or other instruments evidencing interests in special purpose vehicles, trusts, or other entities that hold or represent interests in fixed-income securities) and floating rate securities (such as bank loans).

REITs can generally be classified as equity REITs, mortgage REITs and hybrid REITs. Equity REITs invest the majority of their assets directly in real property and derive their income primarily from rents. Equity REITs can also realize capital gains by selling properties that have appreciated in value. Mortgage REITs invest the majority of their assets in real estate mortgages and derive their income primarily from interest payments. Hybrid REITs combine the characteristics of both equity REITs and mortgage REITs. REITs are not taxed on income distributed to shareholders provided they comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”).

The Fund is classified as diversified under the Investment Company Act.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions, subject to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act, the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.

- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.
- **Investment Companies** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs.
- **Master Limited Partnerships** — The Fund may invest in master limited partnerships (“MLPs”) that are generally in energy-related industries. MLPs are limited partnerships or limited liability companies taxable as partnerships. MLPs may derive income and gains from the exploration, development, mining, production, processing, refining, transportation (including pipelines transporting gas, oil or products thereof) or the marketing of any mineral or natural resources. MLPs generally have two classes of owners, the general partner and limited partners. When investing in an MLP, the Fund intends to purchase publicly traded common units issued to limited partners of the MLP. The general partner is typically owned by a major energy company, an investment fund, the direct management of the MLP or is an entity owned by one or more of such parties. The general partner may be structured as a private or publicly traded corporation or other entity.
- **“New Issues”** — From time to time, the Fund may invest in shares of companies through initial public offerings (“IPOs”).
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Temporary Defensive Strategies** — For temporary defensive purposes, for example, to respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and may restrict the markets in which it invests and may invest without limitation in cash, cash equivalents, money market securities, such as U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, other U.S. Government securities, short-term debt obligations of corporate issuers, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances, commercial paper (short-term, unsecured, negotiable promissory notes of a domestic or foreign issuer) or other high quality fixed income securities. Temporary defensive positions may affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis or on a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF MANAGED VOLATILITY V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Philip Green and Michael Pensky are the Fund’s portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

- **Collateralized Debt Obligations Risk** — In addition to the typical risks associated with fixed-income securities and asset-backed securities, collateralized debt obligations (“CDOs”) carry additional risks including, but not limited to: (i) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments; (ii) the risk that the collateral may default or decline in value or be downgraded, if rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization; (iii) the Fund may invest in tranches of CDOs that are subordinate to other tranches; (iv) the structure and complexity of the transaction and the legal documents could lead to disputes among investors regarding the characterization of proceeds; (v) the investment return achieved by the Fund could be

significantly different than those predicted by financial models; (vi) the lack of a readily available secondary market for CDOs; (vii) the risk of forced “fire sale” liquidation due to technical defaults such as coverage test failures; and (viii) the CDO’s manager may perform poorly.

- **Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest, principal or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock, including the potential for increased volatility in the price of the convertible security.
- **Corporate Loans Risk** — Commercial banks and other financial institutions or institutional investors make corporate loans to companies that need capital to grow or restructure. Borrowers generally pay interest on corporate loans at rates that change in response to changes in market interest rates such as the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (“SOFR”), London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) or the prime rates of U.S. banks. As a result, the value of corporate loan investments is generally less exposed to the adverse effects of shifts in market interest rates than investments that pay a fixed rate of interest. However, because the trading market for certain corporate loans may be less developed than the secondary market for bonds and notes, the Fund may experience difficulties in selling its corporate loans. Transactions in corporate loans may settle on a delayed basis. As a result, the proceeds from the sale of corporate loans may not be readily available to make additional investments or to meet the Fund’s redemption obligations. To the extent the extended settlement process gives rise to short-term liquidity needs, the Fund may hold additional cash, sell investments or temporarily borrow from banks and other lenders. Leading financial institutions often act as agent for a broader group of lenders, generally referred to as a syndicate. The syndicate’s agent arranges the corporate loans, holds collateral and accepts payments of principal and interest. If the agent develops financial problems, the Fund may not recover its investment or recovery may be delayed. By investing in a corporate loan, the Fund may become a member of the syndicate.

The market for corporate loans may be subject to irregular trading activity and wide bid/ask spreads.

The corporate loans in which the Fund invests are subject to the risk of loss of principal and income. Although borrowers frequently provide collateral to secure repayment of these obligations they do not always do so. If they do provide collateral, the value of the collateral may not completely cover the borrower’s obligations at the time of a default. If a borrower files for protection from its creditors under the U.S. bankruptcy laws, these laws may limit the Fund’s rights to its collateral. In addition, the value of collateral may erode during a bankruptcy case. In the event of a bankruptcy, the holder of a corporate loan may not recover its principal, may experience a long delay in recovering its investment and may not receive interest during the delay.

- **Debt Securities Risk** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve risks, such as credit risk, interest rate risk, extension risk, and prepayment risk, among other things each of which are described in further detail below:

Credit Risk — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make payments of interest and principal when due. Changes in an issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of an issuer’s creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund’s investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation.

Interest Rate Risk — The market value of bonds and other fixed-income securities changes in response to interest rate changes and other factors. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise. The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the recent period of historically low interest rates. For example, if interest rates increase by 1%, assuming a current portfolio duration of ten years, and all other factors being equal, the value of the Fund’s investments would be expected to decrease by 10%. (Duration is a measure of the price sensitivity of a debt security or portfolio of debt securities to relative changes in interest rates.) The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of bonds and other fixed-income securities is generally greater for those securities with longer maturities. Fluctuations in the market price of the Fund’s investments will not affect interest income derived from instruments already owned by the Fund, but will be reflected in the Fund’s net asset value. The Fund may lose money if short-term or long-term interest rates rise sharply in a manner not anticipated by Fund management. To the extent the Fund invests in debt securities that may be prepaid at the option of the obligor (such as mortgage-backed securities), the sensitivity of such securities to changes in interest rates may increase (to the detriment of the Fund) when interest rates rise. Moreover, because rates on certain floating rate debt securities typically reset only periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates (and particularly sudden and significant changes) can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the net asset value of the Fund to the extent that it invests in floating rate debt securities. These basic principles of bond prices also apply to U.S. Government securities. A security backed by the “full faith and credit” of the U.S. Government is guaranteed only as to its stated interest rate and face value at maturity, not its current market price. Just like other fixed-income securities, government-guaranteed securities will fluctuate in value when interest rates change.

The Federal Reserve has recently begun to raise the federal funds rate as part of its efforts to address rising inflation. There is a risk that interest rates will continue to rise, which will likely drive down the prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities. A general rise in interest rates has the potential to cause investors to move out of fixed-income securities on a large scale, which may increase redemptions from mutual funds that hold large amounts of fixed-income securities. Heavy redemptions could cause the Fund to sell assets at inopportune times or at a loss or depressed value and could hurt the Fund's performance.

During periods of very low or negative interest rates, the Fund may be unable to maintain positive returns. Certain countries have recently experienced negative interest rates on certain fixed-income instruments. Very low or negative interest rates may magnify interest rate risk. Changing interest rates, including rates that fall below zero, may have unpredictable effects on markets, may result in heightened market volatility and may detract from Fund performance to the extent the Fund is exposed to such interest rates.

Extension Risk — When interest rates rise, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more slowly than anticipated, causing the value of these obligations to fall. Rising interest rates tend to extend the duration of securities, making them more sensitive to changes in interest rates. The value of longer-term securities generally changes more in response to changes in interest rates than shorter-term securities. As a result, in a period of rising interest rates, securities may exhibit additional volatility and may lose value.

Prepayment Risk — When interest rates fall, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more quickly than originally anticipated, and the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields. In periods of falling interest rates, the rate of prepayments tends to increase (as does price fluctuation) as borrowers are motivated to pay off debt and refinance at new lower rates. During such periods, reinvestment of the prepayment proceeds by the management team will generally be at lower rates of return than the return on the assets that were prepaid. Prepayment reduces the yield to maturity and the average life of the security.

■ **Depository Receipts Risk** — Depository receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. In addition to investment risks associated with the underlying issuer, depository receipts expose the Fund to additional risks associated with the non-uniform terms that apply to depository receipt programs, credit exposure to the depository bank and to the sponsors and other parties with whom the depository bank establishes the programs, currency risk and the risk of an illiquid market for depository receipts. The issuers of unsponsored depository receipts are not obligated to disclose information that is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depository receipts. While depository receipts provide an alternative to directly purchasing underlying foreign securities in their respective markets and currencies, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities, including political, economic, and currency risk.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives can magnify the Fund's gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund's use of derivatives may reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund's distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS").

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps – Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Credit Default Swaps – Credit default swaps may have as reference obligations one or more securities that are not currently held by the Fund. The protection "buyer" may be obligated to pay the protection "seller" an up-front payment or a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract, provided generally that no credit event on a reference obligation has occurred. Credit default swaps involve special risks in addition to those mentioned above because they are difficult to value, are highly susceptible to illiquid investments risk and credit risk, and generally pay a return to the party that has paid the premium only in the event of an actual default by the issuer of the underlying obligation (as opposed to a credit downgrade or other indication of financial difficulty).

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts – Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in

the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures – Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Options – An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a "call option") or sell (a "put option") the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the "exercise price") during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or below the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

Participation Notes – Investing in participation notes involves the same risks associated with a direct investment in the shares of the companies the notes seek to replicate. However, the performance results of participation notes will not replicate exactly the performance of the issuers or markets that the notes seek to replicate due to transaction costs and other expenses.

Investment in a participation note is not the same as investment in the constituent shares of the company and is subject to counterparty risk. A participation note represents only an obligation of the issuer to provide the Fund the economic performance equivalent to holding shares of an underlying security. A participation note does not provide any beneficial or equitable entitlement or interest in the relevant underlying security. In other words, shares of the underlying security are not in any way owned by the Fund. However each participation note synthetically replicates the economic benefit of holding shares in the underlying security. Because a participation note is an obligation of the issuer, rather than direct investment in shares of the underlying security, the Fund may suffer losses potentially equal to the full value of the participation note if the issuer fails to perform its obligations.

The price, performance and liquidity of a participation note are all linked directly to the underlying security. The Fund's ability to redeem or exercise a participation note generally is dependent on the liquidity in the local trading market for the security underlying the participation note.

- **Distressed Securities Risk** — Distressed securities are speculative and involve substantial risks in addition to the risks of investing in junk bonds. The Fund will generally not receive interest payments on the distressed securities and may incur costs to protect its investment. In addition, distressed securities involve the substantial risk that principal will not be repaid. These securities may present a substantial risk of default or may be in default at the time of investment. The Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek recovery upon a default in the payment of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings. In any reorganization or liquidation proceeding relating to a portfolio company, the Fund may lose its entire investment or may be required to accept cash or securities with a value less than its original investment. Distressed securities and any securities received in an exchange for such securities may be subject to restrictions on resale.
- **Dollar Rolls Risk** — A dollar roll transaction involves a sale by the Fund of a mortgage-backed, U.S. Treasury or other security (as permitted by the Fund's investment strategies) concurrently with an agreement by the Fund to repurchase a similar security at a later date at an agreed-upon price. The market value of the securities the Fund is required to purchase may decline below the agreed upon repurchase price of those securities. If the broker/dealer to whom the Fund sells securities becomes insolvent, the Fund's right to purchase or repurchase securities may be restricted. Successful use of dollar rolls may depend upon the adviser's ability to correctly predict interest rates and prepayments, depending on the underlying security. There is no assurance that dollar rolls can be successfully employed.
- **Emerging Markets Risk** — The risks of foreign investments are usually much greater for emerging markets. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets may include those in countries considered emerging or developing by the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation or the United Nations. Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. They are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than

developed markets. Since these markets are often small, they may be more likely to suffer sharp and frequent price changes or long-term price depression because of adverse publicity, investor perceptions or the actions of a few large investors. In addition, traditional measures of investment value used in the United States, such as price to earnings ratios, may not apply to certain small markets. Also, there may be less publicly available information about issuers in emerging markets than would be available about issuers in more developed capital markets, and such issuers may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject.

Many emerging markets have histories of political instability and abrupt changes in policies. As a result, their governments are more likely to take actions that are hostile or detrimental to private enterprise or foreign investment than those of more developed countries, including expropriation of assets, confiscatory taxation, high rates of inflation or unfavorable diplomatic developments. In the past, governments of such nations have expropriated substantial amounts of private property, and most claims of the property owners have never been fully settled. There is no assurance that such expropriations will not reoccur. In such an event, it is possible that the Fund could lose the entire value of its investments in the affected market. Some countries have pervasive corruption and crime that may hinder investments. Certain emerging markets may also face other significant internal or external risks, including the risk of war, and ethnic, religious and racial conflicts. In addition, governments in many emerging market countries participate to a significant degree in their economies and securities markets, which may impair investment and economic growth. National policies that may limit the Fund's investment opportunities include restrictions on investment in issuers or industries deemed sensitive to national interests.

Emerging markets may also have differing legal systems and the existence or possible imposition of exchange controls, custodial restrictions or other foreign or U.S. governmental laws or restrictions applicable to such investments. Sometimes, they may lack or be in the relatively early development of legal structures governing private and foreign investments and private property. Many emerging markets do not have income tax treaties with the United States, and as a result, investments by the Fund may be subject to higher withholding taxes in such countries. In addition, some countries with emerging markets may impose differential capital gains taxes on foreign investors. Foreign companies with securities listed on U.S. exchange may be delisted if they do not meet U.S. accounting standards and auditor oversight requirements, which may significantly decrease the liquidity and value of the securities.

Practices in relation to settlement of securities transactions in emerging markets involve higher risks than those in developed markets, in part because the Fund will need to use brokers and counterparties that are less well capitalized, and custody and registration of assets in some countries may be unreliable. The possibility of fraud, negligence, undue influence being exerted by the issuer or refusal to recognize ownership exists in some emerging markets, and, along with other factors, could result in ownership registration being completely lost. The Fund would absorb any loss resulting from such registration problems and may have no successful claim for compensation. In addition, communications between the United States and emerging market countries may be unreliable, increasing the risk of delayed settlements or losses of security certificates.

■ **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.

■ **Foreign Securities Risk** — Securities traded in foreign markets have often (though not always) performed differently from securities traded in the United States. However, such investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. In particular, the Fund is subject to the risk that because there may be fewer investors on foreign exchanges and a smaller number of securities traded each day, it may be more difficult for the Fund to buy and sell securities on those exchanges. In addition, prices of foreign securities may go up and down more than prices of securities traded in the United States.

Certain Risks of Holding Fund Assets Outside the United States — The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories. Some foreign banks and securities depositories may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business. In addition, there may be limited or no regulatory oversight of their operations. Also, the laws of certain countries limit the Fund's ability to recover its assets if a foreign bank, depository or issuer of a security, or any of their agents, goes bankrupt. In addition, it is often more expensive for the Fund to buy, sell and hold securities in certain foreign markets than in the United States. The increased expense of investing in foreign markets reduces the amount the Fund can earn on its investments and typically results in a higher operating expense ratio for the Fund than for investment companies invested only in the United States.

Currency Risk — Securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests may be denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. For this reason, changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more U.S. dollars. This risk, generally known as "currency risk," means that a strong U.S. dollar will reduce returns for U.S. investors while a weak U.S. dollar will increase those returns.

Foreign Economy Risk — The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position. Certain foreign economies may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Investments in foreign markets may also be adversely affected by governmental actions such as the imposition of capital controls, nationalization of companies or industries, expropriation of assets or the imposition of punitive taxes. In addition, economic conditions, such as volatile currency exchange rates and interest rates, political events, military action and other conditions may, without prior warning, lead to the governments of certain countries, or the U.S. Government with respect to certain countries, prohibiting or imposing substantial restrictions through capital controls and/or sanctions on foreign investments in the capital markets or certain industries in those countries. Capital controls and/or sanctions may include the prohibition of, or restrictions on, the ability to own or transfer currency, securities, derivatives or other assets and may also include retaliatory actions of one government against another government, such as seizure of assets. Any of these actions could severely impair the Fund's ability to purchase, sell, transfer, receive, deliver or otherwise obtain exposure to foreign securities and assets, including the ability to transfer the Fund's assets or income back into the United States, and could negatively impact the value and/or liquidity of such assets or otherwise adversely affect the Fund's operations, causing the Fund to decline in value.

Other potential foreign market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on foreign government securities, difficulties in enforcing legal judgments in foreign courts and political and social instability. Diplomatic and political developments, including rapid and adverse political changes, social instability, regional conflicts, terrorism and war, could affect the economies, industries and securities and currency markets, and the value of the Fund's investments, in non-U.S. countries. These factors are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to predict and take into account with respect to the Fund's investments.

Governmental Supervision and Regulation/Accounting Standards — Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as such regulations exist in the United States. They also may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws. For example, some foreign countries may have no laws or rules against insider trading. Insider trading occurs when a person buys or sells a company's securities based on material non-public information about that company. In addition, some countries may have legal systems that may make it difficult for the Fund to vote proxies, exercise shareholder rights, and pursue legal remedies with respect to its foreign investments. Accounting standards in other countries are not necessarily the same as in the United States. If the accounting standards in another country do not require as much detail as U.S. accounting standards, it may be harder for Fund management to completely and accurately determine a company's financial condition.

Settlement Risk — Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets differ significantly from those in the United States. Foreign settlement and clearance procedures and trade regulations also may involve certain risks (such as delays in payment for or delivery of securities) not typically associated with the settlement of U.S. investments.

At times, settlements in certain foreign countries have not kept pace with the number of securities transactions. These problems may make it difficult for the Fund to carry out transactions. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a purchase of securities, it may miss attractive investment opportunities and certain of its assets may be uninvested with no return earned thereon for some period. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a sale of securities, it may lose money if the value of the security then declines or, if it has contracted to sell the security to another party, the Fund could be liable for any losses incurred.

Withholding Tax Reclaims Risk — The Fund may file claims to recover foreign withholding taxes on dividend and interest income (if any) received from issuers in certain countries and capital gains on the disposition of stocks or securities where such withholding tax reclaim is possible. Whether or when the Fund will receive a withholding tax refund is within the control of the tax authorities in such countries. Where the Fund expects to recover withholding taxes, the net asset value of the Fund generally includes accruals for such tax refunds. The Fund regularly evaluates the probability of recovery. If the likelihood of recovery materially decreases, due to, for example, a change in tax regulation or approach in the foreign country, accruals in the Fund's net asset value for such refunds may be written

down partially or in full, which will adversely affect the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders in the Fund at the time an accrual is written down will bear the impact of the resulting reduction in net asset value regardless of whether they were shareholders during the accrual period. Conversely, if the Fund receives a tax refund that has not been previously accrued, shareholders in the Fund at the time of the successful recovery will benefit from the resulting increase in the Fund's net asset value. Shareholders who sold their shares prior to such time will not benefit from such increase in the Fund's net asset value.

European Economic Risk — The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries as well as acts of war in the region. These events may spread to other countries in Europe and may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund's investments.

Responses to the financial problems by European governments, central banks and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Further defaults or restructurings by governments and others of their debt could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets and asset valuations around the world.

The United Kingdom has withdrawn from the European Union, and one or more other countries may withdraw from the European Union and/or abandon the Euro, the common currency of the European Union. These events and actions have adversely affected, and may in the future adversely affect, the value and exchange rate of the Euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including countries that do not use the Euro and non-European Union member states. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, is not clear but could be significant and far reaching. In addition, Russia launched a large-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The extent and duration of the military action, resulting sanctions and resulting future market disruptions in the region are impossible to predict, but could be significant and have a severe adverse effect on the region, including significant negative impacts on the economy and the markets for certain securities and commodities, such as oil and natural gas, as well as other sectors.

- **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance.
- **High Yield Bonds Risk** — Although junk bonds generally pay higher rates of interest than investment grade bonds, junk bonds are high risk investments that are considered speculative and may cause income and principal losses for the Fund. The major risks of junk bond investments include:
 - Junk bonds may be issued by less creditworthy issuers. Issuers of junk bonds may have a larger amount of outstanding debt relative to their assets than issuers of investment grade bonds. In the event of an issuer's bankruptcy, claims of other creditors may have priority over the claims of junk bond holders, leaving few or no assets available to repay junk bond holders.
 - Prices of junk bonds are subject to extreme price fluctuations. Adverse changes in an issuer's industry and general economic conditions may have a greater impact on the prices of junk bonds than on other higher rated fixed-income securities.
 - Issuers of junk bonds may be unable to meet their interest or principal payment obligations because of an economic downturn, specific issuer developments, or the unavailability of additional financing.
 - Junk bonds frequently have redemption features that permit an issuer to repurchase the security from the Fund before it matures. If the issuer redeems junk bonds, the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in bonds with lower yields and may lose income.
 - Junk bonds may be less liquid than higher rated fixed-income securities, even under normal economic conditions. There are fewer dealers in the junk bond market, and there may be significant differences in the prices quoted for junk bonds by the dealers. Because they are less liquid than higher rated fixed-income securities, judgment may play a greater role in valuing junk bonds than is the case with securities trading in a more liquid market.
 - The Fund may incur expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting issuer.

The credit rating of a high yield security does not necessarily address its market value risk. Ratings and market value may change from time to time, positively or negatively, to reflect new developments regarding the issuer.

- **Indexed and Inverse Securities Risk** — Indexed and inverse securities provide a potential return based on a particular index of value or interest rates. The Fund's return on these securities will be subject to risk with respect to the value of the particular index. These securities are subject to leverage risk and correlation risk. Certain

indexed and inverse securities have greater sensitivity to changes in interest rates or index levels than other securities, and the Fund's investment in such instruments may decline significantly in value if interest rates or index levels move in a way Fund management does not anticipate.

- **Inflation-Indexed Bonds Risk** — The principal value of an investment is not protected or otherwise guaranteed by virtue of the Fund's investments in inflation-indexed bonds.

Inflation-indexed bonds are fixed-income securities whose principal value is periodically adjusted according to the rate of inflation. If the index measuring inflation falls, the principal value of inflation-indexed bonds will be adjusted downward, and consequently the interest payable on these securities (calculated with respect to a smaller principal amount) will be reduced.

Repayment of the original bond principal upon maturity (as adjusted for inflation) is guaranteed in the case of U.S. Treasury inflation-indexed bonds. For bonds that do not provide a similar guarantee, the adjusted principal value of the bond repaid at maturity may be less than the original principal value.

The value of inflation-indexed bonds is expected to change in response to changes in real interest rates. Real interest rates are tied to the relationship between nominal interest rates and the rate of inflation. If nominal interest rates increase at a faster rate than inflation, real interest rates may rise, leading to a decrease in value of inflation-indexed bonds. Short-term increases in inflation may lead to a decline in value. Any increase in the principal amount of an inflation-indexed bond will be considered taxable ordinary income, even though investors do not receive their principal until maturity.

Periodic adjustments for inflation to the principal amount of an inflation-indexed bond may give rise to original issue discount, which will be includable in the Fund's gross income. Due to original issue discount, the Fund may be required to make annual distributions to shareholders that exceed the cash received, which may cause the Fund to liquidate certain investments when it is not advantageous to do so. Also, if the principal value of an inflation-indexed bond is adjusted downward due to deflation, amounts previously distributed in the taxable year may be characterized in some circumstances as a return of capital.

- **Investment Style Risk** — Under certain market conditions, growth investments have performed better during the later stages of economic expansion and value investments have performed better during periods of economic recovery. Therefore, these investment styles may over time go in and out of favor. At times when the investment style used by the Fund is out of favor, the Fund may underperform other equity funds that use different investment styles.
- **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the SEC, the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

- **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

- **Mid Cap Securities Risk** — The securities of mid cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are generally subject to greater and less predictable price changes than the securities of larger capitalization companies.

■ **Money Market Securities Risk** — If market conditions improve while the Fund has invested some or all of its assets in high quality money market securities, this strategy could result in reducing the potential gain from the market upswing, thus reducing the Fund’s opportunity to achieve its investment objective.

■ **Mortgage- and Asset-Backed Securities Risks** — Mortgage-backed securities (residential and commercial) and asset-backed securities represent interests in “pools” of mortgages or other assets, including consumer loans or receivables held in trust. Although asset-backed and commercial mortgage-backed securities (“CMBS”) generally experience less prepayment than residential mortgage-backed securities, mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities, like traditional fixed-income securities, are subject to credit, interest rate, prepayment and extension risks.

Small movements in interest rates (both increases and decreases) may quickly and significantly reduce the value of certain mortgage-backed securities. The Fund’s investments in asset-backed securities are subject to risks similar to those associated with mortgage-related securities, as well as additional risks associated with the nature of the assets and the servicing of those assets. These securities also are subject to the risk of default on the underlying mortgages or assets, particularly during periods of economic downturn. Certain CMBS are issued in several classes with different levels of yield and credit protection. The Fund’s investments in CMBS with several classes may be in the lower classes that have greater risks than the higher classes, including greater interest rate, credit and prepayment risks.

Mortgage-backed securities may be either pass-through securities or collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”). Pass-through securities represent a right to receive principal and interest payments collected on a pool of mortgages, which are passed through to security holders. CMOs are created by dividing the principal and interest payments collected on a pool of mortgages into several revenue streams (“tranches”) with different priority rights to portions of the underlying mortgage payments. Certain CMO tranches may represent a right to receive interest only (“IOs”), principal only (“POs”) or an amount that remains after floating-rate tranches are paid (an “inverse floater”). These securities are frequently referred to as “mortgage derivatives” and may be extremely sensitive to changes in interest rates. Interest rates on inverse floaters, for example, vary inversely with a short-term floating rate (which may be reset periodically). Interest rates on inverse floaters will decrease when short-term rates increase, and will increase when short-term rates decrease. These securities have the effect of providing a degree of investment leverage. In response to changes in market interest rates or other market conditions, the value of an inverse floater may increase or decrease at a multiple of the increase or decrease in the value of the underlying securities. If the Fund invests in CMO tranches (including CMO tranches issued by government agencies) and interest rates move in a manner not anticipated by Fund management, it is possible that the Fund could lose all or substantially all of its investment. Certain mortgage-backed securities in which the Fund may invest may also provide a degree of investment leverage, which could cause the Fund to lose all or substantially all of its investment.

The mortgage market in the United States has experienced difficulties that may adversely affect the performance and market value of certain of the Fund’s mortgage-related investments. Delinquencies and losses on mortgage loans (including subprime and second-lien mortgage loans), and a decline in or flattening of real estate values (in each case as has been experienced and may continue to be experienced in many housing markets) may exacerbate such delinquencies and losses. Also, a number of mortgage loan originators have experienced serious financial difficulties or bankruptcy. Reduced investor demand for mortgage loans and mortgage-related securities and increased investor yield requirements have caused limited liquidity in the secondary market for mortgage-related securities, which can adversely affect the market value of mortgage-related securities. It is possible that such limited liquidity in such secondary markets could continue or worsen.

Asset-backed securities entail certain risks not presented by mortgage-backed securities, including the risk that in certain states it may be difficult to perfect the liens securing the collateral backing certain asset-backed securities. In addition, certain asset-backed securities are based on loans that are unsecured, which means that there is no collateral to seize if the underlying borrower defaults.

■ **Municipal Securities Risks** — Municipal securities risks include the ability of the issuer to repay the obligation, the relative lack of information about certain issuers of municipal securities, and the possibility of future legislative changes which could affect the market for and value of municipal securities. Budgetary constraints of local, state, and federal governments upon which the issuers may be relying for funding may also impact municipal securities. These risks include:

General Obligation Bonds Risks — The full faith, credit and taxing power of the municipality that issues a general obligation bond secures payment of interest and repayment of principal. Timely payments depend on the issuer’s credit quality, ability to raise tax revenues and ability to maintain an adequate tax base.

Revenue Bonds Risks — Payments of interest and principal on revenue bonds are made only from the revenues generated by a particular facility, class of facilities or the proceeds of a special tax or other revenue source. These payments depend on the money earned by the particular facility or class of facilities, or the amount of revenues derived from another source.

Private Activity Bonds Risks — Municipalities and other public authorities issue private activity bonds to finance development of industrial facilities for use by a private enterprise. The private enterprise pays the principal and

interest on the bond, and the issuer does not pledge its full faith, credit and taxing power for repayment. If the private enterprise defaults on its payments, the Fund may not receive any income or get its money back from the investment.

Moral Obligation Bonds Risks — Moral obligation bonds are generally issued by special purpose public authorities of a state or municipality. If the issuer is unable to meet its obligations, repayment of these bonds becomes a moral commitment, but not a legal obligation, of the state or municipality.

Municipal Notes Risks — Municipal notes are shorter term municipal debt obligations. They may provide interim financing in anticipation of, and are secured by, tax collection, bond sales or revenue receipts. If there is a shortfall in the anticipated proceeds, the notes may not be fully repaid and the Fund may lose money.

Municipal Lease Obligations Risks — In a municipal lease obligation, the issuer agrees to make payments when due on the lease obligation. The issuer will generally appropriate municipal funds for that purpose, but is not obligated to do so. Although the issuer does not pledge its unlimited taxing power for payment of the lease obligation, the lease obligation is secured by the leased property. However, if the issuer does not fulfill its payment obligation it may be difficult to sell the property and the proceeds of a sale may not cover the Fund's loss.

Tax-Exempt Status Risk — In making investments, the Fund and its investment manager will rely on the opinion of issuers' bond counsel and, in the case of derivative securities, sponsors' counsel, on the tax-exempt status of interest on municipal obligations and payments under tax-exempt derivative securities. Neither the Fund nor its investment manager will independently review the bases for those tax opinions. If any of those tax opinions are ultimately determined to be incorrect or if events occur after the security is acquired that impact the security's tax-exempt status, the Fund and its shareholders could be subject to substantial tax liabilities. The IRS has generally not ruled on the taxability of the securities. An assertion by the IRS that a portfolio security is not exempt from U.S. federal income tax (contrary to indications from the issuer) could affect the Fund's and its shareholders' income tax liability for the current or past years and could create liability for information reporting penalties. In addition, an IRS assertion of taxability may impair the liquidity and the fair market value of the securities.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company's preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred securities of larger companies.

■ **Real Estate-Related Securities Risk** — The main risk of real estate-related securities is that the value of the underlying real estate may go down. Many factors may affect real estate values. These factors include both the general and local economies, vacancy rates, changes in rent schedules, tenant bankruptcies, the ability to re-lease space under expiring leases on attractive terms, the amount of new construction in a particular area, the laws and regulations (including zoning, environmental and tax laws) affecting real estate and the costs of owning, maintaining and improving real estate. The availability of mortgage financing and changes in interest rates may also affect real estate values. If the Fund's real estate-related investments are concentrated in one geographic area or in one property type, the Fund will be particularly subject to the risks associated with that area or property type. Many issuers of real estate-related securities are highly leveraged, which increases the risk to holders of such securities. The value of the securities the Fund buys will not necessarily track the value of the underlying investments of the issuers of such securities. In addition, certain issuers of real estate-related securities may have developed or commenced development on properties and may develop additional properties in the future. Real estate development involves significant risks in addition to those involved in the ownership and operation of established properties. Real estate securities may have limited diversification and are, therefore, subject to risks inherent in operating and financing a limited number of projects. Real estate securities are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency and defaults by borrowers or tenants.

■ **REIT Investment Risk** — In addition to the risks facing real estate-related securities, such as a decline in property values due to increasing vacancies, a decline in rents resulting from unanticipated economic, legal or technological developments or a decline in the price of securities of real estate companies due to a failure of borrowers to pay their loans or poor management, investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume, may engage in dilutive offerings of securities and may be more volatile than other securities. REIT issuers may also fail to maintain their exemptions from investment company registration or fail to qualify for the "dividends paid deduction" under the Internal Revenue Code, which allows REITs to reduce their corporate taxable income for dividends paid to their shareholders.

■ **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.

■ **Reverse Repurchase Agreements Risk** — Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities held by the Fund with an agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price, date and interest payment. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the other party may fail to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by the Fund, including the value of the investments made with cash collateral, is less than the value of the securities. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. In addition, reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the interest income earned in the investment of the proceeds will be less than the interest expense.

■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

■ **Risks of Loan Assignments and Participations** — As the purchaser of an assignment, the Fund typically succeeds to all the rights and obligations of the assigning institution and becomes a lender under the credit agreement with respect to the debt obligation; however, the Fund may not be able unilaterally to enforce all rights and remedies under the loan and with regard to any associated collateral. Because assignments may be arranged through private negotiations between potential assignees and potential assignors, the rights and obligations acquired by the Fund as the purchaser of an assignment may differ from, and be more limited than, those held by the assigning lender. In addition, if the loan is foreclosed, the Fund could become part owner of any collateral and could bear the costs and liabilities of owning and disposing of the collateral. The Fund may be required to pass along to a purchaser that buys a loan from the Fund by way of assignment a portion of any fees to which the Fund is entitled under the loan. In connection with purchasing participations, the Fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the borrower with the terms of the loan agreement relating to the loan, nor any rights of set-off against the borrower, and the Fund may not directly benefit from any collateral supporting the loan in which it has purchased the participation. As a result, the Fund will be subject to the credit risk of both the borrower and the lender that is selling the participation. In the event of the insolvency of the lender selling a participation, the Fund may be treated as a general creditor of the lender and may not benefit from any set-off between the lender and the borrower.

■ **Small Cap and Emerging Growth Securities Risk** — Small cap or emerging growth companies may have limited product lines or markets. They may be less financially secure than larger, more established companies. They may depend on a small number of key personnel. If a product fails or there are other adverse developments, or if management changes, the Fund's investment in a small cap or emerging growth company may lose substantial value. In addition, it is more difficult to get information on smaller companies, which tend to be less well known, have shorter operating histories, do not have significant ownership by large investors and are followed by relatively few securities analysts.

The securities of small cap and emerging growth companies generally trade in lower volumes and are subject to greater and more unpredictable price changes than larger cap securities or the market as a whole. In addition, small cap and emerging growth securities may be particularly sensitive to changes in interest rates, borrowing costs and earnings. Investing in small cap and emerging growth securities requires a longer term view.

■ **Sovereign Debt Risk** — Sovereign debt instruments are subject to the risk that a governmental entity may delay or refuse to pay interest or repay principal on its sovereign debt, due, for example, to cash flow problems, insufficient foreign currency reserves, political considerations, the relative size of the governmental entity's debt position in relation to the economy or the failure to put in place economic reforms required by the International Monetary Fund or other multilateral agencies. If a governmental entity defaults, it may ask for more time in which to pay or for further loans. There is no legal process for collecting sovereign debt that a government does not pay nor are there bankruptcy proceedings through which all or part of the sovereign debt that a governmental entity has not repaid may be collected.

■ **Structured Notes Risk** — Structured notes and other related instruments purchased by the Fund are generally privately negotiated debt obligations where the principal and/or interest is determined by reference to the performance of a specific asset, benchmark asset, market or interest rate ("reference measure"). The interest rate or the principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption may increase or decrease, depending upon changes in the value of the reference measure. The terms of a structured note may provide that, in certain circumstances, no

principal is due at maturity and, therefore, may result in a loss of invested capital by the Fund. The interest and/or principal payments that may be made on a structured product may vary widely, depending on a variety of factors, including the volatility of the reference measure.

Structured notes may be positively or negatively indexed, so the appreciation of the reference measure may produce an increase or a decrease in the interest rate or the value of the principal at maturity. The rate of return on structured notes may be determined by applying a multiplier to the performance or differential performance of reference measures. Application of a multiplier involves leverage that will serve to magnify the potential for gain and the risk of loss.

The purchase of structured notes exposes the Fund to the credit risk of the issuer of the structured product. Structured notes may also be more volatile, less liquid, and more difficult to price accurately than less complex securities and instruments or more traditional debt securities.

- **Structured Securities Risk** — Because structured securities of the type in which the Fund may invest typically involve no credit enhancement, their credit risk generally will be equivalent to that of the underlying instruments, index or reference obligation and will also be subject to counterparty risk. The Fund may have the right to receive payments only from the structured security, and generally does not have direct rights against the issuer or the entity that sold the assets to be securitized. In addition to the general risks associated with debt securities discussed herein, structured securities carry additional risks, including, but not limited to: the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments; the quality of the collateral may decline in value or default; and the possibility that the structured securities are subordinate to other classes. The Fund is permitted to invest in a class of structured securities that is either subordinated or unsubordinated to the right of payment of another class. Subordinated structured securities typically have higher yields and present greater risks than unsubordinated structured securities. Structured securities are typically sold in private placement transactions, and there currently is no active trading market for structured securities. Structured securities are based upon the movement of one or more factors, including currency exchange rates, interest rates, reference bonds and stock indices, and changes in interest rates and impact of these factors may cause significant price fluctuations. Additionally, changes in the reference instrument or security may cause the interest rate on the structured security to be reduced to zero. Certain issuers of such structured securities may be deemed to be “investment companies” as defined in the Investment Company Act. As a result, the Fund’s investment in such securities may be limited by certain investment restrictions contained in the Investment Company Act.
- **Supranational Entities Risk** — The Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by the World Bank. The government members, or “stockholders,” usually make initial capital contributions to the World Bank and in many cases are committed to make additional capital contributions if the World Bank is unable to repay its borrowings. There is no guarantee that one or more stockholders of the World Bank will continue to make any necessary additional capital contributions. If such contributions are not made, the entity may be unable to pay interest or repay principal on its debt securities, and the Fund may lose money on such investments.
- **U.S. Government Mortgage-Related Securities Risk** — There are a number of important differences among the agencies and instrumentalities of the U.S. Government that issue mortgage-related securities and among the securities that they issue. Mortgage-related securities guaranteed by the Government National Mortgage Association (“GNMA” or “Ginnie Mae”) are guaranteed as to the timely payment of principal and interest by GNMA and such guarantee is backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. GNMA securities also are supported by the right of GNMA to borrow funds from the U.S. Treasury to make payments under its guarantee. Mortgage-related securities issued by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac are solely the obligations of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, as the case may be, and are not backed by or entitled to the full faith and credit of the United States but are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the Treasury.
- **U.S. Government Obligations Risk** — Not all U.S. Government securities are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. Obligations of certain agencies, authorities, instrumentalities and sponsored enterprises of the U.S. Government are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States (e.g., the Government National Mortgage Association); other obligations are backed by the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury (e.g., the Federal Home Loan Banks) and others are supported by the discretionary authority of the U.S. Government to purchase an agency’s obligations. Still others are backed only by the credit of the agency, authority, instrumentality or sponsored enterprise issuing the obligation. No assurance can be given that the U.S. Government would provide financial support to any of these entities if it is not obligated to do so by law.
- **Variable and Floating Rate Instrument Risk** — Variable and floating rate securities provide for periodic adjustment in the interest rate paid on the securities. These securities may be subject to greater illiquidity risk than other fixed-income securities, meaning the absence of an active market for these securities could make it difficult for the Fund to dispose of them at any given time.
- **Zero Coupon Securities Risk** — While interest payments are not made on such securities, holders of such securities are deemed to have received income (“phantom income”) annually, notwithstanding that cash may not be received currently. The effect of owning instruments that do not make current interest payments is that a fixed yield

is earned not only on the original investment but also, in effect, on all discount accretion during the life of the obligations. This implicit reinvestment of earnings at a fixed rate eliminates the risk of being unable to invest distributions at a rate as high as the implicit yield on the zero coupon bond, but at the same time eliminates the holder's ability to reinvest at higher rates in the future. For this reason, some of these securities may be subject to substantially greater price fluctuations during periods of changing market interest rates than are comparable securities that pay interest currently. Longer term zero coupon bonds are more exposed to interest rate risk than shorter term zero coupon bonds. These investments benefit the issuer by mitigating its need for cash to meet debt service, but also require a higher rate of return to attract investors who are willing to defer receipt of cash.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

- **Allocation Risk** — The Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective depends upon BlackRock's skill in determining the Fund's strategic asset class allocation and in selecting the best mix of underlying funds and direct investments. There is a risk that BlackRock's evaluations and assumptions regarding asset classes or underlying funds may be incorrect in view of actual market conditions. In addition, there is no guarantee that the underlying funds will achieve their investment objectives, and the underlying funds' performance may be lower than the performance of the asset class which they were selected to represent. The underlying funds may change their investment objectives or policies without the approval of the Fund. If an underlying fund were to change its investment objective or policies, the Fund might be forced to withdraw its investment from the underlying fund at a disadvantageous time and price.
- **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.
- **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.
- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.
- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the reduced number and capacity of traditional market participants to make a market in fixed-income securities or the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. This may be magnified in a rising interest rate environment or other circumstances where investor redemptions from fixed-income mutual funds may be higher than normal. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.
- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of

expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.

- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund’s adviser or an affiliate of the Fund’s adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund’s liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund’s NAV and increase the Fund’s brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund’s remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund’s current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund’s expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager’s ability to implement a fund’s investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund’s performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.
- **Master Limited Partnerships Risk** — The common units of a master limited partnership (“MLP”) are listed and traded on U.S. securities exchanges and their value fluctuates predominantly based on prevailing market conditions and the success of the MLP. Unlike owners of common stock of a corporation, owners of common units have limited voting rights and have no ability to annually elect directors. In the event of liquidation, common units have preference over subordinated units, but not over debt or preferred units, to the remaining assets of the MLP.
- **“New Issues” Risk** — “New issues” are IPOs of equity securities. Investments in companies that have recently gone public have the potential to produce substantial gains for the Fund. However, there is no assurance that the Fund will have access to profitable IPOs and therefore investors should not rely on these past gains as an indication of future performance. The investment performance of the Fund during periods when it is unable to invest significantly or at all in IPOs may be lower than during periods when the Fund is able to do so. In addition, as the Fund increases in size, the impact of IPOs on the Fund’s performance will generally decrease. Securities issued in IPOs are subject to many of the same risks as investing in companies with smaller market capitalizations. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO. When an IPO is brought to the market, availability may be limited and the Fund may not be able to buy any shares at the offering price, or, if it is able to buy shares, it may not be able to buy as many shares at the offering price as it would like.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund’s service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **Reference Rate Replacement Risk** — The Fund may be exposed to financial instruments that recently transitioned from, or continue to be tied to, LIBOR to determine payment obligations, financing terms, hedging strategies or investment value.

The United Kingdom’s Financial Conduct Authority (“FCA”), which regulates LIBOR, has ceased publishing all LIBOR settings. In April 2023, however, the FCA announced that some USD LIBOR settings will continue to be published under a synthetic methodology until September 30, 2024 for certain legacy contracts. SOFR is a broad measure of the cost of borrowing cash overnight collateralized by U.S. Treasury securities in the repurchase agreement (“repo”) market and has been used increasingly on a voluntary basis in new instruments and transactions. Under U.S. regulations that implement a statutory fallback mechanism to replace LIBOR, benchmark rates based on SOFR have replaced LIBOR in certain financial contracts.

Neither the effect of the LIBOR transition process nor its ultimate success can yet be known. While some existing LIBOR-based instruments may contemplate a scenario where LIBOR is no longer available by providing for an alternative rate-setting methodology, there may be significant uncertainty regarding the effectiveness of any such alternative methodologies to replicate LIBOR. Not all existing LIBOR-based instruments may have alternative rate-setting provisions and there remains uncertainty regarding the willingness and ability of issuers to add alternative rate-setting provisions in certain existing instruments. Parties to contracts, securities or other instruments using LIBOR may disagree on transition rates or the application of transition regulation, potentially resulting in uncertainty of performance and the possibility of litigation. The Fund may have instruments linked to other interbank offered rates that may also cease to be published in the future.

- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock's parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Risks of Investing in Closed-End Funds** — The shares of closed-end funds may trade at a price below (discount) or above (premium), or at, their net asset value. To the extent that the Fund invests a portion of its assets in closed-end funds, those assets will be subject to the risks of the closed-end fund's portfolio securities, and a shareholder in the Fund will bear not only his or her proportionate share of the expenses of the Fund, but also, indirectly, the expenses of the closed-end fund. The securities of closed-end funds in which the Fund may invest may be leveraged. As a result, the Fund may be indirectly exposed to leverage through an investment in such securities. An investment in securities of closed-end funds that use leverage may expose the Fund to higher volatility in the market value of such securities and the possibility that the Fund's long-term returns on such securities (and, indirectly, the long-term returns of the shares) will be diminished.
- **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC ("BIM"), the Fund's securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund's securities lending program.
- **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund's valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund's ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.
- **Warrants Risk** — If the price of the underlying stock does not rise above the exercise price before the warrant expires, the warrant generally expires without any value and the Fund will lose any amount it paid for the warrant. Thus, investments in warrants may involve substantially more risk than investments in common stock. Warrants may trade in the same markets as their underlying stock; however, the price of the warrant does not necessarily move with the price of the underlying stock.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security's price.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund | | | | |
|---|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Class I | | | | |
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$14.03 | \$13.21 | \$13.21 | \$13.27 | \$ 13.45 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.29 | 0.14 | 0.06 | 0.10 | 0.22 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain | 0.15 | 0.68 | 0.03 | 0.36 | 0.06 |
| Net increase from investment operations | 0.44 | 0.82 | 0.09 | 0.46 | 0.28 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (1.22) | — | (0.09) | (0.52) | (0.46) |
| From net realized gain | — | — | — | — | (0.00) ^(c) |
| Total distributions | (1.22) | — | (0.09) | (0.52) | (0.46) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$13.25 | \$14.03 | \$13.21 | \$13.21 | \$ 13.27 |
| Total Return^(d) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 3.20% | 6.21% | 0.68% ^(e) | 3.49% | 2.11% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(f) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.10% | 0.97% | 0.93% | 1.00% | 0.93% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.61% | 0.59% | 0.59% | 0.59% | 0.59% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed and excluding interest expense | 0.59% | 0.59% | 0.59% | 0.59% | 0.59% |
| Net investment income | 2.03% | 1.04% | 0.47% | 0.74% | 1.62% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$7,293 | \$8,182 | \$8,853 | \$9,844 | \$10,808 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 166% | 155% | 103% | 181% | 314% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Amount is greater than \$(0.005) per share.

^(d) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(e) Includes payment from an affiliate, which had no impact on the Fund's total return.

^(f) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

Financial Highlights (concluded)

BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Class III | | | | |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 13.96 | \$ 13.18 | \$ 13.20 | \$ 13.27 | \$ 13.45 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.25 | 0.10 | 0.03 | 0.06 | 0.19 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain | 0.15 | 0.68 | 0.04 | 0.36 | 0.06 |
| Net increase from investment operations | 0.40 | 0.78 | 0.07 | 0.42 | 0.25 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (1.15) | — | (0.09) | (0.49) | (0.43) |
| From net realized gain | — | — | — | — | (0.00) ^(c) |
| Total distributions | (1.15) | — | (0.09) | (0.49) | (0.43) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 13.21 | \$ 13.96 | \$ 13.18 | \$ 13.20 | \$ 13.27 |
| Total Return^(d) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 2.88% | 5.92% | 0.53% ^(e) | 3.17% | 1.85% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(f) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 1.35% | 1.22% | 1.18% | 1.25% | 1.36% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.86% | 0.84% | 0.84% | 0.84% | 0.84% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed and excluding interest expense | 0.84% | 0.84% | 0.84% | 0.84% | 0.84% |
| Net investment income | 1.79% | 0.78% | 0.22% | 0.49% | 1.39% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$159,382 | \$165,867 | \$205,922 | \$213,851 | \$225,423 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 166% | 155% | 103% | 181% | 314% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Amount is greater than \$(0.005) per share.

^(d) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(e) Includes payment from an affiliate, which had no impact on the Fund's total return.

^(f) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

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Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund (Class I, Class II, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund

Fund Overview

Key facts and details about the Fund listed in this prospectus, including investment objective, principal investment strategies, principal risk factors, fee and expense information and historical performance information

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek investment results that, before expenses, correspond to the aggregate price and yield performance of the Standard & Poor’s 500 Index (the “S&P 500” or the “Underlying Index”).

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class II Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Management Fees ¹ | 0.07% | 0.07% | 0.07% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees | None | 0.15% | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses | 0.06% | 0.07% | 0.07% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses | 0.13% | 0.29% | 0.39% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | — | — | — |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | 0.13% | 0.29% | 0.39% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses. After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.15% (for Class I Shares), 0.30% (for Class II Shares) and 0.40% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0.05% (for Class I Shares), 0.05% (for Class II Shares) and 0.05% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| Class I Shares | \$13 | \$ 42 | \$ 73 | \$166 |
| Class II Shares | \$30 | \$ 93 | \$163 | \$368 |
| Class III Shares | \$40 | \$125 | \$219 | \$493 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 7% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund tries to match the performance of the S&P 500 as closely as possible before the deduction of Fund expenses. The S&P 500 is a market-weighted index composed of approximately 500 common stocks issued by large-capitalization U.S. companies in a wide range of businesses and which collectively represent a substantial portion of all common stocks publicly traded in the United States. A market-weighted index is an index in which the weighting of each security is based on its market capitalization.

Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its assets in the common stocks represented in the S&P 500 and in derivative instruments linked to the S&P 500. The Fund will generally invest substantially all of its assets in such common stocks and instruments. The Fund employs a “passive” approach that attempts to remain invested at all times in a portfolio of assets the performance of which is expected to match approximately that of the S&P 500.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

■ **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company’s financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.

■ **Index-Related Risk** — There is no guarantee that the Fund’s investment results will have a high degree of correlation to those of the Underlying Index or that the Fund will achieve its investment objective. Market disruptions or high volatility, other unusual market circumstances and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund’s ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Underlying Index. Errors in index data, index computations or the construction of the Underlying Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. Unusual market conditions or other unforeseen circumstances (such as natural disasters, political unrest or war) may impact the index provider or a third-party data provider and could cause the Index Provider to postpone a scheduled rebalance. This could cause the Underlying Index to vary from its normal or expected composition.

An index fund has operating and other expenses while an index does not. As a result, while the Fund will attempt to track the S&P 500 as closely as possible, it will tend to underperform the Underlying Index to some degree over time. If an index fund is properly correlated to its stated index, the fund will perform poorly when the index performs poorly.

■ **Passive Investment Risk** — Because BlackRock does not select individual companies in the index that the Fund tracks, the Fund may hold securities of companies that present risks that an investment adviser researching individual securities might seek to avoid.

■ **Tracking Error Risk** — The Fund may be subject to tracking error, which is the divergence of the Fund’s performance from that of the Underlying Index. Tracking error may occur because of differences between the securities and other instruments held in the Fund’s portfolio and those included in the Underlying Index, pricing differences (including, as applicable, differences between a security’s price at the local market close and the Fund’s valuation of a security at the time of calculation of the Fund’s net asset value), differences in transaction costs, the Fund’s holding of uninvested cash, differences in timing of the accrual of or the valuation of dividends or other distributions, interest, the requirements to maintain pass-through tax treatment, portfolio transactions carried out to minimize the distribution of capital gains to shareholders, changes to the Underlying Index and the cost to the Fund of complying with various new or existing regulatory requirements. These risks may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or other unusual market conditions. In addition, tracking error may result because the Fund incurs fees and expenses, while the Underlying Index does not.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives can magnify the Fund’s gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them.

Hedging Risk — Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences.

Tax Risk — Certain aspects of the tax treatment of derivative instruments, including swap agreements and commodity-linked derivative instruments, are currently unclear and may be affected by changes in legislation, regulations or other legally binding authority. Such treatment may be less favorable than that given to a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

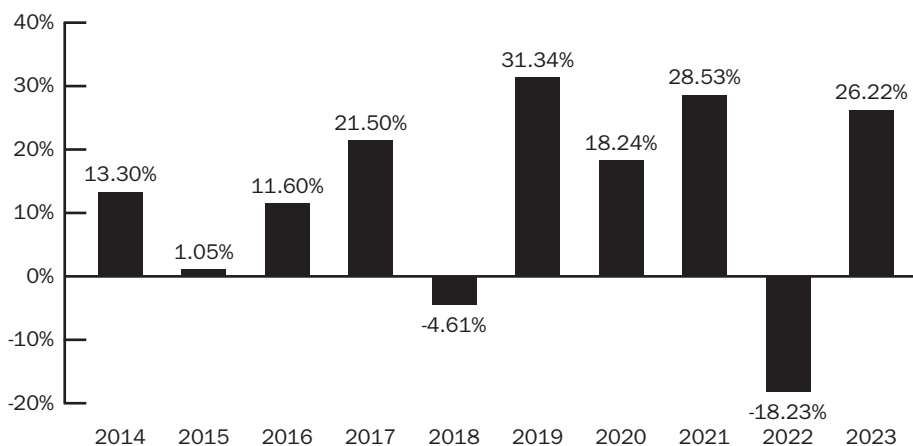
■ **Representative Sampling Risk** — Representative sampling is a method of indexing that involves investing in a representative sample of securities that collectively have a similar investment profile to the Underlying Index and resemble the Underlying Index in terms of risk factors and other key characteristics. The Fund may or may not hold every security in the Underlying Index. When the Fund deviates from a full replication indexing strategy to utilize a representative sampling strategy, the Fund is subject to an increased risk of tracking error, in that the securities selected in the aggregate for the Fund may not have an investment profile similar to those of the Underlying Index.

■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund’s performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The table compares the Fund’s performance to that of the S&P 500® Index. Separate account fees and expenses are not reflected in the bar chart. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. The returns for Class III Shares prior to February 14, 2018, the recommencement of Class III Shares, are based upon performance of the Fund’s Class I Shares, as adjusted to reflect the distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees applicable to Class III Shares. This information may be considered when assessing the performance of Class III Shares, but does not represent the actual performance of Class III Shares. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. If the Fund’s investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund’s returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares
ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS
BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund
As of 12/31



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 20.51% (quarter ended June 30, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was –19.65% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

For the periods ended 12/31/23
Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|---|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 26.22% | 15.55% | 11.80% |
| BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund: Class II Shares | 26.02% | 15.37% | 11.63% |
| BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 25.90% | 15.26% | 11.52% |
| S&P 500® Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 26.29% | 15.69% | 12.03% |

Investment Manager

The Fund’s investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as “BlackRock”).

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Paul Whitehead | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Jennifer Hsui, CFA | 2016 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the “Insurance Companies”) and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the “Accounts”) to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company’s website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek investment results that, before expenses, correspond to the aggregate price and yield performance of the Standard & Poor’s 500 Index (the “S&P 500” or the “Underlying Index”).

This investment objective is a fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without approval of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”).

Investment Process

The S&P 500 is composed of approximately five hundred common stocks. The stocks represented in the index are issued by large-capitalization U.S. companies in a wide range of businesses and collectively represent a substantial portion of all common stocks publicly traded in the United States. The S&P 500 is generally considered broadly representative of the performance of publicly traded U.S. large capitalization stocks. The S&P 500 is a market-weighted index, which means that the largest stocks represented in the index have the most effect on the index’s performance. Currently, the largest stocks in the S&P 500 have many times the effect of most other stocks in the index. The stocks in the S&P 500 are chosen by S&P Global Ratings (“S&P”), a division of S&P Global Inc. S&P chooses stocks for inclusion in the S&P 500 based on market capitalization, trading activity and the overall mix of industries represented in the index, among other factors. S&P’s selection of a stock for the S&P 500 does not mean that S&P believes the stock to be an attractive investment. Market capitalization is the number of shares of a company’s stock, multiplied by the price per share of that stock. Market capitalization is a measure of a company’s size.

The Fund will not attempt to buy or sell securities based on Fund management’s economic, financial or market analysis, but will instead employ a “passive” investment approach. This means that Fund management will attempt to remain invested at all times in a portfolio of assets the performance of which is expected to match approximately that of the S&P 500. The Fund will only buy or sell securities when Fund management believes it is necessary to do so in order to match the performance of the S&P 500. Accordingly, it is anticipated that the Fund’s portfolio turnover and trading costs will be lower than actively managed funds.

Principal Investment Strategies

Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its assets in the common stocks represented in the S&P 500 and in derivative instruments linked to the S&P 500. This policy is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may be changed upon 60 days’ prior notice to shareholders. In general, the Fund will invest substantially all of its assets in such common stocks and instruments.

The Fund will generally invest in all 500 stocks in the S&P 500 in roughly the same proportions as their weightings in the S&P 500. For example, if 5% of the S&P 500 is made up of the stock of a particular company, the Fund will normally invest approximately 5% of its assets in that company. This strategy is known as “full replication.” However, when Fund management believes it would be cost efficient, Fund management is authorized to deviate from full replication and to instead invest in a statistically selected sample of the five hundred stocks in the S&P 500 that has aggregate investment characteristics, such as average market capitalization and industry weightings, similar to the S&P 500 as a whole.

The Fund may invest in derivative instruments, and will normally invest a portion of its assets in options and futures contracts linked to the performance of the S&P 500. Derivatives allow the Fund to increase or decrease its exposure to the S&P 500 quickly and at less cost than buying or selling stocks. The Fund will invest in options, futures and other derivative instruments in order to gain market exposure quickly in the event of subscriptions, to maintain liquidity in the event of redemptions, for cash management purposes and to keep trading costs low.

S&P (the “Index Provider”) does not sponsor, endorse, sell or promote the Fund, nor is it affiliated in any way with BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) or the Fund. “Standard & Poor’s®,” “S&P®,” and “S&P 500®” are trademarks of S&P licensed for use for certain purposes by BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, N.A. S&P makes no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding the advisability of investing in the Fund.

The past performance of the Underlying Index is not a guide to future performance. BlackRock does not guarantee the accuracy or the completeness of the Underlying Index or any data included therein and BlackRock shall have no liability for any errors, omissions or interruptions therein. BlackRock makes no warranty, express or implied, to the owners of shares of the Fund or to any other person or entity, as to results to be obtained by the Fund from the use of the Underlying Index or any data included therein. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall BlackRock have any liability for any special, punitive, direct, indirect or consequential damages (including lost profits), even if notified of the possibility of such damages.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the investments/strategies listed below.

Fund management may also purchase stocks not included in the S&P 500 when it believes that it would be a cost efficient way of approximating the S&P 500's performance to do so. If Fund management uses these techniques, the Fund may not track the S&P 500 as closely as it would if it were fully replicating the S&P 500.

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including to meet redemptions, for the payment of dividends, for share repurchases or for the clearance of transactions, subject to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act, the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.
- **Depository Receipts** — The Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers in the form of depository receipts or other securities that are convertible into securities of foreign issuers. The Fund may invest in unsponsored depository receipts.
- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.
- **Investment Companies** — The Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs.
- **Real Estate Investment Trusts (“REITs”)** — The Fund may invest in REITs.
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts** — The Fund may enter into certain types of repurchase agreements or purchase and sale contracts. Under a repurchase agreement, the seller agrees to repurchase a security at a mutually agreed-upon time and price. A purchase and sale contract is similar to a repurchase agreement, but purchase and sale contracts also provide that the purchaser receives any interest on the security paid during the period.
- **Restricted Securities** — Restricted securities are securities that cannot be offered for public resale unless registered under the applicable securities laws or that have a contractual restriction that prohibits or limits their resale. They may include Rule 144A securities, which are privately placed securities that can be resold to qualified institutional buyers but not to the general public, and securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are offered pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Short-Term Money Market Instruments** — The Fund will also invest in short-term money market instruments as cash reserves. The Fund will not invest in options, futures, other derivative instruments or short-term money market instruments in order to lessen the Fund's exposure to common stocks as a defensive strategy, but will instead attempt to remain fully invested at all times.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis, a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF S&P 500 INDEX V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Paul Whitehead and Jennifer Hsui, CFA are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives can magnify the Fund’s gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund’s derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives may reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund’s use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund’s hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund’s distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”). If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to

applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Futures — Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

Swaps — Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

■ **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.

■ **Index-Related Risk** — The Fund seeks to achieve a return that corresponds generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the Underlying Index as published by the Index Provider. There is no assurance that the Index Provider or any agents that may act on its behalf will compile the Underlying Index accurately, or that the Underlying Index will be determined, composed or calculated accurately. While the Index Provider provides descriptions of what the Underlying Index is designed to achieve, neither the Index Provider nor its agents provide any warranty or accept any liability in relation to the quality, accuracy or completeness of the Underlying Index or its related data, and they do not guarantee that the Underlying Index will be in line with the Index Provider's methodology. BlackRock's mandate as described in this prospectus is to manage the Fund consistently with the Underlying Index provided by the Index Provider to BlackRock. BlackRock does not provide any warranty or guarantee against the Index Provider's or any agent's errors. Errors in respect of the quality, accuracy and completeness of the data used to compile the Underlying Index may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Index Provider for a period of time or at all, particularly where the indices are less commonly used as benchmarks by funds or managers. Such errors may negatively or positively impact the Fund and its shareholders. For example, during a period where the Underlying Index contains incorrect constituents, the Fund would have market exposure to such constituents and would be underexposed to the Underlying Index's other constituents. Shareholders should understand that any gains from Index Provider errors will be kept by the Fund and its shareholders and any losses or costs resulting from Index Provider errors will be borne by the Fund and its shareholders.

Unusual market conditions or other unforeseen circumstances (such as natural disasters, political unrest or war) may impact the index provider or a third-party data provider and could cause the Index Provider to postpone a scheduled rebalance to the Underlying Index. This could cause the Underlying Index to vary from its normal or expected composition. The postponement of a scheduled rebalance could mean that constituents that would otherwise be removed at rebalance due to changes in market capitalizations, issuer credit ratings, or other reasons may remain, causing the performance and constituents of the Underlying Index to vary from those expected under normal conditions. Apart from scheduled rebalances, the Index Provider or its agents may carry out additional ad hoc rebalances to the Underlying Index due to reaching certain weighting constraints, unusual market conditions or in order, for example, to correct an error in the selection of index constituents. When the Underlying Index is rebalanced and the Fund in turn rebalances its portfolio to attempt to increase the correlation between the Fund's portfolio and the Underlying Index, any transaction costs and market exposure arising from such portfolio rebalancing will be borne directly by the Fund and its shareholders. Therefore, errors and additional ad hoc rebalances carried out by the Index Provider or its agents to the Underlying Index may increase the costs to and the tracking error risk of the Fund.

An index fund has operating and other expenses while an index does not. As a result, while the Fund will attempt to track the S&P 500 as closely as possible, it will tend to underperform the Underlying Index to some degree over time. If an index fund is properly correlated to its stated index, the fund will perform poorly when the index performs poorly.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act") and the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Passive Investment Risk** — Because BlackRock does not select individual companies in the index that the Fund tracks, the Fund may hold securities of companies that present risks that an investment adviser researching individual securities might seek to avoid.

■ **Representative Sampling Risk** — Representative sampling is a method of indexing that involves investing in a representative sample of securities that collectively have a similar investment profile to the Underlying Index and resemble the Underlying Index in terms of risk factors and other key characteristics. The Fund may or may not hold every security in the Underlying Index. When the Fund deviates from a full replication indexing strategy to utilize a representative sampling strategy, the Fund is subject to an increased risk of tracking error, in that the securities selected in the aggregate for the Fund may not have an investment profile similar to those of the Underlying Index.

■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

- **Tracking Error Risk** — The Fund may be subject to tracking error, which is the divergence of the Fund's performance from that of the Underlying Index. Tracking error may occur because of differences between the securities and other instruments held in the Fund's portfolio and those included in the Underlying Index, pricing differences (including, as applicable, differences between a security's price at the local market close and the Fund's valuation of a security at the time of calculation of the Fund's net asset value ("NAV")), differences in transaction costs, the Fund's holding of uninvested cash, differences in timing of the accrual of or the valuation of dividends or other distributions, interest, the requirements to maintain pass-through tax treatment, portfolio transactions carried out to minimize the distribution of capital gains to shareholders, changes to the Underlying Index and the cost to the Fund of complying with various new or existing regulatory requirements. These risks may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or other unusual market conditions. In addition, tracking error may result because the Fund incurs fees and expenses, while the Underlying Index does not.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

- **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.
- **Concentration Risk** — The Fund reserves the right to concentrate its investments (i.e., invest 25% or more of its total assets in securities of issuers in a particular industry) to approximately the same extent that the Underlying Index concentrates in a particular industry. To the extent the Fund concentrates in a particular industry, it may be more susceptible to economic conditions and risks affecting that industry.
- **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.
- **Depository Receipts Risk** — Depository receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. In addition to investment risks associated with the underlying issuer, depository receipts expose the Fund to additional risks associated with the non-uniform terms that apply to depository receipt programs, credit exposure to the depository bank and to the sponsors and other parties with whom the depository bank establishes the programs, currency risk and the risk of an illiquid market for depository receipts. The issuers of unsponsored depository receipts are not obligated to disclose information that is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depository receipts. While depository receipts provide an alternative to directly purchasing underlying foreign securities in their respective markets and currencies, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities, including political, economic, and currency risk.
- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.
- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. The Fund's illiquid investments may

reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund's holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.

- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.
- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund's adviser or an affiliate of the Fund's adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund's liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund's NAV and increase the Fund's brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund's remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund's current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund's expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager's ability to implement a fund's investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund's performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.
- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **REIT Investment Risk** — In addition to the risks facing real estate-related securities, such as a decline in property values due to increasing vacancies, a decline in rents resulting from unanticipated economic, legal or technological developments or a decline in the price of securities of real estate companies due to a failure of borrowers to pay their loans or poor management, investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume, may engage in dilutive offerings of securities and may be more volatile than other securities. REIT issuers may also fail to maintain their exemptions from investment company registration or fail to qualify for the "dividends paid deduction" under the Internal Revenue Code, which allows REITs to reduce their corporate taxable income for dividends paid to their shareholders.
- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock's parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.

- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities, the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available, and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC (“BIM”), the Fund’s securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund’s securities lending program.
- **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund’s valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund’s ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security’s price.

Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Class I | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 24.68 | \$ 32.25 | \$ 27.28 | \$ 24.94 | \$ 20.50 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.42 | 0.41 | 0.40 | 0.43 | 0.45 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 6.03 | (6.28) | 7.28 | 4.05 | 5.94 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 6.45 | (5.87) | 7.68 | 4.48 | 6.39 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.39) | (0.42) | (0.41) | (0.46) | (0.54) |
| From net realized gain | (1.14) | (1.28) | (2.30) | (1.68) | (1.41) |
| Total distributions | (1.53) | (1.70) | (2.71) | (2.14) | (1.95) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 29.60 | \$ 24.68 | \$ 32.25 | \$ 27.28 | \$ 24.94 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 26.22% | (18.23)% | 28.53% | 18.24% | 31.34% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.13% | 0.14% | 0.14% | 0.16% | 0.15% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.13% | 0.14% | 0.14% | 0.15% | 0.14% |
| Net investment income | 1.52% | 1.48% | 1.28% | 1.73% | 1.90% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$2,183,297 | \$1,704,055 | \$2,218,337 | \$1,857,885 | \$1,709,703 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 7% | 2% | 3% | 4% | 3% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

Financial Highlights (continued)

| | BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Class II | | | | |
| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 24.36 | \$ 31.86 | \$ 26.98 | \$24.70 | \$20.32 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.37 | 0.37 | 0.35 | 0.39 | 0.41 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 5.95 | (6.21) | 7.20 | 3.99 | 5.89 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 6.32 | (5.84) | 7.55 | 4.38 | 6.30 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.35) | (0.38) | (0.37) | (0.42) | (0.51) |
| From net realized gain | (1.14) | (1.28) | (2.30) | (1.68) | (1.41) |
| Total distributions | (1.49) | (1.66) | (2.67) | (2.10) | (1.92) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 29.19 | \$ 24.36 | \$ 31.86 | \$26.98 | \$24.70 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 26.02% | (18.36)% | 28.34% | 18.03% | 31.17% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.29% | 0.29% | 0.29% | 0.31% | 0.31% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.29% | 0.29% | 0.29% | 0.30% | 0.30% |
| Net investment income | 1.37% | 1.33% | 1.13% | 1.60% | 1.74% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$13,433 | \$10,411 | \$11,633 | \$9,215 | \$7,979 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 7% | 2% | 3% | 4% | 3% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

Financial Highlights (concluded)

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Class III | | | | |
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 24.39 | \$ 31.88 | \$ 26.99 | \$ 24.70 | \$ 20.32 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.35 | 0.34 | 0.31 | 0.36 | 0.39 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 5.95 | (6.21) | 7.21 | 4.00 | 5.87 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 6.30 | (5.87) | 7.52 | 4.36 | 6.26 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.32) | (0.34) | (0.33) | (0.39) | (0.47) |
| From net realized gain | (1.14) | (1.28) | (2.30) | (1.68) | (1.41) |
| Total distributions | (1.46) | (1.62) | (2.63) | (2.07) | (1.88) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 29.23 | \$ 24.39 | \$ 31.88 | \$ 26.99 | \$ 24.70 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 25.90% | (18.42)% | 28.23% | 17.92% | 30.97% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.39% | 0.39% | 0.39% | 0.41% | 0.44% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.38% | 0.39% | 0.39% | 0.40% | 0.40% |
| Net investment income | 1.27% | 1.23% | 1.03% | 1.49% | 1.65% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$218,564 | \$202,820 | \$281,094 | \$269,805 | \$298,712 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 7% | 2% | 3% | 4% | 3% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

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Prospectus

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.

- **BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund (Class I, Class III)**

This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.

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.

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund

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Fund Overview

Key Facts About BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund

Investment Objective

The investment objective of BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) is to seek to match the performance of the Russell 2000® Index (the “Russell 2000” or the “Underlying Index”) as closely as possible before the deduction of Fund expenses.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. **The table and example below do not include separate account fees and expenses, and expenses would be higher if these fees and expenses were included.** Please refer to your variable annuity or insurance contract (the “Contract”) prospectus for information on the separate account fees and expenses associated with your Contract.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

The Fund is not subject to any shareholder fees.

| Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | Class I Shares | Class III Shares |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management Fee ¹ | 0.08% | 0.08% |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1 Fees) | None | 0.25% |
| Other Expenses | 0.15% | 0.15% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses | 0.23% | 0.48% |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | (0.01)% | (0.01)% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements ^{1,2} | 0.22% | 0.47% |

¹ As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates, through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² As described in the “Management of the Funds” section of the Fund’s prospectus, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.22% (for Class I Shares) and 0.47% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. The Fund may have to repay some of these waivers and/or reimbursements to BlackRock in the two years following such waivers and/or reimbursements. Any such repayment obligation will terminate on October 26, 2025. BlackRock has also contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit certain operational and recordkeeping fees to 0.05% (for Class I Shares) and 0.05% (for Class III Shares) of average daily net assets through June 30, 2025. Each of these contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Company or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

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. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect charges imposed by the Contract. See the Contract prospectus for information on such charges. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions and the net expenses shown in the fee table, your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Class I Shares | \$23 | \$ 73 | \$129 | \$292 |
| Class III Shares | \$48 | \$153 | \$268 | \$603 |

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. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 15% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund employs a “passive” management approach, attempting to invest in a portfolio of assets whose performance is expected to match approximately the performance of the Russell 2000. The Russell 2000 is composed of the common stocks of approximately the 1,001st through the 3,000th largest U.S. public companies by market capitalization. The Fund will be substantially invested in securities in the Russell 2000, and will invest, under normal circumstances, at least 90% of its assets in securities or other financial instruments that are components of or have economic characteristics similar to the securities included in the Russell 2000. The Fund may change its target index if Fund management believes a different index would better enable the Fund to match the performance of the market segment represented by the current index.

The Fund may invest in a statistically selected sample of stocks included in the Russell 2000 and in derivative instruments linked to the Russell 2000, which include equity index futures and total return swaps. The Fund may not invest in all of the common stocks in the Russell 2000, or in the same weightings as in the Russell 2000. The Fund chooses investments so that the market capitalizations, industry weightings and other fundamental characteristics of the stocks and derivative instruments chosen are similar to the Russell 2000 as a whole.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of the principal risks of investing in the Fund. The relative significance of each risk factor below may change over time and you should review each risk factor carefully.

■ **Small Cap Securities Risk** — Small cap companies may have limited product lines or markets. They may be less financially secure than larger, more established companies. They may depend on a more limited management group than larger capitalized companies.

■ **Index-Related Risk** — There is no guarantee that the Fund’s investment results will have a high degree of correlation to those of the Underlying Index or that the Fund will achieve its investment objective. Market disruptions or high volatility, other unusual market circumstances and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund’s ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Underlying Index. Errors in index data, index computations or the construction of the Underlying Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. Unusual market conditions or other unforeseen circumstances (such as natural disasters, political unrest or war) may impact the index provider or a third-party data provider and could cause the index provider to postpone a scheduled rebalance. This could cause the Underlying Index to vary from its normal or expected composition.

An index fund has operating and other expenses while an index does not. As a result, while the Fund will attempt to track the Underlying Index as closely as possible, it will tend to underperform the Underlying Index to some degree over time. If an index fund is properly correlated to its stated index, the fund will perform poorly when the index performs poorly.

■ **Passive Investment Risk** — Because BlackRock does not select individual companies in the index that the Fund tracks, the Fund may hold securities of companies that present risks that an investment adviser researching individual securities might seek to avoid.

■ **Tracking Error Risk** — The Fund may be subject to tracking error, which is the divergence of the Fund’s performance from that of the Underlying Index. Tracking error may occur because of differences between the securities and other instruments held in the Fund’s portfolio and those included in the Underlying Index, pricing differences (including, as applicable, differences between a security’s price at the local market close and the Fund’s valuation of a security at the time of calculation of the Fund’s net asset value), differences in transaction costs, the Fund’s holding of uninvested cash, differences in timing of the accrual of or the valuation of dividends or other distributions, interest, the requirements to maintain pass-through tax treatment, portfolio transactions carried out to minimize the distribution of capital gains to shareholders, changes to the Underlying Index and the cost to the Fund of complying with various new or existing regulatory requirements. These risks may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or other unusual market conditions. In addition, tracking error may result because the Fund incurs fees and expenses, while the Underlying Index does not.

■ **Equity Securities Risk** — Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company’s financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives can magnify the Fund’s gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them.

Hedging Risk — Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences.

Tax Risk — Certain aspects of the tax treatment of derivative instruments, including swap agreements and commodity-linked derivative instruments, are currently unclear and may be affected by changes in legislation, regulations or other legally binding authority. Such treatment may be less favorable than that given to a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Representative Sampling Risk** — Representative sampling is a method of indexing that involves investing in a representative sample of securities that collectively have a similar investment profile to the Underlying Index and resemble the Underlying Index in terms of risk factors and other key characteristics. The Fund may or may not hold every security in the Underlying Index. When the Fund deviates from a full replication indexing strategy to utilize a representative sampling strategy, the Fund is subject to an increased risk of tracking error, in that the securities selected in the aggregate for the Fund may not have an investment profile similar to those of the Underlying Index.

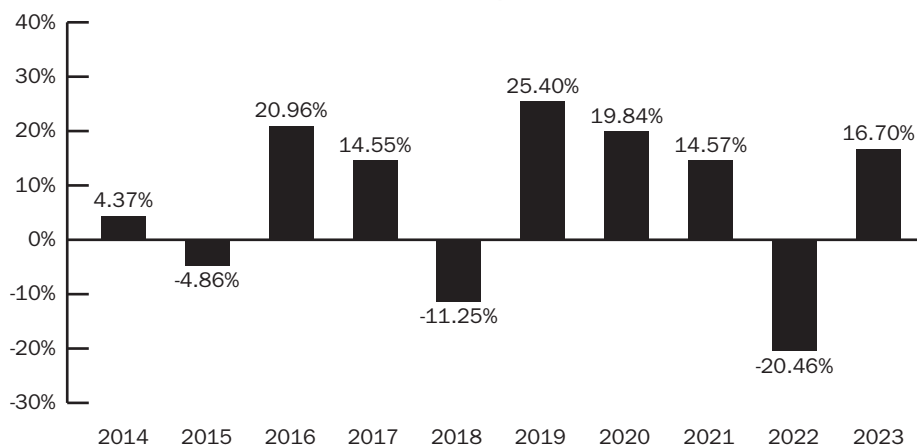
■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — Certain changes in the U.S. economy, such as when the U.S. economy weakens or when its financial markets decline, may have an adverse effect on the securities to which the Fund has exposure.

Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund’s performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The returns for Class III Shares prior to February 9, 2021, the commencement of Class III Shares, are based upon performance of the Fund’s Class I Shares, as adjusted to reflect the distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees applicable to Class III Shares. This information may be considered when assessing the performance of Class III Shares, but does not represent the actual performance of Class III Shares.

As a result of a reorganization (the “Reorganization”) which occurred on October 29, 2018, the Fund acquired all of the assets and assumed certain stated liabilities of the Small Cap Equity Index Fund (the “Predecessor Fund”), a series of State Farm Variable Product Trust. The Fund adopted the performance of the Predecessor Fund as a result of the Reorganization on October 29, 2018. The performance information below is based on the performance of the Predecessor Fund for periods prior to the date of the Reorganization. The Predecessor Fund had similar investment objective and strategies as the Fund as of the date of the Reorganization. The Predecessor Fund was managed by a different investment adviser but was subadvised by BlackRock and had the same portfolio management team as the Fund as of the date of the Reorganization. The table compares the Fund’s performance to that of the Russell 2000 Index. As with all such investments, past performance is not an indication of future results. The bar chart and table do not reflect separate account fees and expenses. If they did, returns would be less than those shown. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. If the Fund’s investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund’s returns would have been lower.

Class I Shares
ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS
BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund
As of 12/31



During the ten-year period shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 31.41% (quarter ended December 31, 2020) and the lowest return for a quarter was –30.69% (quarter ended March 31, 2020).

For the periods ended 12/31/23
Average Annual Total Returns

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|---|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund: Class I Shares | 16.70% | 9.83% | 6.91% |
| BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund: Class III Shares | 16.43% | 9.56% | 6.65% |
| Russell 2000 Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 16.93% | 9.97% | 7.16% |

Investment Manager

The Fund's investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as "BlackRock").

Portfolio Managers

| Portfolio Manager | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Paul Whitehead | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Jennifer Hsui, CFA | 2018 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. |

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares of the Fund currently are sold either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to separate accounts of insurance companies (the "Insurance Companies") and certain accounts administered by the Insurance Companies (the "Accounts") to fund benefits under the Contracts issued by the Insurance Companies. Shares of the Fund may be purchased or sold each day the New York Stock Exchange is open.

The Fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your Contract may require certain investment minimums. See your Contract prospectus for more information.

Tax Information

Distributions made by the Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

BlackRock and its affiliates may make payments relating to distribution and sales support activities to the Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Insurance Company or other financial intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Visit your Insurance Company's website, which may have more information.

Details About the Fund

Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund (the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

How the Fund Invests

Investment Objective

The Fund seeks to match the performance of the Russell 2000® Index (the “Russell 2000” or the “Underlying Index”) as closely as possible before the deduction of Fund expenses.

The Fund’s investment objective is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without 60 days’ prior notice to shareholders.

Investment Process

The Russell 2000 is composed of the common stocks of approximately the 1,001st through the 3,000th largest U.S. companies by market capitalization, as determined by Russell Investments (“Russell” or the “Index Provider”). The stocks represented in the Russell 2000 are issued by small capitalization U.S. companies in a wide range of businesses. The Russell 2000 is a market-weighted index, which means that the largest stocks represented in the index have the most effect on the index’s performance. The Russell 2000 is generally considered broadly representative of the performance of publicly traded U.S. smaller-capitalization stocks. Russell’s selection of a stock for the Russell 2000 does not mean that Russell believes the stock to be an attractive investment. Russell updates the Russell 2000 once each year, at which time there may be substantial changes in the composition of the index (and consequently, significant turnover in the Fund). Stocks of companies that merge, are acquired or otherwise cease to exist during the year are not replaced in the index.

The Fund will not attempt to buy or sell securities based on Fund management’s economic, financial or market analysis, but will instead employ a “passive” investment approach. This means that Fund management will attempt to remain invested at all times in a portfolio of assets the performance of which is expected to match approximately that of the Russell 2000. The Fund will only buy or sell securities when Fund management believes it is necessary to do so in order to match the performance of the Russell 2000. Accordingly, it is anticipated that the Fund’s portfolio turnover and trading costs will be lower than actively managed funds.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund employs a “passive” management approach, attempting to invest in a portfolio of assets whose performance is expected to match approximately the performance of the Russell 2000. The Fund will be substantially invested in securities in the Russell 2000, and will invest, under normal circumstances, at least 90% of its assets in securities or other financial instruments that are components of or have economic characteristics similar to the securities included in the Russell 2000. The Fund may change its target index if Fund management believes a different index would better enable the Fund to match the performance of the market segment represented by the current index.

The Fund may invest in a statistically selected sample of stocks included in the Russell 2000 and in derivative instruments linked to the Russell 2000, which include equity index futures and total return swaps. The Fund may not invest in all of the common stocks in the Russell 2000, or in the same weightings as in the Russell 2000. The Fund chooses investments so that the market capitalizations, industry weightings and other fundamental characteristics of the stocks and derivative instruments chosen are similar to the Russell 2000 as a whole.

The past performance of the Underlying Index is not a guide to future performance. BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) does not guarantee the accuracy or the completeness of the Underlying Index or any data included therein and BlackRock shall have no liability for any errors, omissions or interruptions therein. BlackRock makes no warranty, express or implied, to the owners of shares of the Fund or to any other person or entity, as to results to be obtained by the Fund from the use of the Underlying Index or any data included therein. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall BlackRock have any liability for any special, punitive, direct, indirect or consequential damages (including lost profits), even if notified of the possibility of such damages.

Other Strategies

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

Fund management may also purchase stocks not included in the Russell 2000 when it believes that it would be a cost efficient way of approximating the Russell 2000’s performance to do so. If Fund management uses these techniques, the Fund may not track the Russell 2000 as closely as it would if it were fully replicating the Russell 2000.

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow up to the limits set forth under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”), the rules and regulations thereunder and any applicable exemptive relief.
- **Depository Receipts** — The Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers in the form of depository receipts or other securities that are convertible into securities of foreign issuers. American Depository Receipts are receipts typically issued by an American bank or trust company that evidence underlying securities issued by a foreign corporation. European Depository Receipts (issued in Europe) and Global Depository Receipts (issued throughout the world) each evidence a similar ownership arrangement. The Fund may invest in unsponsored depository receipts.
- **Illiquid Investments** — The Fund may invest up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment.
- **Investment Companies** — Each Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), unit investment trusts, and open-end and closed-end funds, subject to the applicable limits under the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds and affiliated ETFs.
- **“New Issues”** — The Fund has the ability to invest in “new issues.” “New issues” are initial public offerings (“IPOs”) of equity securities.
- **Real Estate Investment Trusts (“REITs”)** — The Fund may invest in REITs. REITs are companies that own interests in real estate or in real estate-related loans or other interests, and have revenue primarily consisting of rent derived from owned, income producing real estate properties and capital gains from the sale of such properties. REITs can generally be classified as equity REITs, mortgage REITs and hybrid REITs. Equity REITs invest the majority of their assets directly in real property and derive their income primarily from rents. Equity REITs can also realize capital gains by selling properties that have appreciated in value. Mortgage REITs invest the majority of their assets in real estate mortgages and derive their income primarily from interest payments. Hybrid REITs combine the characteristics of both equity REITs and mortgage REITs. REITs are not taxed on income distributed to shareholders provided they comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”).
- **Repurchase Agreements, Purchase and Sale Contracts** — The Fund may enter into certain types of repurchase agreements or purchase and sale contracts. Under a repurchase agreement, the seller agrees to repurchase a security at a mutually agreed-upon time and price. A purchase and sale contract is similar to a repurchase agreement, but purchase and sale contracts also provide that the purchaser receives any interest on the security paid during the period.
- **Restricted Securities** — Restricted securities are securities that cannot be offered for public resale unless registered under the applicable securities laws or that have a contractual restriction that prohibits or limits their resale. They may include Rule 144A securities, which are privately placed securities that can be resold to qualified institutional buyers but not to the general public, and securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers that are offered pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- **Securities Lending** — The Fund may lend securities with a value up to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of its total assets to financial institutions that provide cash or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government as collateral.
- **Short-Term Money Market Instruments** — The Fund will also invest in short-term money market instruments as cash reserves. The Fund will not invest in options, futures, other derivative instruments or short-term money market instruments in order to lessen the Fund’s exposure to common stocks as a defensive strategy, but will instead attempt to remain fully invested at all times.
- **When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments** — The purchase or sale of securities on a when-issued basis or on a delayed delivery basis or through a forward commitment involves the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction.

ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM OF SMALL CAP INDEX V.I. FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Paul Whitehead and Jennifer Hsui, CFA are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Funds — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the Statement of Additional Information also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

Leverage Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives can magnify the Fund’s gains and losses. Relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of a derivatives position and can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Market Risk — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund’s derivatives positions to lose value.

Counterparty Risk — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will be unable or unwilling to fulfill its contractual obligation, and the related risks of having concentrated exposure to such a counterparty.

Illiquidity Risk — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

Operational Risk — The use of derivatives includes the risk of potential operational issues, including documentation issues, settlement issues, systems failures, inadequate controls and human error.

Legal Risk — The risk of insufficient documentation, insufficient capacity or authority of counterparty, or legality or enforceability of a contract.

Volatility and Correlation Risk — The Fund’s use of derivatives may reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund’s use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

Valuation Risk — Valuation for derivatives may not be readily available in the market. Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

Hedging Risk — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund’s hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

Tax Risk — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund’s distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”). If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regulatory Risk — Derivative contracts are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, with respect to uncleared swaps, swap dealers are required to collect variation margin from the Fund and may be required by applicable regulations to collect initial

margin from the Fund. Both initial and variation margin may be comprised of cash and/or securities, subject to applicable regulatory haircuts. Shares of investment companies (other than certain money market funds) may not be posted as collateral under applicable regulations. In addition, regulations adopted by global prudential regulators that are now in effect require certain bank-regulated counterparties and certain of their affiliates to include in certain financial contracts, including many derivatives contracts, terms that delay or restrict the rights of counterparties, such as the Fund, to terminate such contracts, foreclose upon collateral, exercise other default rights or restrict transfers of credit support in the event that the counterparty and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings. The implementation of these requirements with respect to derivatives, as well as regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of other derivatives, may increase the costs and risks to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

Future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund

Swaps – Swap agreements, including total return swaps that may be referred to as contracts for difference, are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few days to more than one year. In a standard “swap” transaction, two parties agree to exchange the value(s) or cash flow(s) of one asset for another over a certain period of time. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. Swap agreements may also involve the risk that there is an imperfect correlation between the return on the Fund's obligation to its counterparty and the return on the referenced asset. In addition, swap agreements are subject to market and illiquidity risk, leverage risk and hedging risk.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts – Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

Futures – Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

- **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 portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in inflation, interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.
- **Index-Related Risk** — The Fund seeks to achieve a return that corresponds generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the Underlying Index as published by the Index Provider. There is no assurance that the Index Provider or any agents that may act on its behalf will compile the Underlying Index accurately, or that the Underlying Index will be determined, composed or calculated accurately. While the Index Provider provides descriptions of what the Underlying Index is designed to achieve, neither the Index Provider nor its agents provide any warranty or accept any liability in relation to the quality, accuracy or completeness of the Underlying Index or its related data, and they do not guarantee that the Underlying Index will be in line with the Index Provider's methodology. BlackRock's mandate as described in this prospectus is to manage the Fund consistently with the Underlying Index provided by the Index Provider to BlackRock. BlackRock does not provide any warranty or guarantee against the Index Provider's or any agent's errors. Errors in respect of the quality, accuracy and completeness of the data used to compile the Underlying Index may occur from time to time and may not be

identified and corrected by the Index Provider for a period of time or at all, particularly where the indices are less commonly used as benchmarks by funds or managers. Such errors may negatively or positively impact the Fund and its shareholders. For example, during a period where the Underlying Index contains incorrect constituents, the Fund would have market exposure to such constituents and would be underexposed to the Underlying Index's other constituents. Shareholders should understand that any gains from Index Provider errors will be kept by the Fund and its shareholders and any losses or costs resulting from Index Provider errors will be borne by the Fund and its shareholders.

Unusual market conditions or other unforeseen circumstances (such as natural disasters, political unrest or war) may impact the index provider or a third-party data provider and could cause the index provider to postpone a scheduled rebalance to the Underlying Index. This could cause the Underlying Index to vary from its normal or expected composition. The postponement of a scheduled rebalance could mean that constituents that would otherwise be removed at rebalance due to changes in market capitalizations, issuer credit ratings, or other reasons may remain, causing the performance and constituents of the Underlying Index to vary from those expected under normal conditions. Apart from scheduled rebalances, the Index Provider or its agents may carry out additional ad hoc rebalances to the Underlying Index due to reaching certain weighting constraints, unusual market conditions or in order, for example, to correct an error in the selection of index constituents. When the Underlying Index is rebalanced and the Fund in turn rebalances its portfolio to attempt to increase the correlation between the Fund's portfolio and the Underlying Index, any transaction costs and market exposure arising from such portfolio rebalancing will be borne directly by the Fund and its shareholders. Therefore, errors and additional ad hoc rebalances carried out by the Index Provider or its agents to the Underlying Index may increase the costs to and the tracking error risk of the Fund.

An index fund has operating and other expenses while an index does not. As a result, while the Fund will attempt to track the Underlying Index as closely as possible, it will tend to underperform the Underlying Index to some degree over time. If an index fund is properly correlated to its stated index, the fund will perform poorly when the index performs poorly.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act") and the rules thereunder. Under Rule 18f-4 under the Investment Company Act, among other things, the Fund must either use derivatives in a limited manner or comply with an outer limit on fund leverage risk based on value-at-risk. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act and the rules thereunder. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. The value of a security or other asset may decline due to changes in general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security or other asset, or factors that affect a particular issuer or issuers, exchange, country, group of countries, region, market, industry, group of industries, sector or asset class. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues like pandemics or epidemics, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Fund and its investments. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

An outbreak of an infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in December 2019 developed into a global pandemic that has resulted in numerous disruptions in the market and has had significant economic impact leaving general concern and uncertainty. Although vaccines have been developed and approved for use by various governments, the duration of the pandemic and its effects cannot be predicted with certainty. The impact of this coronavirus, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could affect the economies of many nations, individual companies and the market in general ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

■ **Passive Investment Risk** — Because BlackRock does not select individual companies in the index that the Fund tracks, the Fund may hold securities of companies that present risks that an investment adviser researching individual securities might seek to avoid.

■ **Representative Sampling Risk** — Representative sampling is a method of indexing that involves investing in a representative sample of securities that collectively have a similar investment profile to the Underlying Index and resemble the Underlying Index in terms of risk factors and other key characteristics. The Fund may or may not hold every security in the Underlying Index. When the Fund deviates from a full replication indexing strategy to utilize a representative sampling strategy, the Fund is subject to an increased risk of tracking error, in that the securities selected in the aggregate for the Fund may not have an investment profile similar to those of the Underlying Index.

■ **Small Cap Securities Risk** — Small cap companies may have limited product lines or markets. They may be less financially secure than larger, more established companies. They may depend on a small number of key personnel. If a product fails or there are other adverse developments, or if management changes, the Fund's investment in a small cap company may lose substantial value. In addition, it is more difficult to get information on smaller companies, which tend to be less well known, have shorter operating histories, do not have significant ownership by large investors and are followed by relatively few securities analysts.

The securities of small cap companies generally trade in lower volumes and are subject to greater and more unpredictable price changes than larger cap securities or the market as a whole. In addition, small cap securities may be particularly sensitive to changes in interest rates, borrowing costs and earnings. Investing in small cap securities requires a longer term view.

■ **Tracking Error Risk** — The Fund may be subject to tracking error, which is the divergence of the Fund's performance from that of the Underlying Index. Tracking error may occur because of differences between the securities and other instruments held in the Fund's portfolio and those included in the Underlying Index, pricing differences (including, as applicable, differences between a security's price at the local market close and the Fund's valuation of a security at the time of calculation of the Fund's net asset value), differences in transaction costs, the Fund's holding of uninvested cash, differences in timing of the accrual of or the valuation of dividends or other distributions, interest, the requirements to maintain pass-through tax treatment, portfolio transactions carried out to minimize the distribution of capital gains to shareholders, changes to the Underlying Index and the cost to the Fund of complying with various new or existing regulatory requirements. These risks may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or other unusual market conditions. In addition, tracking error may result because the Fund incurs fees and expenses, while the Underlying Index does not.

■ **Risk of Investing in the United States** — A decrease in imports or exports, changes in trade regulations, inflation and/or an economic recession in the United States may have a material adverse effect on the U.S. economy and the securities listed on U.S. exchanges. Proposed and adopted policy and legislative changes in the United States are changing many aspects of financial, commercial, public health, environmental, and other regulation and may have a significant effect on U.S. markets generally, as well as on the value of certain securities. Governmental agencies project that the United States will continue to maintain elevated public debt levels for the foreseeable future. Although elevated debt levels do not necessarily indicate or cause economic problems, elevated public debt service costs may constrain future economic growth.

The United States has developed increasingly strained relations with a number of foreign countries. If relations with certain countries deteriorate, it could adversely affect U.S. issuers as well as non-U.S. issuers that rely on the United States for trade. The United States has also experienced increased internal political discord, as well as significant challenges in managing and containing the outbreak of COVID-19. If these trends were to continue, it may have an adverse impact on the U.S. economy and the issuers in which the Fund invests.

Other Risks of Investing in the Fund

The Fund may also be subject to certain other non-principal risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

■ **Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.

■ **Concentration Risk** — The Fund reserves the right to concentrate its investments (*i.e.*, invest 25% or more of its total assets in securities of issuers in a particular industry) to approximately the same extent that the Underlying Index concentrates in a particular industry. To the extent the Fund concentrates in a particular industry, it may be more susceptible to economic conditions and risks affecting that industry.

■ **Cyber Security Risk** — Failures or breaches of the electronic systems of the Fund, the Fund's adviser, distributor, and other service providers, or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests have the ability to cause disruptions and negatively impact the Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Fund and its shareholders. While the Fund has established business continuity plans and risk management systems seeking to address system breaches or failures, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security plans and systems of the Fund's service providers or issuers of securities in which the Fund invests.

■ **Depository Receipts Risk** — Depository receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. In addition to investment risks associated with the underlying issuer, depository receipts expose the Fund to additional risks associated with the non-uniform terms that apply to depository receipt programs, credit exposure to the depository bank and to the sponsors and other parties with whom the depository bank establishes the programs, currency risk and the risk of an illiquid market for depository receipts. The issuers of unsponsored depository receipts are not obligated to disclose information that

is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depositary receipts. While depositary receipts provide an alternative to directly purchasing underlying foreign securities in their respective markets and currencies, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities, including political, economic, and currency risk.

- **Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund’s net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund’s net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund’s expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund’s expense ratio could be significant.
- **Illiquid Investments Risk** — The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Liquid investments may become illiquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. There can be no assurance that a security or instrument that is deemed to be liquid when purchased will continue to be liquid for as long as it is held by the Fund, and any security or instrument held by the Fund may be deemed an illiquid investment pursuant to the Fund’s liquidity risk management program. The Fund’s illiquid investments may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid investments at an advantageous time or price. In addition, if the Fund is limited in its ability to sell illiquid investments during periods when shareholders are redeeming their shares, the Fund will need to sell liquid securities to meet redemption requests and illiquid securities will become a larger portion of the Fund’s holdings. An investment may be illiquid due to, among other things, the lack of an active trading market. To the extent that the Fund’s principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to the risks associated with illiquid investments. Illiquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.
- **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market and selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ones affiliated with the Fund, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (to the extent not offset by BlackRock through waivers). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.
- **Large Shareholder and Large-Scale Redemption Risk** — Certain shareholders, including a third-party investor, the Fund’s adviser or an affiliate of the Fund’s adviser, or another entity, may from time to time own or manage a substantial amount of Fund shares or may invest in the Fund and hold its investment for a limited period of time. There can be no assurance that any large shareholder or large group of shareholders would not redeem their investment or that the size of the Fund would be maintained. Redemptions of a large number of Fund shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the Fund’s liquidity and net assets. These redemptions may force the Fund to sell portfolio securities to meet redemption requests when it might not otherwise do so, which may negatively impact the Fund’s NAV and increase the Fund’s brokerage costs and/or accelerate the realization of taxable income and cause the Fund to make taxable distributions to its shareholders earlier than the Fund otherwise would have. In addition, under certain circumstances, non-redeeming shareholders may be treated as receiving a disproportionately large taxable distribution during or with respect to such tax year. The Fund also may be required to sell its more liquid Fund investments to meet a large redemption, in which case the Fund’s remaining assets may be less liquid, more volatile, and more difficult to price. In addition, large redemptions can result in the Fund’s current expenses being allocated over a smaller asset base, which generally results in an increase in the Fund’s expense ratio. Because large redemptions can adversely affect a portfolio manager’s ability to implement a fund’s investment strategy, the Fund also reserves the right to redeem in-kind, subject to certain conditions. In addition, large purchases of Fund shares may adversely affect the Fund’s performance to the extent that the Fund is delayed in investing new cash and is required to maintain a larger cash position than it ordinarily would, diluting its investment returns.
- **Money Market Securities Risk** — If market conditions improve while the Fund has invested some or all of its assets in high quality money market securities, this strategy could result in reducing the potential gain from the market upswing, thus reducing the Fund’s opportunity to achieve its investment objective.
- **“New Issues” Risk** — “New issues” are IPOs of equity securities. Investments in companies that have recently gone public have the potential to produce substantial gains for the Fund. However, there is no assurance that the Fund will have access to profitable IPOs and therefore investors should not rely on these past gains as an indication of future performance. The investment performance of the Fund during periods when it is unable to invest

significantly or at all in IPOs may be lower than during periods when the Fund is able to do so. In addition, as the Fund increases in size, the impact of IPOs on the Fund's performance will generally decrease. Securities issued in IPOs are subject to many of the same risks as investing in companies with smaller market capitalizations. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the companies may be available for very limited periods. In addition, the prices of securities sold in IPOs may be highly volatile or may decline shortly after the IPO. When an IPO is brought to the market, availability may be limited and the Fund may not be able to buy any shares at the offering price, or, if it is able to buy shares, it may not be able to buy as many shares at the offering price as it would like.

- **Operational Risk** — The Fund is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human errors, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate internal or external processes, and technology or systems failures. The use of certain investment strategies that involve manual or additional processing, such as over-the-counter derivatives, increases these risks. While service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from those of the Fund in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. The Fund and BlackRock seek to reduce these operational risks through controls, procedures and oversight. However, it is not possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls that completely eliminate or mitigate the occurrence or effects of such failures. The Fund, including its performance and continued operation, and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.
- **REIT Investment Risk** — In addition to the risks facing real estate-related securities, such as a decline in property values due to increasing vacancies, a decline in rents resulting from unanticipated economic, legal or technological developments or a decline in the price of securities of real estate companies due to a failure of borrowers to pay their loans or poor management, investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume, may engage in dilutive offerings of securities and may be more volatile than other securities. REIT issuers may also fail to maintain their exemptions from investment company registration or fail to qualify for the "dividends paid deduction" under the Internal Revenue Code, which allows REITs to reduce their corporate taxable income for dividends paid to their shareholders.
- **Reliance on Advisor Risk** — The Fund is dependent upon services and resources provided by BlackRock, and therefore BlackRock's parent, BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock is not required to devote its full time to the business of the Fund and there is no guarantee or requirement that any investment professional or other employee of BlackRock will allocate a substantial portion of his or her time to the Fund. The loss of, or changes in, BlackRock's BFA's personnel could have a negative effect on the performance or the continued operation of the Fund.
- **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.
- **Restricted Securities Risk** — Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on their marketability, and may prevent the Fund from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may not be listed on an exchange and may have no active trading market. In order to sell such securities, the Fund may have to bear the expense of registering the securities for resale and the risk of substantial delays in effecting the registration. Other transaction costs may be higher for restricted securities than unrestricted securities. Restricted securities may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available, and the securities may have significant volatility. Also, the Fund may get only limited information about the issuer of a given restricted security, and therefore may be less able to predict a loss. Certain restricted securities may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses to the Fund.
- **Securities Lending Risk** — The Fund may engage in securities lending. Securities lending involves the risk that the Fund may lose money because the borrower of the loaned securities fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could also lose money in the event of a decline in the value of collateral provided for loaned securities or a decline in the value of any investments made with cash collateral. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the Fund. BlackRock Investment Management, LLC ("BIM"), the Fund's securities lending agent, will consider the tax impact to shareholders of substitute payments for dividends when managing the Fund's securities lending program.
- **Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund's valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services

generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund's ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.

- ***When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments Risk*** — When-issued and delayed delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security the Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There also is the risk that the security will not be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, the Fund may lose both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security's price.

Financial Highlights

As a result of the Reorganization, the Fund adopted the financial history of the Predecessor Fund. Therefore, the Financial Highlights information presented for the Fund prior to the date of the Reorganization is the financial history of the Predecessor Fund. The Financial Highlights table is intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that a shareholder would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's audited financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report. The Fund's Annual Report are available on request.

| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Class I | | | | |
| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
| Net asset value, beginning of year | \$ 10.08 | \$ 13.10 | \$ 13.02 | \$ 11.34 | \$ 9.60 |
| Net investment income ^(a) | 0.15 | 0.14 | 0.14 | 0.12 | 0.15 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.52 | (2.83) | 1.68 | 2.11 | 2.29 |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.67 | (2.69) | 1.82 | 2.23 | 2.44 |
| Distributions^(b) | | | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.14) | (0.13) | (0.16) | (0.16) | (0.15) |
| From net realized gain | (0.28) | (0.20) | (1.58) | (0.39) | (0.55) |
| Total distributions | (0.42) | (0.33) | (1.74) | (0.55) | (0.70) |
| Net asset value, end of year | \$ 11.33 | \$ 10.08 | \$ 13.10 | \$ 13.02 | \$ 11.34 |
| Total Return^(c) | | | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 16.70% | (20.46)% | 14.57% | 19.84% | 25.40% |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(d) | | | | | |
| Total expenses ^(e) | 0.23% | 0.24% | 0.23% | 0.29% | 0.27% |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.22% | 0.21% | 0.22% | 0.22% | 0.22% |
| Net investment income | 1.39% | 1.30% | 0.96% | 1.17% | 1.37% |
| Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net assets, end of year (000) | \$313,531 | \$274,954 | \$351,338 | \$321,743 | \$284,967 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 15% | 18% | 21% | 16% | 13% |

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

^(c) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

^(d) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

^(e) Includes recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees. Excluding the recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees, the expense ratios were as follows:

| | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Year Ended 12/31/21 | Year Ended 12/31/20 | Year Ended 12/31/19 |
|----------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Expense ratios | 0.21% | N/A | 0.23% | N/A | N/A |

Financial Highlights (concluded)

| | BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| | Class III | | |
| (For a share outstanding throughout each period) | Year Ended 12/31/23 | Year Ended 12/31/22 | Period from 02/09/21 ^(a) to 12/31/21 |
| Net asset value, beginning of period | \$10.05 | \$ 13.07 | \$15.16 |
| Net investment income ^(b) | 0.12 | 0.13 | 0.16 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | 1.52 | (2.83) | (0.52) ^(c) |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations | 1.64 | (2.70) | (0.36) |
| Distributions^(d) | | | |
| From net investment income | (0.12) | (0.12) | (0.15) |
| From net realized gain | (0.28) | (0.20) | (1.58) |
| Total distributions | (0.40) | (0.32) | (1.73) |
| Net asset value, end of period | \$11.29 | \$ 10.05 | \$13.07 |
| Total Return^(e) | | | |
| Based on net asset value | 16.43% | (20.63)% | (1.85)% ^(f) |
| Ratios to Average Net Assets^(g) | | | |
| Total expenses | 0.48% ^(h) | 0.51% | 0.41% ⁽ⁱ⁾ |
| Total expenses after fees waived and/or reimbursed | 0.47% | 0.45% | 0.41% ⁽ⁱ⁾ |
| Net investment income | 1.16% | 1.21% | 1.23% ⁽ⁱ⁾ |
| Supplemental Data | | | |
| Net assets, end of period (000) | \$3,322 | \$ 2,057 | \$ 635 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 15% | 18% | 21% ^(j) |

(a) Commencement of operations.

(b) Based on average shares outstanding.

(c) The amounts reported for a share outstanding may not accord with the change in aggregate gains and losses in securities for the fiscal period due to the timing of capital share transactions in relation to the fluctuating market values of the Fund's underlying securities.

(d) Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations.

(e) Where applicable, excludes insurance-related fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

(f) Not annualized.

(g) Excludes fees and expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds.

(h) Includes recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees. Excluding the recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees for the year ended December 31, 2023, the expense ratio would have been 0.46%.

(i) Annualized.

(j) Portfolio turnover rate is representative of the portfolio for the entire year.

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Other Important Information

BlackRock Variable Series Funds

Class I Shares

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Account Information

The Insurance Companies

Shares of BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund, BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund, BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund, BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund, BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund, BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund, BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund, BlackRock International V.I. Fund, BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund, BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund, BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund (each a “Fund,” and collectively, the “Funds”) are sold to separate accounts of insurance companies (the “Insurance Companies”) either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to fund certain variable life insurance contracts and/or variable annuities (the “Contracts”) issued by the Insurance Companies.

Shares of the Funds are owned by the Insurance Companies, not Contract owners. A Contract owner has no direct interest in the shares of a Fund, but only in the Contract. A Contract is described in the prospectus for that Contract. That prospectus describes the relationship between changes in the value of shares of a Fund, and the benefits provided under a Contract. The prospectus for a Contract also describes various fees payable to the Insurance Company and charges to the separate account made by the Insurance Company with respect to the Contract. While this prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information (the “SAI”) are intended for use by Contract owners, because shares of the Funds will be sold only to the Insurance Companies for the separate accounts, the terms “you,” “your,” “shareholder” and “shareholders” in this prospectus may refer to the Insurance Companies.

More than one Insurance Company may invest in each Fund. It is possible that a difference may arise among the interests of Insurance Companies that invest in a Fund or the holders of different types of Contracts — for example, if applicable state insurance law or Contract owner instructions prevent an Insurance Company from continuing to invest in a Fund following a change in the Fund’s investment policies, or if different tax laws apply to variable life insurance contracts and variable annuities. The Funds and the Insurance Companies will attempt to monitor events to prevent such differences from arising. If a conflict between Insurance Companies occurs, or between life insurance policies and annuity contracts, however, a Fund may be required to take actions that are adverse to the interests of a particular Insurance Company and its Contract owners, or to the interests of holders of a particular type of Contract.

If approved by BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.’s (the “Company”) Board of Directors (the “Board”), BlackRock, on behalf of the Funds, may enter into agreements with a Service Organization, as defined below, pursuant to which a Fund will pay a Service Organization for administrative, networking, recordkeeping, subtransfer agency and shareholder services. These payments are based on a percentage of the average daily net assets of Fund shareholders serviced by a Service Organization. The aggregate amount of these payments may be substantial.

From time to time, BlackRock, BlackRock Investments, LLC (the “Distributor”) and their affiliates may compensate affiliated and unaffiliated Insurance Companies and other financial intermediaries (“Service Organizations”) for the sale and distribution of shares of the Funds. These payments would be in addition to the Fund payments described above, if approved by the Board, and may be a fixed dollar amount, may be based on the number of customer accounts maintained by the Service Organization, may be based on a percentage of the value of shares sold to, or held by, customers of the Service Organization or may be calculated on another basis. The aggregate amount of these payments by BlackRock, the Distributor and their affiliates may be substantial and, in some circumstances, may create an incentive for a Service Organization, its employees or associated persons to recommend or sell shares of the Funds to you. Please contact your Service Organization for details about payments it may receive from the Funds or from BlackRock, the Distributor or their affiliates. For more information, see the SAI.

How to Buy and Sell Shares

The Company is offering through this prospectus Class I Shares in each of its Funds to the Insurance Companies. The price of shares purchased by the Insurance Companies is based on the next calculation of the per share net asset value of a Fund after an order is placed. The Company may reject any order to buy shares and may suspend the sale of shares at any time. The Company will redeem all full and fractional shares of the Funds for cash. The price of redeemed shares is based on the next calculation of net asset value after a redemption order is placed. The value of shares at the time of redemption may be more or less than the shareholder’s cost, depending in part on the net asset value of such shares at such time.

Short-Term Trading Policy

Each Fund other than BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund

The Board has determined that the interests of long-term shareholders and a Fund’s ability to manage its investments may be adversely affected when shares are repeatedly bought, sold or exchanged in response to short-term market

fluctuations — also known as “market timing.” The Funds are not designed for market timing organizations or other entities using programmed or frequent purchases and sales or exchanges. The exchange privilege is not intended as a vehicle for short-term trading. Excessive purchase and sale or exchange activity may interfere with portfolio management, increase expenses and taxes and may have an adverse effect on the performance of a Fund and its returns to shareholders. For example, large flows of cash into and out of a Fund may require the management team to allocate a significant amount of assets to cash or other short-term investments or sell securities, rather than maintaining such assets in securities selected to achieve a Fund’s investment objective. Frequent trading may cause a Fund to sell securities at less favorable prices, and transaction costs, such as brokerage commissions, can reduce a Fund’s performance.

A fund’s investment in non-U.S. securities is subject to the risk that an investor may seek to take advantage of a delay between the change in value of such fund’s portfolio securities and the determination of the fund’s net asset value as a result of different closing times of U.S. and non-U.S. markets by buying or selling fund shares at a price that does not reflect their true value. A similar risk exists for funds that invest in securities of small capitalization companies, securities of issuers located in emerging markets or high yield securities (“junk bonds”) that are thinly traded and therefore may have actual values that differ from their market prices. This short-term arbitrage activity can reduce the return received by long-term shareholders. Each Fund will seek to eliminate these opportunities by using fair value pricing, as described in “Management of the Funds — Valuation of Fund Investments” below.

The Funds discourage market timing and seek to prevent frequent purchases and sales or exchanges of Fund shares that they determine may be detrimental to a Fund or long-term shareholders. The Board has approved the policies discussed below to seek to deter market timing activity. The Board has not adopted any specific numerical restrictions on purchases, sales and exchanges of Fund shares because certain legitimate strategies will not result in harm to a Fund or its shareholders.

If as a result of its own investigation, information provided by a financial intermediary or other third party, or otherwise, a Fund believes, in its sole discretion, that your short-term trading is excessive or that you are engaging in market timing activity, it reserves the right to reject any specific purchase or exchange order. If a Fund rejects your purchase or exchange order, you will not be able to execute that transaction, and such Fund will not be responsible for any losses you therefore may suffer. For transactions placed directly with a Fund, such Fund may consider the trading history of accounts under common ownership or control for the purpose of enforcing these policies. Transactions placed through the same financial intermediary on an omnibus basis may be deemed part of a group for the purpose of this policy and may be rejected in whole or in part by a Fund. Certain accounts, such as omnibus accounts and accounts at financial intermediaries, however, include multiple investors and such accounts typically provide a Fund with net purchase or redemption and exchange requests on any given day where purchases, redemptions and exchanges of shares are netted against one another and the identity of individual purchasers, redeemers and exchangers whose orders are aggregated may not be known by a Fund. While the Funds monitor for market timing activity, the Funds may be unable to identify such activities because the netting effect in omnibus accounts often makes it more difficult to locate and eliminate market timers from the Funds. The Distributor has entered into agreements with respect to financial professionals, and other financial intermediaries that maintain omnibus accounts with the transfer agent pursuant to which such financial professionals and other financial intermediaries undertake to cooperate with the Distributor in monitoring purchase, exchange and redemption orders by their customers in order to detect and prevent short-term or excessive trading in the Funds’ shares through such accounts. Identification of market timers may also be limited by operational systems and technical limitations. In the event that a financial intermediary is determined by a Fund to be engaged in market timing or other improper trading activity, the Distributor may terminate such financial intermediary’s agreement with the Distributor, suspend such financial intermediary’s trading privileges or take other appropriate actions.

There is no assurance that the methods described above will prevent market timing or other trading that may be deemed abusive.

The Funds may from time to time use other methods that they believe are appropriate to deter market timing or other trading activity that may be detrimental to the Funds or long-term shareholders.

BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund

Market timing is an investment technique involving frequent short-term trading of mutual fund shares designed to exploit market movements or inefficiencies in the way a mutual fund prices its shares. The Board has evaluated the risks of market timing activities by BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund’s shareholders and has determined that due to (i) the Fund’s policy of seeking to maintain the Fund’s net asset value per share at \$1.00 each day, (ii) the nature of the Fund’s portfolio holdings, and (iii) the nature of the Fund’s shareholders, it is unlikely that (a) market timing would be attempted by the Fund’s shareholders or (b) any attempts to market time the Fund by shareholders would result in a negative impact to the Fund or its shareholders. As a result, the Board has not adopted policies and procedures to deter short-term trading in the Fund. There can be no assurances, however, that the Fund may not, on occasion, serve as a temporary or short-term investment vehicle for those who seek to market time funds offered by other investment companies.

Management of the Funds

BlackRock

BlackRock, each Fund's investment adviser, manages each Fund's investments and its business operations subject to the oversight of the Board of each of the Funds. While BlackRock is ultimately responsible for the management of the Funds, it is able to draw upon the trading, research and expertise of its asset management affiliates for portfolio decisions and management with respect to certain portfolio securities. BlackRock is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of BlackRock, Inc.

BlackRock, a registered investment adviser, was organized in 1994 to perform advisory services for investment companies. BlackRock International Limited ("BIL"), BlackRock (Singapore) Limited ("BRS") and BlackRock Asset Management North Asia Limited ("BNA") are registered investment advisers organized in 1995, 2000 and 1998, respectively. BlackRock and its affiliates had approximately \$10.472 trillion in investment company and other portfolio assets under management as of March 31, 2024.

Each Fund has entered into a management agreement (the "Management Agreement") with BlackRock. Under the Management Agreement, BlackRock receives for its services to each Fund a fee at an annual rate described below. The fee is computed daily on a Fund-by-Fund basis and payable monthly.

BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.150% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.140% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.135% |
| In excess of \$5 billion | 0.130% |

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$250 million | 0.500% |
| In excess of \$250 million but not exceeding \$300 million | 0.450% |
| In excess of \$300 million but not exceeding \$400 million | 0.425% |
| In excess of \$400 million | 0.400% |

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.75% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.71% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.68% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.64% |

For BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund, BlackRock has agreed to voluntarily waive 0.05% of its management fee payable by the Fund. This voluntary waiver may be reduced or discontinued at any time without notice.

BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.75% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.71% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.68% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.64% |

BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.60% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.56% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.54% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.52% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.51% |

BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.61% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.59% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.57% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.55% |

BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.60% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.56% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.54% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.52% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.51% |

BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|--|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$6 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$6 billion but not exceeding \$8 billion | 0.61% |
| In excess of \$8 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.59% |
| In excess of \$10 billion but not exceeding \$15 billion | 0.57% |
| In excess of \$15 billion | 0.55% |

BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|--|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.500% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$2 billion | 0.450% |
| In excess of \$2 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.400% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$4 billion | 0.375% |
| In excess of \$4 billion but not exceeding \$7 billion | 0.350% |
| In excess of \$7 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.325% |
| In excess of \$10 billion but not exceeding \$15 billion | 0.300% |
| In excess of \$15 billion | 0.290% |

For BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund, BlackRock has voluntarily agreed to waive a portion of its fees and/or reimburse operating expenses to enable the Fund to maintain a minimum daily net investment income dividend. BlackRock may discontinue this waiver and/or reimbursement at any time without notice.

BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund

| Fund | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund | 0.08% |
| BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund | 0.08% |

BlackRock International V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.75% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.71% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.68% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.64% |

BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.61% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.59% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.57% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.55% |

BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.55% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.52% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.50% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.48% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.47% |

BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund

**Rate of
Management Fee**

0.07%

BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of each Fund's (except BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund and BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund) assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025 (for each Fund except BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund) and June 30, 2026 (for BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund). BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund's assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, with respect to each Fund (except BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund), BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates (the "affiliated money market fund waiver"), through June 30, 2025 (for each Fund except BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund) and June 30, 2026 (for BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund). The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days' notice by a majority of the Independent Directors or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

BlackRock has agreed to cap net expenses (excluding (i) interest, taxes, dividends tied to short sales, brokerage commissions, and other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; (ii) a Fund's pro rata share of the fees and expenses incurred indirectly by a Fund as a result of investing in other investment companies; (iii) other expenses attributable to, and incurred as a result of, a Fund's investments; and (iv) extraordinary expenses (including litigation expenses) not incurred in the ordinary course of a Fund's business, if any) of each share class of certain Funds at the levels shown below and, in the case of contractual caps, in a Fund's fees and expenses table in the Fund Overview section of this prospectus. Items (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) in the preceding sentence are referred to in this prospectus as "Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses." To achieve these expense caps, BlackRock has agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses if these operating expenses exceed a certain limit.

With respect to Class I Shares of each Fund, as set forth in the table below, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements. With respect to Class I Shares of certain Funds, BlackRock has contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit operational and recordkeeping fees to the amounts noted in the table below.

| | Contractual Caps¹ on Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses² (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) | Contractual Caps¹ on fees paid by Fund for Operational and Recordkeeping Services |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund | 0.19% | — |
| Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund | 1.25% | 0.05% |
| Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund | 0.60% | 0.00% |
| Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund | 0.55% | 0.07% |
| Basic Value V.I. Fund | 1.25% | 0.06% |
| Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund | 0.79% | 0.07% |
| Equity Dividend V.I. Fund | 1.25% | 0.00% |
| Global Allocation V.I. Fund | 1.25% | 0.07% |
| Government Money Market V.I. Fund | 0.30% | — |
| International Index V.I. Fund | 0.27% | 0.05% |
| International V.I. Fund | 0.86% | 0.08% |
| Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund | 0.79% | 0.07% |

| | Contractual Caps¹ on Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses² (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) | Contractual Caps¹ on fees paid by Fund for Operational and Recordkeeping Services |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Managed Volatility V.I. Fund | 0.59% | 0.00% |
| S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund | 0.15% | 0.05% |
| Small Cap Index V.I. Fund | 0.22% | 0.05% |

¹ The contractual caps for each Fund are in effect through June 30, 2025 (for each Fund except BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund) and June 30, 2026 (for BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund). The contractual agreement may be terminated, with respect to each Fund, upon 90 days' notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Fund or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² As a percentage of average daily net assets and based on current fees.

With respect to the contractual agreements to cap net expenses described above for BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund, if during a Fund's fiscal year the operating expenses of a share class, that at any time during the prior two fiscal years received a waiver and/or reimbursement from BlackRock, are less than the current expense limit for that share class, the share class is required to repay BlackRock up to the lesser of (a) the amount of fees waived or expenses reimbursed during those prior two fiscal years under the agreement and (b) an amount not to exceed either (x) the current expense limit of that share class or (y) the expense limit of the share class in effect at the time that the share class received the applicable waiver and/or reimbursement, provided that: (i) the Fund of which the share class is a part has more than \$50 million in assets and (ii) BlackRock or an affiliate serves as the Fund's manager or administrator. This repayment obligation will terminate on October 26, 2025 with respect to BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund, and applies only to the contractual caps on net expenses and does not apply to the contractual management fee waivers described above or any voluntary waivers that may be in effect from time to time.

The amount of the contractual waivers and/or reimbursements of fees and expenses made pursuant to the contractual cap on net expenses will be reduced by the amount of the affiliated money market fund waiver.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, the aggregate management fees, net of any applicable waivers, paid by each Fund to BlackRock as a percentage of each Fund's average daily net assets were:

| Fund Name | Management Fee |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund | 0.15% |
| Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund | 0.50% |
| Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund | 0.40% |
| Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund | 0.38% |
| Basic Value V.I. Fund | 0.60% |
| Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund | 0.65% |
| Equity Dividend V.I. Fund | 0.60% |
| Global Allocation V.I. Fund | 0.64% |
| Government Money Market V.I. Fund | 0.26% |
| International Index V.I. Fund | 0.08% |
| International V.I. Fund | 0.64% |
| Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund | 0.65% |
| Managed Volatility V.I. Fund | 0.25% |
| S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund | 0.07% |
| Small Cap Index V.I. Fund | 0.08% |

BlackRock has entered into separate sub-advisory agreements with BIL, an affiliate of BlackRock, with respect to BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund, BlackRock International V.I. Fund and BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund. Under the sub-advisory agreements, BlackRock pays BIL a monthly fee for services it provides for that portion of BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund, BlackRock International V.I. Fund and BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund for which BIL acts as sub-adviser at an annual rate equal to a percentage of the management fee paid to BlackRock under the Management Agreement.

BlackRock has entered into separate sub-advisory agreements with BRS, an affiliate of BlackRock, with respect to BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund. Under the sub-advisory agreements, BlackRock pays BRS a monthly fee for services it provides for that portion of BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund for which BRS acts as sub-adviser at an annual rate equal to a percentage of the management fee paid to BlackRock under the Management Agreement.

BlackRock has entered into a sub-advisory agreement with BNA, an affiliate of BlackRock, with respect to BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund. Under the sub-advisory agreement, BlackRock pays BNA a monthly fee for services it provides for that portion of BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund for which BIL acts as sub-adviser at an annual rate equal to a percentage of the management fee paid to BlackRock under the Management Agreement.

A discussion of the basis for the Board's approval of the Management Agreement with BlackRock with respect to each Fund and each sub-advisory agreement between BlackRock and each sub-adviser (except the sub-advisory agreement between BlackRock and BIL with respect to BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund) is included in the Funds' semi-annual shareholder report for the fiscal period ended June 30, 2023. A discussion of the basis for the Board's approval of the sub-advisory agreement between BlackRock and BIL with respect to BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund will be included in the Funds' semi-annual shareholder report for the fiscal period ending June 30, 2024.

From time to time, a manager, analyst, or other employee of BlackRock or its affiliates may express views regarding a particular asset class, company, security, industry, or market sector. The views expressed by any such person are the views of only that individual as of the time expressed and do not necessarily represent the views of BlackRock or any other person within the BlackRock organization. Any such views are subject to change at any time based upon market or other conditions and BlackRock disclaims any responsibility to update such views. These views may not be relied on as investment advice and, because investment decisions for a Fund are based on numerous factors, may not be relied on as an indication of trading intent on behalf of a Fund.

Portfolio Manager Information

Information regarding the portfolio managers of each Fund (other than BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund) is set forth below. Further information regarding the portfolio managers, including other accounts managed, compensation, ownership of Fund shares, and possible conflicts of interest, is available in the Funds' SAI.

BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------|--|-------|---|
| Paul Whitehead | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2023 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2010; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2010; Principal of Barclays Global Investors ("BGI") from 2002 to 2009. |
| Michael Gates, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2016 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2019; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2019. |
| Greg Savage, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2018 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2010; Director of BlackRock, Inc. in 2009; Principal of BGI from 2007 to 2009; Associate of BGI from 1999 to 2007. |

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund and BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|-------------------|---|-------|---|
| Raffaele Savi | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio, including setting each Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Funds. | 2017 | Senior Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2023; Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2022; Managing Director at BGI from 2007 to 2009; Principal at BGI from 2006 to 2007. |

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|---|--------------|---|
| Travis Cooke, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio, including setting each Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Funds. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2012; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2011, Principal of BGI from 2002 to 2009. |
| Richard Mathieson | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio, including setting each Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Funds. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2011; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2011; Principal at BGI from 2008 to 2009; Equity Analyst for Exista UK from 2007 to 2008; Principal at BGI from 2005 to 2007; Associate of BGI from 2001 to 2005. |

BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Tony DeSpirito | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2019 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2014. |
| David Zhao | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2019 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2016. |

BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|---|
| Phil Ruvinsky | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2020 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2019; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2013 to 2018; Sector Head and Research Analyst at Surview Capital LLC from 2010 to 2013; Various positions, including Portfolio Manager and Investment Analyst, at UBS Global Asset Management from 2002 to 2010. |
| Caroline Bottinelli | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2024; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2020 to 2023; Vice President of BlackRock, Inc. from 2016 to 2020; prior to joining BlackRock, Inc., Ms. Bottinelli was an Equity Research Associate at J.P. Morgan. |

BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Tony DeSpirito | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2014 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2014; Managing Principal, Portfolio Manager and Member of the Executive Committee of Pzena Investment Management from 2009 to 2014. |

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|-------------------|--|-------|--|
| David Zhao | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2016; Global Equity Senior Research Analyst and Principal at Pzena Investment Management from 2006 to 2016. |

BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------|--|
| Rick Rieder | Jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2019 | BlackRock's Chief Investment Officer of Global Fixed Income, Head of Global Allocation Investment Team, member of the Global Executive Committee, Global Operating Committee and Chairman of the BlackRock, Inc. firmwide Investment Council; Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2009; President and Chief Executive Officer of R3 Capital Partners from 2008 to 2009; Managing Director at Lehman Brothers from 1994 to 2008. |
| Russ Koesterich, CFA, JD | Jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2009. |
| David Clayton, CFA, JD ¹ | Jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2012; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2010 to 2011. |

¹ On or about June 30, 2024, David Clayton will retire from BlackRock, Inc. and will no longer serve as a portfolio manager of the Fund.

BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------|---|-------|---|
| Paul Whitehead | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio, including setting each Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Funds. | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2010; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2010; Principal of Barclays Global Investors ("BGI") from 2002 to 2009. |
| Jennifer Hsui, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio, including setting each Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Funds. | 2018 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2011; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2011; Principal of BGI from 2006 to 2009. |

BlackRock International V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|----------------------|--|-------|--|
| Gareth Williams, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2011 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2024; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2013 to 2023; Vice President of BlackRock, Inc. from 2010 to 2012; Associate of BlackRock, Inc. from 2008 to 2009. |

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Sophie Steel | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2023 | Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2021; Vice President of BlackRock, Inc. from 2018 to 2020; Associate of BlackRock, Inc. from 2015 to 2017; Analyst of BlackRock, Inc. from 2012 to 2014; UK Government / Academia from 2009 to 2011. |

BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Phil Ruvinsky | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2020 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2019; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2013 to 2018; Sector Head and Research Analyst at Surviv Capital LLC from 2010 to 2013; Various positions, including Portfolio Manager and Investment Analyst, at UBS Global Asset Management from 2002 to 2010. |
| Caroline Bottinelli | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2024; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2020 to 2023; Vice President of BlackRock, Inc. from 2016 to 2020; prior to joining BlackRock, Inc., Ms. Bottinelli was an Equity Research Associate at J.P. Morgan. |

BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Philip Green | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2008 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2006. |
| Michael Pensky | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2013 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2021; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2018 to 2020; Vice President of BlackRock, Inc. from 2016 to 2017; Associate of BlackRock, Inc. from 2012 to 2015. |

BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|---|
| Paul Whitehead | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2010; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2010; Principal of Barclays Global Investors ("BGI") from 2002 to 2009. |
| Jennifer Hsui, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2016 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2011; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2011; Principal of BGI from 2006 to 2009. |

Conflicts of Interest

The investment activities of BlackRock and its affiliates (including BlackRock, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively, the “Affiliates”)), and their respective directors, officers or employees, in the management of, or their interest in, their own accounts and other accounts they manage, may present conflicts of interest that could disadvantage the Funds and their shareholders.

BlackRock and its Affiliates provide investment management services to other funds and discretionary managed accounts that may follow investment programs similar to that of the Funds. BlackRock and its Affiliates are involved worldwide with a broad spectrum of financial services and asset management activities and may engage in the ordinary course of business in activities in which their interests or the interests of their clients may conflict with those of the Funds. BlackRock or one or more Affiliates act or may act as an investor, research provider, investment manager, commodity pool operator, commodity trading advisor, financier, underwriter, adviser, trader, lender, index provider, agent and/or principal, and have other direct and indirect interests in securities, currencies, commodities, derivatives and other instruments in which the Funds may directly or indirectly invest. The Funds may invest in securities of, or engage in other transactions with, companies with which an Affiliate has significant debt or equity investments or other interests. The Funds may also invest in issuances (such as structured notes) by entities for which an Affiliate provides and is compensated for cash management services relating to the proceeds from the sale of such issuances. The Funds also may invest in securities of, or engage in other transactions with, companies for which an Affiliate provides or may in the future provide research coverage. An Affiliate may have business relationships with, and purchase, or distribute or sell services or products from or to, distributors, consultants or others who recommend the Funds or who engage in transactions with or for the Funds, and may receive compensation for such services. BlackRock or one or more Affiliates may engage in proprietary trading and advise accounts and funds that have investment objectives similar to those of the Funds and/or that engage in and compete for transactions in the same types of securities, currencies and other instruments as the Funds. This may include transactions in securities issued by other open-end and closed-end investment companies (which may include investment companies that are affiliated with the Funds and BlackRock, to the extent permitted under the Investment Company Act). The trading activities of BlackRock and these Affiliates are carried out without reference to positions held directly or indirectly by the Funds and may result in BlackRock or an Affiliate having positions in certain securities that are senior or junior to, or have interests different from or adverse to, the securities that are owned by the Funds.

Neither BlackRock nor any Affiliate is under any obligation to share any investment opportunity, idea or strategy with the Funds. As a result, an Affiliate may compete with the Funds for appropriate investment opportunities. The results of a Fund’s investment activities, therefore, may differ from those of an Affiliate and of other accounts managed by BlackRock or an Affiliate, and it is possible that a Fund could sustain losses during periods in which one or more Affiliates and other accounts achieve profits on their trading for proprietary or other accounts. The opposite result is also possible.

In addition, the Funds may, from time to time, enter into transactions in which BlackRock or an Affiliate or their directors, officers or employees or other clients have an adverse interest. Furthermore, transactions undertaken by clients advised or managed by BlackRock or its Affiliates may adversely impact the Funds. Transactions by one or more clients or BlackRock or its Affiliates or their directors, officers or employees, may have the effect of diluting or otherwise disadvantaging the values, prices or investment strategies of the Funds. The Funds’ activities may be limited because of regulatory restrictions applicable to BlackRock or one or more Affiliates and/or their internal policies designed to comply with such restrictions.

Under a securities lending program approved by the Board, the Company, on behalf of each Fund, has retained BlackRock Investment Management, LLC, an Affiliate of BlackRock, to serve as the securities lending agent for the Funds to the extent that the Funds participate in the securities lending program. For these services, the securities lending agent will receive a fee from the Funds based on the returns earned on the Funds’ lending activities, including investment of the cash received as collateral for the loaned securities. In addition, one or more Affiliates may be among the entities to which the Funds may lend their portfolio securities under the securities lending program.

The activities of BlackRock and its Affiliates and their respective directors, officers or employees, may give rise to other conflicts of interest that could disadvantage the Funds and their shareholders. BlackRock has adopted policies and procedures designed to address these potential conflicts of interest. See the SAI for further information.

Valuation of Fund Investments

Each Fund other than Government Money Market V.I. Fund

When an Insurance Company purchases shares, the Insurance Company pays the net asset value. This is the offering price. Shares are also redeemed at their net asset value. Each Fund calculates its net asset value of each class of its shares each day the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) is open, generally as of the close of regular trading hours on the NYSE, based on prices at the time of closing. The NYSE generally closes at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time). The net asset value used in determining your share price is the next one calculated after your purchase or redemption order is

received. Each business day, the Funds' net asset values are transmitted electronically to the Insurance Companies that use the Funds as underlying investment options for Contracts.

The value of the securities and other assets and liabilities held by the Funds are determined pursuant to BlackRock's valuation policies and procedures. BlackRock has been designated by the Board as the valuation designee for the Funds pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the Investment Company Act. Equity securities and other instruments for which market quotations are readily available are valued at market value, which is generally determined using the last reported closing price or, if a reported closing price is not available, the last traded price on the exchange or market on which the security or instrument is primarily traded at the time of valuation. The Funds value fixed-income portfolio securities and non-exchange traded derivatives using last available bid prices or current market quotations provided by dealers or prices (including evaluated prices) supplied by the Funds' approved independent third-party pricing services, each in accordance with BlackRock's valuation policies and procedures. Pricing services may use matrix pricing or valuation models that utilize certain inputs and assumptions to derive values. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of institutional round lot size, but the Fund may hold or transact in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. Short-term debt securities with remaining maturities of 60 days or less may be valued on the basis of amortized cost.

Foreign currency exchange rates are generally determined as of the close of business on the NYSE. Foreign securities owned by the Funds may trade on weekends or other days when a Fund does not price its shares. As a result, the Funds' net asset value may change on days when you will not be able to purchase or redeem a Fund's shares. Generally, trading in foreign securities, U.S. Government securities, money market instruments and certain fixed-income securities is substantially completed each day at various times prior to the close of business on the NYSE. The values of such securities used in computing the net asset value of a Fund's shares are determined as of such times.

When market quotations are not readily available or are believed by BlackRock to be unreliable, BlackRock will fair value a Fund's investments in accordance with its policies and procedures. BlackRock may conclude that a market quotation is not readily available or is unreliable if a security or other asset or liability does not have a price source due to its lack of liquidity, if BlackRock believes a market quotation from a broker-dealer or other source is unreliable, where the security or other asset or other liability is thinly traded (e.g., municipal securities, certain small cap and emerging growth companies and certain non-U.S. securities) or where there is a significant event subsequent to the most recent market quotation. For this purpose, a "significant event" is deemed to occur if BlackRock determines, in its business judgment prior to or at the time of pricing a Fund's assets or liabilities, that it is likely that the event will cause a material change to the last closing market price of one or more assets or liabilities held by the Fund. For instance, significant events may occur between the foreign market close and the close of business on the NYSE that may not be reflected in the computation of the Funds' net assets. If such event occurs, those instruments may be fair valued. Similarly, foreign securities whose values are affected by volatility that occurs in U.S. markets on a trading day after the close of foreign securities markets may be fair valued.

For certain foreign securities, a third-party vendor supplies evaluated, systematic fair value pricing based upon the movement of a proprietary multi-factor model after the relevant foreign markets have closed. This systematic fair value pricing methodology is designed to correlate the prices of foreign securities following the close of the local markets to the price that might have prevailed as of a Fund's pricing time.

Fair value represents a good faith approximation of the value of a security. The fair value of one or more securities may not, in retrospect, be the price at which those assets could have been sold during the period in which the particular fair values were used in determining a Fund's net asset value.

A Fund may accept orders from certain authorized financial intermediaries or their designees. A Fund will be deemed to receive an order when accepted by the financial intermediary or designee and the order will receive the net asset value next computed by the Fund after such acceptance. If the payment for a purchase order is not made by a designated later time, the order will be canceled and the financial intermediary could be held liable for any losses.

Government Money Market V.I. Fund

When an Insurance Company purchases shares, the Insurance Company pays the net asset value (normally \$1.00 per share). This is the offering price. Shares are also redeemed at their net asset value.

The Fund calculates the net asset value (generally by using market quotations) each day the NYSE is open, as of the close of business on the NYSE, based on prices at the time of closing. The NYSE generally closes at 4:00 p.m. Eastern time. The net asset value used in determining your share price is the next one calculated after your purchase or redemption order becomes effective. Share purchase orders are effective on the date Federal Funds become available to the Fund.

The amortized cost method is used in calculating net asset value, meaning that the calculation is based on a valuation of the assets held by the Fund at cost, with an adjustment for any discount or premium on a security at the time of purchase.

Foreign currency exchange rates are generally determined as of the close of business on the NYSE. Foreign securities owned by the Funds may trade on weekends or other days when a Fund does not price its shares. As a result, the Funds' net asset value may change on days when you will not be able to purchase or redeem a Fund's shares. Generally, trading in foreign securities, U.S. Government securities and money market instruments and certain fixed income securities is substantially completed each day at various times prior to the close of business on the NYSE. The values of such securities used in computing the net asset value of a Fund's shares are determined as of such times.

The Fund may accept orders from certain authorized financial intermediaries or their designees. The Fund will be deemed to receive an order when accepted by the financial intermediary or designee, and the order will receive the net asset value next computed by the Fund after such acceptance. If the payment for a purchase order is not made by a designated later time, the order will be canceled and the financial intermediary could be held liable for any losses.

Dividends and Taxes

BlackRock Government Money Market V.I. Fund declares dividends daily and reinvests dividends monthly in additional full and fractional shares of the respective Fund. Each of BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund, BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund, BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund, BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund, BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund, BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund, BlackRock International V.I. Fund, BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund, BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund, BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund declares and reinvests dividends at least annually in additional shares of the respective Fund.

Each Fund has elected to be treated, and intends to qualify each year, as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). In order to qualify to be taxable as a regulated investment company, each Fund must meet certain income and asset diversification tests and distribution requirements. As regulated investment companies, the Funds will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on their net investment income and net capital gains that they distribute to their shareholders.

Distributions made by a Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

In order for the Contract holders to be eligible for such U.S. federal income tax deferral, each separate account of the Insurance Companies (referred to as "segregated asset accounts" for U.S. federal income tax purposes) must comply with certain asset diversification requirements and investor control prohibitions.

Diversification Requirements

Specifically, each segregated asset account is required to comply with the diversification requirements of Section 817(h) of the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations thereunder relating to the tax-deferred status of segregated asset accounts. If a segregated asset account fails these requirements, (i) the Contract would not be treated as an annuity or life insurance contract under the Internal Revenue Code and (ii) the holders of such Contract would be required to include as ordinary income the "income on the contract" for each taxable year. Generally, the "income on the contract" is the excess of (i) the sum of the increase in the net surrender value of the Contract during the taxable year and the cost of the life insurance protection provided under the Contract during the year, over (ii) the premiums paid under the Contract during the taxable year. Contract holders could also be taxable in future years even if the segregated asset account subsequently complied with the diversification tests.

To satisfy these diversification requirements, as of the end of each calendar quarter or within 30 days thereafter, each segregated asset account must meet one of two tests. Either (i) the segregated asset account must have no more than 55% of its total assets represented by any one investment, no more than 70% of its total assets represented by any two investments, no more than 80% of its total assets represented by any three investments, and no more than 90% of its total assets represented by any four investments or (ii) the segregated asset account must both (a) meet all the tax diversification requirements under Section 851(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (which are applicable to all regulated investment companies) and (b) have no more than 55% of the value of its total assets be attributable to cash, cash items (including receivables), Government securities or securities of other regulated investment companies. For purposes of the first test, all securities of the same issuer are considered a single investment, but in the case of Government securities, each Government agency or instrumentality is considered to be a separate issuer. An alternative test to establish diversification may be available under certain circumstances.

Section 817(h) of the Internal Revenue Code provides a look-through rule for purposes of testing the diversification of a segregated asset account that invests in a regulated investment company such as a Fund. If the look-through rule applies, a beneficial interest in a regulated investment company will not be treated as a single investment of a segregated asset account for purposes of the diversification requirements described above; instead, a pro rata portion of each asset of the regulated investment company will be treated as an asset of the segregated asset account.

Investor Control Prohibitions

For a Contract to qualify for U.S. federal income tax deferral, it must avoid the prohibition on investor control so that assets in the segregated asset accounts supporting the Contract are considered to be owned for U.S. federal income tax purposes by the Insurance Company and not by the Contract holder. Accordingly, a Contract holder should not have an impermissible level of control over a segregated asset account's or a Fund's investment in any particular asset. If the Contract holder were considered the owner of the Fund shares for U.S. federal income tax purposes, income and gain earned from such Fund shares for the current, future and prior taxable years would be taxable currently to the Contract holders.

Each Fund intends (1) to comply with the requirements necessary to allow a segregated asset account that invests in the Fund to look-through to the Fund's investments for purposes of satisfying the asset diversification requirements of Section 817(h) of the Code, (2) to comply with such asset diversification requirements necessary to prevent the Contract holders from losing their special tax treatment because of investments in the Fund, and (3) to comply with the requirements necessary to prevent the Contract holders from having an impermissible level of control over the Fund's assets.

Tax Treatment to Insurance Companies

Dividends paid by a Fund may be included in the respective Insurance Company's gross income. The tax treatment of these dividends depends on the Insurance Company's tax status. A description of an Insurance Company's tax status is contained in the prospectus for the Contract.

Dividends and interest received by a Fund and capital gains recognized by a Fund may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate such taxes. As a shareholder in a Fund, an Insurance Company may be able to claim a credit or take a deduction for foreign taxes paid by the Fund if certain requirements are met.

This section summarizes some of the consequences under current federal tax law of an investment in a Fund. It is not a substitute for individualized tax advice. Consult your tax adviser about the potential tax consequences of an investment in a Fund under all applicable tax laws.

General Information

Shareholder Documents

Please contact your Insurance Company for a copy of the Funds' annual and semi-annual reports.

Certain Fund Policies

Anti-Money Laundering Requirements

The Funds are subject to the USA PATRIOT Act (the "Patriot Act"). The Patriot Act is intended to prevent the use of the U.S. financial system in furtherance of money laundering, terrorism or other illicit activities. Pursuant to requirements under the Patriot Act, the Funds are required to obtain sufficient information from shareholders to enable it to form a reasonable belief that it knows the true identity of its shareholders. This information will be used to verify the identity of investors or, in some cases, the status of financial intermediaries. Such information may be verified using third-party sources. This information will be used only for compliance with the Patriot Act or other applicable laws, regulations and rules in connection with money laundering, terrorism or economic sanctions.

The Funds reserve the right to reject purchase orders from persons who have not submitted information sufficient to allow the Funds to verify their identity. The Funds also reserve the right to redeem any amounts in the Funds from persons whose identity it is unable to verify on a timely basis. It is the Funds' policy to cooperate fully with appropriate regulators in any investigations conducted with respect to potential money laundering, terrorism or other illicit activities.

BlackRock Privacy Principles

BlackRock is committed to maintaining the privacy of its current and former fund investors and individual clients (collectively, "Clients") and to safeguarding their non-public personal information. The following information is provided to help you understand what personal information BlackRock collects, how we protect that information and why in certain cases we share such information with select parties. If you are located in a jurisdiction where specific laws, rules or regulations require BlackRock to provide you with additional or different privacy-related rights beyond what is set forth below, then BlackRock will comply with those specific laws, rules or regulations.

BlackRock obtains or verifies personal non-public information from and about you from different sources, including the following: (i) information we receive from you or, if applicable, your financial intermediary, on applications, forms or other documents; (ii) information about your transactions with us, our affiliates, or others; (iii) information we receive from a consumer reporting agency; and (iv) from visits to our website.

BlackRock does not sell or disclose to non-affiliated third parties any non-public personal information about its Clients, except as permitted by law, or as is necessary to respond to regulatory requests or to service Client accounts. These non-affiliated third parties are required to protect the confidentiality and security of this information and to use it only for its intended purpose.

We may share information with our affiliates to service your account or to provide you with information about other BlackRock products or services that may be of interest to you. In addition, BlackRock restricts access to non-public personal information about its Clients to those BlackRock employees with a legitimate business need for the information. BlackRock maintains physical, electronic and procedural safeguards that are designed to protect the non-public personal information of its Clients, including procedures relating to the proper storage and disposal of such information.

Statement of Additional Information

If you would like further information about the Funds, including how the Funds invest, please see the SAI.

For a discussion of the Funds' policies and procedures regarding the selective disclosure of their portfolio holdings, please see the SAI.

Glossary

This glossary contains an explanation of some of the common terms used in this prospectus. For additional information about the Funds, please see the SAI.

60% MSCI All Country World Index/40% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index — a customized weighted index comprised of 60% MSCI All Country World Index and 40% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index.

Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses — a Fund's pro rata share of the fees and expenses incurred indirectly by a Fund as a result of investing in other investment companies.

Annual Fund Operating Expenses — expenses that cover the costs of operating a Fund.

Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index — a broad-based flagship benchmark that measures the investment grade, U.S. dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market. The index includes U.S. Treasuries, government-related and corporate securities, mortgage-backed securities (agency fixed-rate pass-throughs), asset-backed securities and commercial mortgage-backed securities (agency and non-agency).

Contract — the Funds offer their shares only to participating insurance companies. These insurance companies write variable annuity and/or variable life insurance contracts that allow the contract owner to choose a Fund as an investment option. The contract owner does not become a Fund shareholder.

Distribution Fees — fees used to support a Fund's marketing and distribution efforts, such as compensating financial professionals and other financial intermediaries, advertising and promotion.

FTSE Non-U.S. Dollar World Government Bond Index — an unmanaged, market capitalization-weighted index that tracks over 20 government bond indexes, excluding the United States.

FTSE WGBI (hedged into USD) — measures the performance of fixed-rate, local currency, investment-grade sovereign bonds. The index is a widely used benchmark that currently includes sovereign debt from over 20 countries, denominated in a variety of currencies.

FTSE World Index — a market cap weighted index representing the performance of the large- and mid-cap stocks from the FTSE Global Equity Index Series and covers 90-95% of the investable market capitalization.

FTSE World (ex U.S.) Index — comprises large- and mid-cap stocks providing coverage of developed and emerging markets excluding the United States. The index is derived from the FTSE Global Equity Index Series (GEIS), which covers 98% of the world's investable market capitalization.

ICE BofA 3-Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index — an unmanaged index that tracks 3-month U.S. Treasury securities.

ICE BofA Current 5-Year U.S. Treasury Index — an unmanaged index designed to track the total return of the current coupon five-year U.S. Treasury bond.

Management Fee — a fee paid to BlackRock for managing a Fund.

MSCI All Country World Index — an index that captures large- and mid-cap representation across 23 developed markets and 24 emerging markets countries. With 2,920 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the global investable equity opportunity set.

MSCI All Country World ex-USA Index — a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that captures large- and mid-cap representation across 22 of 23 developed markets countries (excluding the United States) and 24 emerging markets countries. With 2,311 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the global equity opportunity set outside the United States.

MSCI EAFE Index (Europe, Australasia, Far East) — an equity index which captures large- and mid-cap representation across 21 developed markets countries around the world, excluding the United States and Canada. With 783 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

Other Expenses — include accounting, transfer agency, custody, professional fees and registration fees.

Reference Benchmark — an unmanaged weighted index comprised as follows: 36% of the S&P 500[®] Index; 24% FTSE World (ex U.S.) Index; 24% ICE BofA Current 5-Year U.S. Treasury Index; and 16% FTSE Non-U.S. Dollar World Government Bond Index.

Russell 1000[®] Index — an index that measures the performance of the large cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. It is a subset of the Russell 3000[®] Index and includes approximately 1,000 of the largest securities based on a combination of their market capitalization and current index membership. The index represents approximately 93% of the total market capitalization of the Russell 3000[®] Index.

Russell 1000® Growth Index — an unmanaged index that measures the performance of the large cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe and consists of those Russell 1000® securities with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

Russell 1000® Value Index — an unmanaged index that is a subset of the Russell 1000® Index that consists of those Russell 1000® securities with lower price-to-book ratios and lower expected growth values.

Russell 2000® Index — an unmanaged index that is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index representing approximately 7% of the total market capitalization of that index. It includes approximately 2000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership.

Russell 2500™ Index — an index that measures the performance of the small to mid-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe, commonly referred to as “smid” cap. The Russell 2500™ Index is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index. It includes approximately 2500 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership.

Russell 3000® Index — an index that measures the performance of the largest 3,000 U.S. companies representing approximately 96% of the investable U.S. equity market.

S&P 500® Index — an unmanaged index that covers 500 leading companies and captures approximately 80% coverage of available market capitalization.

Service Fees — fees used to compensate securities dealers and other financial intermediaries for certain shareholder servicing activities.

Shareholder Fees — fees paid directly by a shareholder, including sales charges that you may pay when you buy or sell shares of a Fund.

For More Information

Funds and Service Providers

THE FUNDS

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.
100 Bellevue Parkway
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

Written Correspondence:

P.O. Box 534429
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15253-4429

Overnight Mail:

Attention: 534429
500 Ross Street 154-0520
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15262
(800) 537-4942

MANAGER

BlackRock Advisors, LLC
100 Bellevue Parkway
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

SUB-ADVISERS

BlackRock International Limited¹
Exchange Place One
1 Seple Street
Edinburgh, EH3 8BL, United Kingdom

BlackRock Asset Management North Asia
Limited²
16/F, 2 Queen's Road
Cheung Kong Center
Hong Kong

BlackRock (Singapore) Limited³
20 Anson Road #18-01
079912 Singapore

TRANSFER AGENT

BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc.
301 Bellevue Parkway
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Deloitte & Touche LLP
200 Berkeley Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

ACCOUNTING SERVICES PROVIDER

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
383 Madison Avenue, Floor 11
New York, New York 10179

DISTRIBUTOR

BlackRock Investments, LLC
50 Hudson Yards
New York, New York 10001

CUSTODIAN

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
383 Madison Avenue, Floor 11
New York, New York 10179

COUNSEL

Sidley Austin LLP
787 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10019

¹ For BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund, BlackRock International V.I. Fund and BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund.

² For BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund.

³ For BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund.

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BlackRock Variable Series Funds

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The Insurance Companies

Shares of BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund, BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund and BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund (each a “Fund” and collectively the “Funds”) are sold to separate accounts of insurance companies (the “Insurance Companies”) either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to fund certain variable life insurance contracts and/or variable annuities (the “Contracts”) issued by the Insurance Companies.

Shares of the Funds are owned by the Insurance Companies, not Contract owners. A Contract owner has no direct interest in the shares of a Fund, but only in the Contract. A Contract is described in the prospectus for that Contract. That prospectus describes the relationship between changes in the value of shares of a Fund, and the benefits provided under a Contract. The prospectus for a Contract also describes various fees payable to the Insurance Company and charges to the separate account made by the Insurance Company with respect to the Contract. While this prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information (the “SAI”) are intended for use by Contract owners, because shares of the Funds will be sold only to the Insurance Companies for the separate accounts, the terms “you,” “your,” “shareholder” and “shareholders” in this prospectus may refer to the Insurance Companies.

More than one Insurance Company may invest in each Fund. It is possible that a difference may arise among the interests of Insurance Companies that invest in a Fund or the holders of different types of Contracts — for example, if applicable state insurance law or Contract owner instructions prevent an Insurance Company from continuing to invest in a Fund following a change in the Fund’s investment policies, or if different tax laws apply to variable life insurance contracts and variable annuities. The Funds and the Insurance Companies will attempt to monitor events to prevent such differences from arising. If a conflict between Insurance Companies occurs, or between life insurance policies and annuity contracts, however, a Fund may be required to take actions that are adverse to the interests of a particular Insurance Company and its Contract owners, or to the interests of holders of a particular type of Contract.

How to Buy and Sell Shares

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) is offering through this prospectus Class II Shares in certain Funds to the Insurance Companies. The price of shares purchased by the Insurance Companies is based on the next calculation of the per share net asset value of a Fund after an order is placed. The Company may reject any order to buy shares and may suspend the sale of shares at any time. The Company will redeem all full and fractional shares of the Funds for cash. The price of redeemed shares is based on the next calculation of net asset value after a redemption order is placed. The value of shares at the time of redemption may be more or less than the shareholder’s cost, depending in part on the net asset value of such shares at such time.

Short-Term Trading Policy

The Company’s Board of Directors (the “Board”) has determined that the interests of long-term shareholders and a Fund’s ability to manage its investments may be adversely affected when shares are repeatedly bought, sold or exchanged in response to short-term market fluctuations — also known as “market timing.” The Funds are not designed for market timing organizations or other entities using programmed or frequent purchases and sales or exchanges. The exchange privilege is not intended as a vehicle for short-term trading. Excessive purchase and sale or exchange activity may interfere with portfolio management, increase expenses and taxes and may have an adverse effect on the performance of a Fund and its returns to shareholders. For example, large flows of cash into and out of a Fund may require the management team to allocate a significant amount of assets to cash or other short-term investments or sell securities, rather than maintaining such assets in securities selected to achieve a Fund’s investment objective. Frequent trading may cause a Fund to sell securities at less favorable prices, and transaction costs, such as brokerage commissions, can reduce a Fund’s performance.

A fund’s investment in non-U.S. securities is subject to the risk that an investor may seek to take advantage of a delay between the change in value of such fund’s portfolio securities and the determination of the fund’s net asset value as a result of different closing times of U.S. and non-U.S. markets by buying or selling fund shares at a price that does not reflect their true value. A similar risk exists for funds that invest in securities of small capitalization companies, securities of issuers located in emerging markets or high yield securities (“junk bonds”) that are thinly traded and therefore may have actual values that differ from their market prices. This short-term arbitrage activity can reduce the return received by long-term shareholders. Each Fund will seek to eliminate these opportunities by using fair value pricing, as described in “Management of the Funds — Valuation of Fund Investments” below.

The Funds discourage market timing and seek to prevent frequent purchases and sales or exchanges of Fund shares that they determine may be detrimental to a Fund or long-term shareholders. The Board has approved the policies discussed below to seek to deter market timing activity. The Board has not adopted any specific numerical restrictions on purchases, sales and exchanges of Fund shares because certain legitimate strategies will not result in harm to a Fund or its shareholders.

If as a result of its own investigation, information provided by a financial intermediary or other third party, or otherwise, a Fund believes, in its sole discretion, that your short-term trading is excessive or that you are engaging in market timing activity, it reserves the right to reject any specific purchase or exchange order. If a Fund rejects your purchase or exchange order, you will not be able to execute that transaction, and such Fund will not be responsible for any losses you therefore may suffer. For transactions placed directly with a Fund, such Fund may consider the trading history of accounts under common ownership or control for the purpose of enforcing these policies. Transactions placed through the same financial intermediary on an omnibus basis may be deemed part of a group for the purpose of this policy and may be rejected in whole or in part by a Fund. Certain accounts, such as omnibus accounts and accounts at financial intermediaries, however, include multiple investors and such accounts typically provide a Fund with net purchase or redemption and exchange requests on any given day where purchases, redemptions and exchanges of shares are netted against one another and the identity of individual purchasers, redeemers and exchangers whose orders are aggregated may not be known by a Fund. While the Funds monitor for market timing activity, the Funds may be unable to identify such activities because the netting effect in omnibus accounts often makes it more difficult to locate and eliminate market timers from the Funds. BlackRock Investments, LLC (the “Distributor”) has entered into agreements with respect to financial professionals, and other financial intermediaries that maintain omnibus accounts with the transfer agent pursuant to which such financial professionals and other financial intermediaries undertake to cooperate with the Distributor in monitoring purchase, exchange and redemption orders by their customers in order to detect and prevent short-term or excessive trading in the Funds’ shares through such accounts. Identification of market timers may also be limited by operational systems and technical limitations. In the event that a financial intermediary is determined by a Fund to be engaged in market timing or other improper trading activity, the Distributor may terminate such financial intermediary’s agreement with the Distributor, suspend such financial intermediary’s trading privileges or take other appropriate actions.

There is no assurance that the methods described above will prevent market timing or other trading that may be deemed abusive.

The Funds may from time to time use other methods that they believe are appropriate to deter market timing or other trading activity that may be detrimental to the Funds or long-term shareholders.

Rule 12b-1 Fees for Class II Shares

The Company has adopted a plan under Rule 12b-1 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Investment Company Act”), as amended (the “Plan”), that allows a Fund to pay distribution fees to each of the participating Insurance Companies or broker-dealer affiliates thereof (“Insurance Company Affiliates”) for the sale and distribution of its Class II Shares. Because these fees are paid out of a Fund’s assets on an on-going basis, over time these fees will increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges. Class II shareholders have no other purchase option. The amount of the distribution fee payable under the plan equals 0.15% of the average daily net asset value of the Class II Shares of a Fund held by the participating Insurance Company.

The distribution fee may be used to pay the participating Insurance Companies or Insurance Company Affiliates for distribution-related and/or shareholder services provided in connection with the sale of Class II Shares. The distribution fee may also be used to pay Insurance Companies, Insurance Company Affiliates and other financial intermediaries (“Service Organizations”) for sales support services and related expenses.

In addition to, rather than in lieu of, distribution fees that a Fund may pay to a Service Organization pursuant to a Plan and fees a Fund pays to its transfer agent, if approved by the Board, BlackRock, on behalf of the Funds, may enter into non-Plan agreements with a Service Organization pursuant to which a Fund will pay a Service Organization for administrative, networking, recordkeeping, subtransfer agency and shareholder services. These non-Plan payments are based on a percentage of the average daily net assets of Fund shareholders serviced by a Service Organization. The aggregate amount of these payments may be substantial.

From time to time, BlackRock, the Distributor and their affiliates may compensate affiliated and unaffiliated Service Organizations for the sale and distribution of shares of the Funds. These payments would be in addition to the Fund payments described above, if approved by the Board, and may be a fixed dollar amount, may be based on the number of customer accounts maintained by the Service Organization, may be based on a percentage of the value of shares sold to, or held by, customers of the Service Organization or may be calculated on another basis. The aggregate amount of these payments by BlackRock, the Distributor and their affiliates may be substantial and, in some circumstances, these revenue sharing payments may create an incentive for a Service Organization, its employees or associated persons to recommend or sell shares of the Funds to you. Please contact your Service Organization for details about payments it may receive from the Funds or from BlackRock, the Distributor or their affiliates. For more information, see the SAI.

Management of the Funds

BlackRock

BlackRock, each Fund's investment adviser, manages each Fund's investments and its business operations subject to the oversight of the Board of each of the Funds. While BlackRock is ultimately responsible for the management of the Funds, it is able to draw upon the trading, research and expertise of its asset management affiliates for portfolio decisions and management with respect to certain portfolio securities. BlackRock is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of BlackRock, Inc.

BlackRock, a registered investment adviser, was organized in 1994 to perform advisory services for investment companies. BlackRock (Singapore) Limited ("BRS") is a registered investment adviser organized in 2000. BlackRock International Limited ("BIL," and, together with BRS, the "Sub-Advisers") is a registered investment adviser organized in 1995. BlackRock and its affiliates had approximately \$10.472 trillion in investment company and other portfolio assets under management as of March 31, 2024.

Each Fund has entered into a management agreement (the "Management Agreement") with BlackRock. Under the Management Agreement, BlackRock receives for its services to each Fund a fee at an annual rate described below. The fee is computed daily on a Fund-by-Fund basis and payable monthly.

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$250 million | 0.500% |
| In excess of \$250 million but not exceeding \$300 million | 0.450% |
| In excess of \$300 million but not exceeding \$400 million | 0.425% |
| In excess of \$400 million | 0.400% |

BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$6 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$6 billion but not exceeding \$8 billion | 0.61% |
| In excess of \$8 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.59% |
| In excess of \$10 billion but not exceeding \$15 billion | 0.57% |
| In excess of \$15 billion | 0.55% |

BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund

| | Rate of Management Fee |
|--|-------------------------------|
| | 0.07% |

BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of each Fund's assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee. The contractual waiver is in effect through June 30, 2025 for each Fund. In addition, with respect to each Fund, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates (the "affiliated money market fund waiver"), through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days' notice by a majority of the Independent Directors or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

BlackRock has agreed to cap net expenses (excluding (i) interest, taxes, dividends tied to short sales, brokerage commissions, and other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; (ii) a Fund's pro rata share of the fees and expenses incurred indirectly by a Fund as a result of investing in other investment companies; (iii) other expenses attributable to, and incurred as a result of, a Fund's investments; and (iv) extraordinary expenses (including litigation expenses) not incurred in the ordinary course of a Fund's business,

if any) of each share class of certain Funds at the levels shown below and, in the case of contractual caps, in a Fund's fees and expenses table in the Fund Overview section of this prospectus. Items (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) in the preceding sentence are referred to in this prospectus as "Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses." To achieve these expense caps, BlackRock has agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses if these operating expenses exceed a certain limit.

With respect to Class II Shares of each Fund, as set forth in the table below, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements. With respect to Class II Shares of certain Funds, BlackRock has contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit operational and recordkeeping fees to the amounts noted in the table below.

| | Contractual Caps¹ on Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses² (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) | Contractual Caps¹ on fees paid by Fund for Operational and Recordkeeping Services |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund | 1.40% | 0.07% |
| Global Allocation V.I. Fund | 1.40% | 0.07% |
| S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund | 0.30% | 0.05% |

¹ The contractual caps for each Fund are in effect through June 30, 2025. The contractual agreement may be terminated, with respect to each Fund, upon 90 days' notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Fund or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² As a percentage of average daily net assets and based on current fees.

The amount of the contractual waivers and/or reimbursements of fees and expenses made pursuant to the contractual cap on net expenses will be reduced by the amount of the affiliated money market fund waiver.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, the aggregate management fees, net of any applicable waivers, paid by each Fund to BlackRock as a percentage of each Fund's average daily net assets were:

| Fund Name | Management Fee |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund | 0.50% |
| Global Allocation V.I. Fund | 0.64% |
| S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund | 0.07% |

BlackRock has entered into separate sub-advisory agreements with the Sub-Advisers, affiliates of BlackRock, with respect to BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund. Under the sub-advisory agreements, BlackRock pays each Sub-Adviser a monthly fee for services it provides for that portion of BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund for which each Sub-Adviser acts as sub-adviser at an annual rate equal to a percentage of the management fee paid to BlackRock under the Management Agreement.

A discussion of the basis for the Board's approval of the Management Agreement with BlackRock with respect to each Fund and the sub-advisory agreement between BlackRock and BRS with respect to BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund is included in the Funds' semi-annual shareholder report for the fiscal period ended June 30, 2023. A discussion of the basis for the Board's approval of the sub-advisory agreement between BlackRock and BIL with respect to BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund will be included in the Funds' semi-annual shareholder report for the fiscal period ending June 30, 2024.

From time to time, a manager, analyst, or other employee of BlackRock or its affiliates may express views regarding a particular asset class, company, security, industry, or market sector. The views expressed by any such person are the views of only that individual as of the time expressed and do not necessarily represent the views of BlackRock or any other person within the BlackRock organization. Any such views are subject to change at any time based upon market or other conditions and BlackRock disclaims any responsibility to update such views. These views may not be relied on as investment advice and, because investment decisions for a Fund are based on numerous factors, may not be relied on as an indication of trading intent on behalf of a Fund.

Portfolio Manager Information

Information regarding the portfolio managers of each Fund is set forth below. Further information regarding the portfolio managers, including other accounts managed, compensation, ownership of Fund shares, and possible conflicts of interest, is available in the Funds' SAI.

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|-------------------|--|-------|---|
| Raffaele Savi | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017 | Senior Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2023; Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2022; Managing Director at Barclays Global Investors ("BGI") from 2007 to 2009; Principal at BGI from 2006 to 2007. |
| Travis Cooke, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2012; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2011, Principal of BGI from 2002 to 2009. |
| Richard Mathieson | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2011; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2011; Principal at BGI from 2008 to 2009; Equity Analyst for Exista UK from 2007 to 2008; Principal at BGI from 2005 to 2007; Associate of BGI from 2001 to 2005. |

BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------|--|
| Rick Rieder | Jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2019 | BlackRock's Chief Investment Officer of Global Fixed Income, Head of Global Allocation Investment Team, member of the Global Executive Committee, Global Operating Committee and Chairman of the BlackRock, Inc. firmwide Investment Council; Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2009; President and Chief Executive Officer of R3 Capital Partners from 2008 to 2009; Managing Director at Lehman Brothers from 1994 to 2008. |
| Russ Koesterich, CFA, JD | Jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2009. |
| David Clayton, CFA, JD ¹ | Jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2012; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2010 to 2011. |

¹ On or about June 30, 2024, David Clayton will retire from BlackRock, Inc. and will no longer serve as a portfolio manager of the Fund.

BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------|---|-------|---|
| Paul Whitehead | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio, including setting each Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Funds. | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2010; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2010; Principal of Barclays Global Investors ("BGI") from 2002 to 2009. |
| Jennifer Hsui, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2016 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2011; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2011; Principal of BGI from 2006 to 2009. |

Conflicts of Interest

The investment activities of BlackRock and its affiliates (including BlackRock, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively, the “Affiliates”)), and their respective directors, officers or employees, in the management of, or their interest in, their own accounts and other accounts they manage, may present conflicts of interest that could disadvantage the Funds and their shareholders.

BlackRock and its Affiliates provide investment management services to other funds and discretionary managed accounts that may follow investment programs similar to that of the Funds. BlackRock and its Affiliates are involved worldwide with a broad spectrum of financial services and asset management activities and may engage in the ordinary course of business in activities in which their interests or the interests of their clients may conflict with those of the Funds. BlackRock or one or more Affiliates act or may act as an investor, research provider, investment manager, commodity pool operator, commodity trading advisor, financier, underwriter, adviser, trader, lender, index provider, agent and/or principal, and have other direct and indirect interests in securities, currencies, commodities, derivatives and other instruments in which the Funds may directly or indirectly invest. The Funds may invest in securities of, or engage in other transactions with, companies with which an Affiliate has significant debt or equity investments or other interests. The Funds may also invest in issuances (such as structured notes) by entities for which an Affiliate provides and is compensated for cash management services relating to the proceeds from the sale of such issuances. The Funds also may invest in securities of, or engage in other transactions with, companies for which an Affiliate provides or may in the future provide research coverage. An Affiliate may have business relationships with, and purchase, or distribute or sell services or products from or to, distributors, consultants or others who recommend the Funds or who engage in transactions with or for the Funds, and may receive compensation for such services. BlackRock or one or more Affiliates may engage in proprietary trading and advise accounts and funds that have investment objectives similar to those of the Funds and/or that engage in and compete for transactions in the same types of securities, currencies and other instruments as the Funds. This may include transactions in securities issued by other open-end and closed-end investment companies (which may include investment companies that are affiliated with the Funds and BlackRock, to the extent permitted under the Investment Company Act). The trading activities of BlackRock and these Affiliates are carried out without reference to positions held directly or indirectly by the Funds and may result in BlackRock or an Affiliate having positions in certain securities that are senior or junior to, or have interests different from or adverse to, the securities that are owned by the Funds.

Neither BlackRock nor any Affiliate is under any obligation to share any investment opportunity, idea or strategy with the Funds. As a result, an Affiliate may compete with the Funds for appropriate investment opportunities. The results of a Fund’s investment activities, therefore, may differ from those of an Affiliate and of other accounts managed by BlackRock or an Affiliate, and it is possible that a Fund could sustain losses during periods in which one or more Affiliates and other accounts achieve profits on their trading for proprietary or other accounts. The opposite result is also possible.

In addition, the Funds may, from time to time, enter into transactions in which BlackRock or an Affiliate or their directors, officers or employees or other clients have an adverse interest. Furthermore, transactions undertaken by clients advised or managed by BlackRock or its Affiliates may adversely impact the Funds. Transactions by one or more clients or BlackRock or its Affiliates or their directors, officers or employees, may have the effect of diluting or otherwise disadvantaging the values, prices or investment strategies of the Funds. The Funds’ activities may be limited because of regulatory restrictions applicable to BlackRock or one or more Affiliates and/or their internal policies designed to comply with such restrictions.

Under a securities lending program approved by the Board, the Company, on behalf of each Fund, has retained BlackRock Investment Management, LLC, an Affiliate of BlackRock, to serve as the securities lending agent for the Funds to the extent that the Funds participate in the securities lending program. For these services, the securities lending agent will receive a fee from the Funds based on the returns earned on the Funds’ lending activities, including investment of the cash received as collateral for the loaned securities. In addition, one or more Affiliates may be among the entities to which the Funds may lend their portfolio securities under the securities lending program.

The activities of BlackRock and its Affiliates and their respective directors, officers or employees, may give rise to other conflicts of interest that could disadvantage the Funds and their shareholders. BlackRock has adopted policies and procedures designed to address these potential conflicts of interest. See the SAI for further information.

Valuation of Fund Investments

When an Insurance Company purchases shares, the Insurance Company pays the net asset value. This is the offering price. Shares are also redeemed at their net asset value. Each Fund calculates its net asset value of each class of its shares each day the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) is open generally as of the close of regular trading hours on the NYSE, based on prices at the time of closing. The NYSE generally closes at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time). The net asset value used in determining your share price is the next one calculated after your purchase or redemption order is received. Each business day, the Funds’ net asset values are transmitted electronically to the Insurance Companies that use the Funds as underlying investment options for Contracts.

The value of the securities and other assets and liabilities held by the Funds are determined pursuant to BlackRock's valuation policies and procedures. BlackRock has been designated by the Board as the valuation designee for the Funds pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the Investment Company Act. Equity securities and other instruments for which market quotations are readily available are valued at market value, which is generally determined using the last reported closing price or, if a reported closing price is not available, the last traded price on the exchange or market on which the security or instrument is primarily traded at the time of valuation. The Funds value fixed-income portfolio securities and non-exchange traded derivatives using last available bid prices or current market quotations provided by dealers or prices (including evaluated prices) supplied by the Funds' approved independent third-party pricing services, each in accordance with BlackRock's valuation policies and procedures. Pricing services may use matrix pricing or valuation models that utilize certain inputs and assumptions to derive values. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of institutional round lot size, but the Fund may hold or transact in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. Short-term debt securities with remaining maturities of 60 days or less may be valued on the basis of amortized cost.

Foreign currency exchange rates are generally determined as of the close of business on the NYSE. Foreign securities owned by the Funds may trade on weekends or other days when a Fund does not price its shares. As a result, the Funds' net asset value may change on days when you will not be able to purchase or redeem a Fund's shares. Generally, trading in foreign securities, U.S. Government securities, money market instruments and certain fixed-income securities is substantially completed each day at various times prior to the close of business on the NYSE. The values of such securities used in computing the net asset value of a Fund's shares are determined as of such times.

When market quotations are not readily available or are believed by BlackRock to be unreliable, BlackRock will fair value a Fund's investments in accordance with its policies and procedures. BlackRock may conclude that a market quotation is not readily available or is unreliable if a security or other asset or liability does not have a price source due to its lack of liquidity, if BlackRock believes a market quotation from a broker-dealer or other source is unreliable, where the security or other asset or other liability is thinly traded (e.g., municipal securities, certain small cap and emerging growth companies and certain non-U.S. securities) or where there is a significant event subsequent to the most recent market quotation. For this purpose, a "significant event" is deemed to occur if BlackRock determines, in its business judgment prior to or at the time of pricing a Fund's assets or liabilities, that it is likely that the event will cause a material change to the last closing market price of one or more assets or liabilities held by the Fund. For instance, significant events may occur between the foreign market close and the close of business on the NYSE that may not be reflected in the computation of the Funds' net assets. If such event occurs, those instruments may be fair valued. Similarly, foreign securities whose values are affected by volatility that occurs in U.S. markets on a trading day after the close of foreign securities markets may be fair valued.

For certain foreign securities, a third-party vendor supplies evaluated, systematic fair value pricing based upon the movement of a proprietary multi-factor model after the relevant foreign markets have closed. This systematic fair value pricing methodology is designed to correlate the prices of foreign securities following the close of the local markets to the price that might have prevailed as of a Fund's pricing time.

Fair value represents a good faith approximation of the value of a security. The fair value of one or more securities may not, in retrospect, be the price at which those assets could have been sold during the period in which the particular fair values were used in determining a Fund's net asset value.

A Fund may accept orders from certain authorized financial intermediaries or their designees. A Fund will be deemed to receive an order when accepted by the financial intermediary or designee and the order will receive the net asset value next computed by the Fund after such acceptance. If the payment for a purchase order is not made by a designated later time, the order will be canceled and the financial intermediary could be held liable for any losses.

Dividends and Taxes

Each of BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund, BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund and BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund declares and reinvests dividends at least annually in additional shares of the respective Fund.

Each Fund has elected to be treated, and intends to qualify each year, as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). In order to qualify to be taxable as a regulated investment company, each Fund must meet certain income and asset diversification tests and distribution requirements. As regulated investment companies, the Funds will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on their net investment income and net capital gains that they distribute to their shareholders.

Distributions made by a Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

In order for the Contract holders to be eligible for such U.S. federal income tax deferral, each separate account of the Insurance Companies (referred to as “segregated asset accounts” for U.S. federal income tax purposes) must comply with certain asset diversification requirements and investor control prohibitions.

Diversification Requirements

Specifically, each segregated asset account is required to comply with the diversification requirements of Section 817(h) of the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations thereunder relating to the tax-deferred status of segregated asset accounts. If a segregated asset account fails these requirements, (i) the Contract would not be treated as an annuity or life insurance contract under the Internal Revenue Code and (ii) the holders of such Contract would be required to include as ordinary income the “income on the contract” for each taxable year. Generally, the “income on the contract” is the excess of (i) the sum of the increase in the net surrender value of the Contract during the taxable year and the cost of the life insurance protection provided under the Contract during the year, over (ii) the premiums paid under the Contract during the taxable year. Contract holders could also be taxable in future years even if the segregated asset account subsequently complied with the diversification tests.

To satisfy these diversification requirements, as of the end of each calendar quarter or within 30 days thereafter, each segregated asset account must meet one of two tests. Either (i) the segregated asset account must have no more than 55% of its total assets represented by any one investment, no more than 70% of its total assets represented by any two investments, no more than 80% of its total assets represented by any three investments, and no more than 90% of its total assets represented by any four investments or (ii) the segregated asset account must both (a) meet all the tax diversification requirements under Section 851(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (which are applicable to all regulated investment companies) and (b) have no more than 55% of the value of its total assets be attributable to cash, cash items (including receivables), Government securities or securities of other regulated investment companies. For purposes of the first test, all securities of the same issuer are considered a single investment, but in the case of Government securities, each Government agency or instrumentality is considered to be a separate issuer. An alternative test to establish diversification may be available under certain circumstances.

Section 817(h) of the Internal Revenue Code provides a look-through rule for purposes of testing the diversification of a segregated asset account that invests in a regulated investment company such as a Fund. If the look-through rule applies, a beneficial interest in a regulated investment company will not be treated as a single investment of a segregated asset account for purposes of the diversification requirements described above; instead, a pro rata portion of each asset of the regulated investment company will be treated as an asset of the segregated asset account.

Investor Control Prohibitions

For a Contract to qualify for U.S. federal income tax deferral, it must avoid the prohibition on investor control so that assets in the segregated asset accounts supporting the Contract are considered to be owned for U.S. federal income tax purposes by the Insurance Company and not by the Contract holder. Accordingly, a Contract holder should not have an impermissible level of control over a segregated asset account's or a Fund's investment in any particular asset. If the Contract holder were considered the owner of the Fund shares for U.S. federal income tax purposes, income and gain earned from such Fund shares for the current, future and prior taxable years would be taxable currently to the Contract holders.

Each Fund intends (1) to comply with the requirements necessary to allow a segregated asset account that invests in the Fund to look-through to the Fund's investments for purposes of satisfying the asset diversification requirements of Section 817(h) of the Code, (2) to comply with such asset diversification requirements necessary to prevent the Contract holders from losing their special tax treatment because of investments in the Fund, and (3) to comply with the requirements necessary to prevent the Contract holders from having an impermissible level of control over the Fund's assets.

Tax Treatment to Insurance Companies

Dividends paid by a Fund may be included in the respective Insurance Company's gross income. The tax treatment of these dividends depends on the Insurance Company's tax status. A description of an Insurance Company's tax status is contained in the prospectus for the Contract.

Dividends and interest received by a Fund and capital gains recognized by a Fund may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate such taxes. As a shareholder in a Fund, an Insurance Company may be able to claim a credit or take a deduction for foreign taxes paid by the Fund if certain requirements are met.

This section summarizes some of the consequences under current federal tax law of an investment in a Fund. It is not a substitute for individualized tax advice. Consult your tax adviser about the potential tax consequences of an investment in a Fund under all applicable tax laws.

General Information

Shareholder Documents

Please contact your Insurance Company for a copy of the Funds' annual and semi-annual reports.

Certain Fund Policies

Anti-Money Laundering Requirements

The Funds are subject to the USA PATRIOT Act (the "Patriot Act"). The Patriot Act is intended to prevent the use of the U.S. financial system in furtherance of money laundering, terrorism or other illicit activities. Pursuant to requirements under the Patriot Act, the Funds are required to obtain sufficient information from shareholders to enable it to form a reasonable belief that it knows the true identity of its shareholders. This information will be used to verify the identity of investors or, in some cases, the status of financial intermediaries. Such information may be verified using third-party sources. This information will be used only for compliance with the Patriot Act or other applicable laws, regulations and rules in connection with money laundering, terrorism or economic sanctions.

The Funds reserve the right to reject purchase orders from persons who have not submitted information sufficient to allow the Funds to verify their identity. The Funds also reserve the right to redeem any amounts in the Funds from persons whose identity it is unable to verify on a timely basis. It is the Funds' policy to cooperate fully with appropriate regulators in any investigations conducted with respect to potential money laundering, terrorism or other illicit activities.

BlackRock Privacy Principles

BlackRock is committed to maintaining the privacy of its current and former fund investors and individual clients (collectively, "Clients") and to safeguarding their non-public personal information. The following information is provided to help you understand what personal information BlackRock collects, how we protect that information and why in certain cases we share such information with select parties. If you are located in a jurisdiction where specific laws, rules or regulations require BlackRock to provide you with additional or different privacy-related rights beyond what is set forth below, then BlackRock will comply with those specific laws, rules or regulations.

BlackRock obtains or verifies personal non-public information from and about you from different sources, including the following: (i) information we receive from you or, if applicable, your financial intermediary, on applications, forms or other documents; (ii) information about your transactions with us, our affiliates, or others; (iii) information we receive from a consumer reporting agency; and (iv) from visits to our website.

BlackRock does not sell or disclose to non-affiliated third parties any non-public personal information about its Clients, except as permitted by law, or as is necessary to respond to regulatory requests or to service Client accounts. These non-affiliated third parties are required to protect the confidentiality and security of this information and to use it only for its intended purpose.

We may share information with our affiliates to service your account or to provide you with information about other BlackRock products or services that may be of interest to you. In addition, BlackRock restricts access to non-public personal information about its Clients to those BlackRock employees with a legitimate business need for the information. BlackRock maintains physical, electronic and procedural safeguards that are designed to protect the non-public personal information of its Clients, including procedures relating to the proper storage and disposal of such information.

Statement of Additional Information

If you would like further information about the Funds, including how the Funds invest, please see the SAI.

For a discussion of the Funds' policies and procedures regarding the selective disclosure of their portfolio holdings, please see the SAI.

Glossary

This glossary contains an explanation of some of the common terms used in this prospectus. For additional information about the Funds, please see the SAI.

Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses — a Fund's pro rata share of the fees and expenses incurred indirectly by a Fund as a result of investing in other investment companies.

Annual Fund Operating Expenses — expenses that cover the costs of operating a Fund.

Contract — the Funds offer their shares only to participating insurance companies. These insurance companies write variable annuity and/or variable life insurance contracts that allow the contract owner to choose a Fund as an investment option. The contract owner does not become a Fund shareholder.

Distribution Fees — fees used to support a Fund's marketing and distribution efforts, such as compensating financial professionals and other financial intermediaries, advertising and promotion.

FTSE Non-U.S. Dollar World Government Bond Index — an unmanaged, market capitalization-weighted index that tracks over 20 government bond indexes, excluding the United States.

FTSE World Index — a market cap weighted index representing the performance of the large- and mid-cap stocks from the FTSE Global Equity Index Series and covers 90-95% of the investable market capitalization.

FTSE World (ex U.S.) Index — comprises large- and mid-cap stocks providing coverage of developed and emerging markets excluding the United States. The index is derived from the FTSE Global Equity Index Series (GEIS), which covers 98% of the world's investable market capitalization.

ICE BofA Current 5-Year U.S. Treasury Index — an unmanaged index designed to track the total return of the current coupon five-year U.S. Treasury bond.

Management Fee — a fee paid to BlackRock for managing a Fund.

Other Expenses — include accounting, transfer agency, custody, professional fees and registration fees.

Reference Benchmark — an unmanaged weighted index comprised as follows: 36% of the S&P 500® Index; 24% FTSE World (ex U.S.) Index; 24% ICE BofA Current 5-Year U.S. Treasury Index; and 16% FTSE Non-U.S. Dollar World Government Bond Index.

Russell 1000® Index — an index that measures the performance of the large cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. It is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index and includes approximately 1,000 of the largest securities based on a combination of their market capitalization and current index membership. The index represents approximately 93% of the total market capitalization of the Russell 3000® Index.

Russell 2000® Index — an unmanaged index that is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index representing approximately 7% of the total market capitalization of that index. It includes approximately 2000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership.

Russell 3000® Index — an index that measures the performance of the largest 3,000 U.S. companies representing approximately 96% of the investable U.S. equity market.

S&P 500® Index — an unmanaged index that covers 500 leading companies and captures approximately 80% coverage of available market capitalization.

Service Fees — fees used to compensate securities dealers and other financial intermediaries for certain shareholder servicing activities.

Shareholder Fees — fees paid directly by a shareholder, including sales charges that you may pay when you buy or sell shares of a Fund.

For More Information

Funds and Service Providers

THE FUNDS

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.
100 Bellevue Parkway
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

Written Correspondence:

P.O. Box 534429
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15253-4429

Overnight Mail:

Attention: 534429
500 Ross Street 154-0520
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15262
(800) 537-4942

MANAGER

BlackRock Advisors, LLC
100 Bellevue Parkway
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

SUB-ADVISERS¹

BlackRock (Singapore) Limited
20 Anson Road #18-01
079912 Singapore

BlackRock International Limited
Exchange Place One
1 Sempole Street
Edinburgh, EH3 8BL, United Kingdom

TRANSFER AGENT

BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc.
301 Bellevue Parkway
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Deloitte & Touche LLP
200 Berkeley Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

ACCOUNTING SERVICES PROVIDER

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
383 Madison Avenue, Floor 11
New York, New York 10179

DISTRIBUTOR

BlackRock Investments, LLC
50 Hudson Yards
New York, New York 10001

CUSTODIAN

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
383 Madison Avenue, Floor 11
New York, New York 10179

COUNSEL

Sidley Austin LLP
787 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10019

¹ For BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund.

Other Important Information

BlackRock Variable Series Funds

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The Insurance Companies

Shares of BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund, BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund, BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund, BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund, BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund, BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund, BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund, BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund, BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund (each a “Fund” and collectively the “Funds”) are sold to separate accounts of insurance companies (the “Insurance Companies”) either directly or indirectly (through other variable insurance funds) to fund certain variable life insurance contracts and/or variable annuities (the “Contracts”) issued by the Insurance Companies.

Shares of the Funds are owned by the Insurance Companies, not Contract owners. A Contract owner has no direct interest in the shares of a Fund, but only in the Contract. A Contract is described in the prospectus for that Contract. That prospectus describes the relationship between changes in the value of shares of a Fund, and the benefits provided under a Contract. The prospectus for a Contract also describes various fees payable to the Insurance Company and charges to the separate account made by the Insurance Company with respect to the Contract. While this prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information (the “SAI”) are intended for use by Contract owners, because shares of the Funds will be sold only to the Insurance Companies for the separate accounts, the terms “you,” “your,” “shareholder” and “shareholders” in this prospectus may refer to the Insurance Companies.

More than one Insurance Company may invest in each Fund. It is possible that a difference may arise among the interests of Insurance Companies that invest in a Fund or the holders of different types of Contracts — for example, if applicable state insurance law or Contract owner instructions prevent an Insurance Company from continuing to invest in a Fund following a change in the Fund’s investment policies, or if different tax laws apply to variable life insurance contracts and variable annuities. The Funds and the Insurance Companies will attempt to monitor events to prevent such differences from arising. If a conflict between Insurance Companies occurs, or between life insurance policies and annuity contracts, however, a Fund may be required to take actions that are adverse to the interests of a particular Insurance Company and its Contract owners, or to the interests of holders of a particular type of Contract.

How to Buy and Sell Shares

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc. (the “Company”) is offering through this prospectus Class III Shares in certain Funds to the Insurance Companies. The price of shares purchased by the Insurance Companies is based on the next calculation of the per share net asset value of a Fund after an order is placed. The Company may reject any order to buy shares and may suspend the sale of shares at any time. The Company will redeem all full and fractional shares of the Funds for cash. The price of redeemed shares is based on the next calculation of net asset value after a redemption order is placed. The value of shares at the time of redemption may be more or less than the shareholder’s cost, depending in part on the net asset value of such shares at such time.

Short-Term Trading Policy

The Company’s Board of Directors (the “Board”) has determined that the interests of long-term shareholders and a Fund’s ability to manage its investments may be adversely affected when shares are repeatedly bought, sold or exchanged in response to short-term market fluctuations — also known as “market timing.” The Funds are not designed for market timing organizations or other entities using programmed or frequent purchases and sales or exchanges. The exchange privilege is not intended as a vehicle for short-term trading. Excessive purchase and sale or exchange activity may interfere with portfolio management, increase expenses and taxes and may have an adverse effect on the performance of a Fund and its returns to shareholders. For example, large flows of cash into and out of a Fund may require the management team to allocate a significant amount of assets to cash or other short-term investments or sell securities, rather than maintaining such assets in securities selected to achieve a Fund’s investment objective. Frequent trading may cause a Fund to sell securities at less favorable prices, and transaction costs, such as brokerage commissions, can reduce a Fund’s performance.

A fund’s investment in non-U.S. securities is subject to the risk that an investor may seek to take advantage of a delay between the change in value of such fund’s portfolio securities and the determination of the fund’s net asset value as a result of different closing times of U.S. and non-U.S. markets by buying or selling fund shares at a price that does not reflect their true value. A similar risk exists for funds that invest in securities of small capitalization companies, securities of issuers located in emerging markets or high yield securities (“junk bonds”) that are thinly traded and therefore may have actual values that differ from their market prices. This short-term arbitrage activity can reduce the return received by long-term shareholders. Each Fund will seek to eliminate these opportunities by using fair value pricing, as described in “Management of the Funds — Valuation of Fund Investments” below.

The Funds discourage market timing and seek to prevent frequent purchases and sales or exchanges of Fund shares that they determine may be detrimental to a Fund or long-term shareholders. The Board has approved the policies discussed below to seek to deter market timing activity. The Board has not adopted any specific numerical restrictions on purchases, sales and exchanges of Fund shares because certain legitimate strategies will not result in harm to a Fund or its shareholders.

If as a result of its own investigation, information provided by a financial intermediary or other third party, or otherwise, a Fund believes, in its sole discretion, that your short-term trading is excessive or that you are engaging in market timing activity, it reserves the right to reject any specific purchase or exchange order. If a Fund rejects your purchase or exchange order, you will not be able to execute that transaction, and such Fund will not be responsible for any losses you therefore may suffer. For transactions placed directly with a Fund, such Fund may consider the trading history of accounts under common ownership or control for the purpose of enforcing these policies. Transactions placed through the same financial intermediary on an omnibus basis may be deemed part of a group for the purpose of this policy and may be rejected in whole or in part by a Fund. Certain accounts, such as omnibus accounts and accounts at financial intermediaries, however, include multiple investors and such accounts typically provide a Fund with net purchase or redemption and exchange requests on any given day where purchases, redemptions and exchanges of shares are netted against one another and the identity of individual purchasers, redeemers and exchangers whose orders are aggregated may not be known by a Fund. While the Funds monitor for market timing activity, the Funds may be unable to identify such activities because the netting effect in omnibus accounts often makes it more difficult to locate and eliminate market timers from the Funds. BlackRock Investments, LLC (the “Distributor”) has entered into agreements with respect to financial professionals, and other financial intermediaries that maintain omnibus accounts with the transfer agent pursuant to which such financial professionals and other financial intermediaries undertake to cooperate with the Distributor in monitoring purchase, exchange and redemption orders by their customers in order to detect and prevent short-term or excessive trading in the Funds’ shares through such accounts. Identification of market timers may also be limited by operational systems and technical limitations. In the event that a financial intermediary is determined by a Fund to be engaged in market timing or other improper trading activity, the Distributor may terminate such financial intermediary’s agreement with the Distributor, suspend such financial intermediary’s trading privileges or take other appropriate actions.

There is no assurance that the methods described above will prevent market timing or other trading that may be deemed abusive.

The Funds may from time to time use other methods that they believe are appropriate to deter market timing or other trading activity that may be detrimental to the Funds or long-term shareholders.

Rule 12b-1 Fees for Class III Shares

The Company has adopted a plan under Rule 12b-1 of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”) (the “Plan”), that allows a Fund to pay distribution fees to each of the participating Insurance Companies or broker-dealer affiliates thereof (“Insurance Company Affiliates”) for the sale and distribution of its Class III Shares. Because these fees are paid out of a Fund’s assets on an on-going basis, over time these fees will increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges. Class III shareholders have no other purchase option. The amount of the distribution fee payable under the plan equals 0.25% of the average daily net asset value of the Class III Shares of a Fund held by the participating Insurance Company.

The distribution fee may be used to pay the participating Insurance Companies or Insurance Company Affiliates for distribution-related and/or shareholder services provided in connection with the sale of Class III Shares. The distribution fee may also be used to pay Insurance Companies, Insurance Company Affiliates and other financial intermediaries (“Service Organizations”) for sales support services and related expenses.

In addition to, rather than in lieu of, distribution fees that a Fund may pay to a Service Organization pursuant to a Plan and fees a Fund pays to its transfer agent, if approved by the Board, BlackRock, on behalf of the Funds, may enter into non-Plan agreements with a Service Organization pursuant to which a Fund will pay a Service Organization for administrative, networking, recordkeeping, subtransfer agency and shareholder services. These non-Plan payments are based on a percentage of the average daily net assets of Fund shareholders serviced by a Service Organization. The aggregate amount of these payments may be substantial.

From time to time, BlackRock, the Distributor and their affiliates may compensate affiliated and unaffiliated Service Organizations for the sale and distribution of shares of the Funds. These payments would be in addition to the Fund payments described above, if approved by the Board, and may be a fixed dollar amount, may be based on the number of customer accounts maintained by the Service Organization, may be based on a percentage of the value of shares sold to, or held by, customers of the Service Organization or may be calculated on another basis. The aggregate amount of these payments by BlackRock, the Distributor and their affiliates may be substantial and, in some circumstances, these revenue sharing payments may create an incentive for a Service Organization, its employees or associated persons to recommend or sell shares of the Funds to you. Please contact your Service Organization for details about payments it may receive from the Funds or from BlackRock, the Distributor or their affiliates. For more information, see the SAI.

Management of the Funds

BlackRock

BlackRock, each Fund's investment adviser, manages each Fund's investments and its business operations subject to the oversight of the Board of each of the Funds. While BlackRock is ultimately responsible for the management of the Funds, it is able to draw upon the trading, research and expertise of its asset management affiliates for portfolio decisions and management with respect to certain portfolio securities. BlackRock is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of BlackRock, Inc.

BlackRock, a registered investment adviser, was organized in 1994 to perform advisory services for investment companies. BlackRock International Limited ("BIL"), BlackRock (Singapore) Limited ("BRS") and BlackRock Asset Management North Asia Limited ("BNA") are registered investment advisers organized in 1995, 2000 and 1998, respectively. BlackRock and its affiliates had approximately \$10.472 trillion in investment company and other portfolio assets under management as of March 31, 2024.

Each Fund has entered into a management agreement (the "Management Agreement") with BlackRock. Under the Management Agreement, BlackRock receives for its services to each Fund a fee at an annual rate described below. The fee is computed daily on a Fund-by-Fund basis and payable monthly.

BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.150% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.140% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.135% |
| In excess of \$5 billion | 0.130% |

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$250 million | 0.500% |
| In excess of \$250 million but not exceeding \$300 million | 0.450% |
| In excess of \$300 million but not exceeding \$400 million | 0.425% |
| In excess of \$400 million | 0.400% |

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.75% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.71% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.68% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.64% |

For BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund, BlackRock has agreed to voluntarily waive 0.05% of its management fee payable by the Fund. This voluntary waiver may be reduced or discontinued at any time without notice.

BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.75% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.71% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.68% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.64% |

BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.60% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.56% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.54% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.52% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.51% |

BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.61% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.59% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.57% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.55% |

BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.60% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.56% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.54% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.52% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.51% |

BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|--|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$6 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$6 billion but not exceeding \$8 billion | 0.61% |
| In excess of \$8 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.59% |
| In excess of \$10 billion but not exceeding \$15 billion | 0.57% |
| In excess of \$15 billion | 0.55% |

BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund

| Fund | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund | 0.08% |
| BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund | 0.08% |

BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.65% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.61% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.59% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.57% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.55% |

BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund

| Portion of Average Daily Value of Net Assets | Rate of Management Fee |
|---|------------------------|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion | 0.55% |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not exceeding \$3 billion | 0.52% |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not exceeding \$5 billion | 0.50% |
| In excess of \$5 billion but not exceeding \$10 billion | 0.48% |
| In excess of \$10 billion | 0.47% |

BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund

| Rate of Management Fee |
|------------------------|
| 0.07% |

BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of each Fund's (except BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund) assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds and exchange-traded funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025 (for each Fund except BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund) and June 30, 2026 (for BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund). BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund's assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income mutual funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through June 30, 2025. In addition, with respect to each Fund, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of investment advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in money market funds managed by BlackRock or its affiliates (the "affiliated money market fund waiver"), through June 30, 2025 (for each Fund except BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund) and June 30, 2026 (for BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund). The contractual agreements may be terminated upon 90 days' notice by a majority of the Independent Directors or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

BlackRock has agreed to cap net expenses (excluding (i) interest, taxes, dividends tied to short sales, brokerage commissions, and other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; (ii) a Fund's pro rata share of the fees expenses incurred indirectly by a Fund as a result of investing in other investment companies; (iii) other expenses attributable to, and incurred as a result of, a Fund's investments; and (iv) extraordinary expenses (including litigation expenses) not incurred in the ordinary course of a Fund's business, if any) of each share class of certain Funds at the levels shown below and, in the case of contractual caps, in a Fund's fees and expenses table in the Fund Overview section of this prospectus. Items (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) in the preceding sentence are referred to in this prospectus as "Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses." To achieve these expense caps, BlackRock has agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses if these operating expenses exceed a certain limit.

With respect to Class III Shares of each Fund, as set forth in the table below, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements. With respect to Class III Shares of certain Funds, BlackRock has contractually agreed to reimburse fees in order to limit operational and recordkeeping fees to the amounts noted in the table below.

| | Contractual Caps¹ on Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses² (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) | Contractual Caps¹ on fees paid by Fund for Operational and Recordkeeping Services |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund | 0.44% | — |
| Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund | 1.50% | 0.08% |
| Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund | 0.85% | 0.11% |
| Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund | 0.80% | 0.01% |
| Basic Value V.I. Fund | 1.50% | 0.09% |
| Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund | 1.04% | 0.08% |
| Equity Dividend V.I. Fund | 1.50% | 0.00% |
| Global Allocation V.I. Fund | 1.50% | 0.07% |
| International Index V.I. Fund | 0.52% | 0.05% |
| Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund | 1.04% | 0.07% |
| Managed Volatility V.I. Fund | 0.84% | 0.00% |
| S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund | 0.40% | 0.05% |
| Small Cap Index V.I. Fund | 0.47% | 0.05% |

¹ The contractual caps for each Fund are in effect through June 30, 2025 (for each Fund except BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund) and June 30, 2026 (for BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund). The contractual agreement may be terminated, with respect to each Fund, upon 90 days' notice by a majority of the non-interested directors of the Fund or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

² As a percentage of average daily net assets and based on current fees.

With respect to the contractual agreements to cap net expenses described above for BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund, if during a Fund's fiscal year the operating expenses of a share class, that at any time during the prior two fiscal years received a waiver and/or reimbursement from BlackRock, are less than the current expense limit for that share class, the share class is required to repay BlackRock up to the lesser of (a) the amount of fees waived or expenses reimbursed during those prior two fiscal years under the agreement and (b) an amount not to exceed either (x) the current expense limit of that share class or (y) the expense limit of the share class in effect at the time that the share class received the applicable waiver and/or reimbursement, provided that: (i) the Fund of which the share class is a part has more than \$50 million in assets and (ii) BlackRock or an affiliate serves as the Fund's manager or administrator. This repayment obligation will terminate on October 26, 2025 with respect to BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund, and applies only to the contractual caps on net expenses and does not apply to the contractual management fee waivers described above or any voluntary waivers that may be in effect from time to time.

The amount of the contractual waivers and/or reimbursements of fees and expenses made pursuant to the contractual cap on net expenses will be reduced by the amount of the affiliated money market fund waiver.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, the aggregate management fees, net of any applicable waivers, paid by each Fund to BlackRock as a percentage of each Fund's average daily net assets were:

| Fund Name | Management Fee |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund | 0.15% |
| Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund | 0.50% |
| Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund | 0.40% |
| Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund | 0.38% |
| Basic Value V.I. Fund | 0.60% |

| Fund Name | Management Fee |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund | 0.65% |
| Equity Dividend V.I. Fund | 0.60% |
| Global Allocation V.I. Fund | 0.64% |
| International Index V.I. Fund | 0.08% |
| Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund | 0.65% |
| Managed Volatility V.I. Fund | 0.25% |
| S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund | 0.07% |
| Small Cap Index V.I. Fund | 0.08% |

BlackRock has entered into separate sub-advisory agreements with BIL, an affiliate of BlackRock, with respect to BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund. Under the sub-advisory agreements, BlackRock pays BIL a monthly fee for services it provides for that portion of BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund for which BIL acts as sub-adviser at an annual rate equal to a percentage of the management fee paid to BlackRock under the Management Agreement.

BlackRock has entered into separate sub-advisory agreements with BRS, an affiliate of BlackRock, with respect to BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund. Under the sub-advisory agreements, BlackRock pays BRS a monthly fee for services it provides for that portion of BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund for which BRS acts as sub-adviser at an annual rate equal to a percentage of the management fee paid to BlackRock under the Management Agreement.

BlackRock has entered into a sub-advisory agreement with BNA, an affiliate of BlackRock, with respect to BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund. Under the sub-advisory agreement, BlackRock pays BNA a monthly fee for services it provides for that portion of BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund for which BIL acts as sub-adviser at an annual rate equal to a percentage of the management fee paid to BlackRock under the Management Agreement.

A discussion of the basis for the Board's approval of the Management Agreement with BlackRock with respect to each Fund and each sub-advisory agreement between BlackRock and each sub-adviser (except the sub-advisory agreement between BlackRock and BIL with respect to BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund) is included in the Funds' semi-annual shareholder report for the fiscal period ended June 30, 2023. A discussion of the basis for the Board's approval of the sub-advisory agreement between BlackRock and BIL with respect to BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund will be included in the Funds' semi-annual shareholder report for the fiscal period ending June 30, 2024.

From time to time, a manager, analyst, or other employee of BlackRock or its affiliates may express views regarding a particular asset class, company, security, industry, or market sector. The views expressed by any such person are the views of only that individual as of the time expressed and do not necessarily represent the views of BlackRock or any other person within the BlackRock organization. Any such views are subject to change at any time based upon market or other conditions and BlackRock disclaims any responsibility to update such views. These views may not be relied on as investment advice and, because investment decisions for a Fund are based on numerous factors, may not be relied on as an indication of trading intent on behalf of a Fund.

Portfolio Manager Information

Information regarding the portfolio managers of each Fund is set forth below. Further information regarding the portfolio managers, including other accounts managed, compensation, ownership of Fund shares, and possible conflicts of interest, is available in the Funds' SAI.

BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|---|
| Paul Whitehead | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2023 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2010; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2010; Principal of Barclays Global Investors ("BGI") from 2002 to 2009. |
| Michael Gates, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2016 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2019; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2019. |

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|---|
| Greg Savage, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2018 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2010; Director of BlackRock, Inc. in 2009; Principal of BGI from 2007 to 2009; Associate of BGI from 1999 to 2007. |

BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund and BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|---|--------------|---|
| Raffaele Savi | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio, including setting each Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Funds. | 2017 | Senior Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2023; Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2022; Managing Director at BGI from 2007 to 2009; Principal at BGI from 2006 to 2007. |
| Travis Cooke, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio, including setting each Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Funds. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2012; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2011, Principal of BGI from 2002 to 2009. |
| Richard Mathieson | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio, including setting each Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Funds. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2011; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2011; Principal at BGI from 2008 to 2009; Equity Analyst for Exista UK from 2007 to 2008; Principal at BGI from 2005 to 2007; Associate of BGI from 2001 to 2005. |

BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Tony DeSpirito | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2019 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2014. |
| David Zhao | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2019 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2016. |

BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|---|
| Phil Ruvinsky | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2020 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2019; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2013 to 2018; Sector Head and Research Analyst at Surview Capital LLC from 2010 to 2013; Various positions, including Portfolio Manager and Investment Analyst, at UBS Global Asset Management from 2002 to 2010. |
| Caroline Bottinelli | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2024; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2020 to 2023; Vice President of BlackRock, Inc. from 2016 to 2020; prior to joining BlackRock, Inc., Ms. Bottinelli was an Equity Research Associate at J.P. Morgan. |

BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|-------------------|--|-------|--|
| Tony DeSpirito | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2014 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2014; Managing Principal, Portfolio Manager and Member of the Executive Committee of Pzena Investment Management from 2009 to 2014. |
| David Zhao | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2016; Global Equity Senior Research Analyst and Principal at Pzena Investment Management from 2006 to 2016. |

BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------|--|
| Rick Rieder | Jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2019 | BlackRock's Chief Investment Officer of Global Fixed Income, Head of Global Allocation Investment Team, member of the Global Executive Committee, Global Operating Committee and Chairman of the BlackRock, Inc. firmwide Investment Council; Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2009; President and Chief Executive Officer of R3 Capital Partners from 2008 to 2009; Managing Director at Lehman Brothers from 1994 to 2008. |
| Russ Koesterich, CFA, JD | Jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2009. |
| David Clayton, CFA, JD ¹ | Jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2012; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2010 to 2011. |

¹ On or about June 30, 2024, David Clayton will retire from BlackRock, Inc. and will no longer serve as a portfolio manager of the Fund.

BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------|---|-------|---|
| Paul Whitehead | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio, including setting each Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Funds. | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2010; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2010; Principal of Barclays Global Investors ("BGI") from 2002 to 2009. |
| Jennifer Hsui, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Fund's portfolio, including setting each Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Funds. | 2018 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2011; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2011; Principal of BGI from 2006 to 2009. |

BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|---------------------|--|-------|---|
| Phil Ruvinsky | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2020 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2019; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2013 to 2018; Sector Head and Research Analyst at Surview Capital LLC from 2010 to 2013; Various positions, including Portfolio Manager and Investment Analyst, at UBS Global Asset Management from 2002 to 2010. |
| Caroline Bottinelli | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2024; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2020 to 2023; Vice President of BlackRock, Inc. from 2016 to 2020; prior to joining BlackRock, Inc., Ms. Bottinelli was an Equity Research Associate at J.P. Morgan. |

BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|-------------------|--|-------|--|
| Philip Green | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2008 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2006. |
| Michael Pensky | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2013 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2021; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2018 to 2020; Vice President of BlackRock, Inc. from 2016 to 2017; Associate of BlackRock, Inc. from 2012 to 2015. |

BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund

| Portfolio Manager | Primary Role | Since | Title and Recent Biography |
|--------------------|--|-------|---|
| Paul Whitehead | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2022 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2010; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2010; Principal of Barclays Global Investors ("BGI") from 2002 to 2009. |
| Jennifer Hsui, CFA | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, including setting the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2016 | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2011; Director of BlackRock, Inc. from 2009 to 2011; Principal of BGI from 2006 to 2009. |

Conflicts of Interest

The investment activities of BlackRock and its affiliates (including BlackRock, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively, the "Affiliates")), and their respective directors, officers or employees, in the management of, or their interest in, their own accounts and other accounts they manage, may present conflicts of interest that could disadvantage the Funds and their shareholders.

BlackRock and its Affiliates provide investment management services to other funds and discretionary managed accounts that may follow investment programs similar to that of the Funds. BlackRock and its Affiliates are involved worldwide with a broad spectrum of financial services and asset management activities and may engage in the ordinary course of business in activities in which their interests or the interests of their clients may conflict with those of the Funds. BlackRock or one or more Affiliates act or may act as an investor, research provider, investment manager, commodity pool operator, commodity trading advisor, financier, underwriter, adviser, trader, lender, index provider, agent and/or principal, and have other direct and indirect interests in securities, currencies, commodities, derivatives

and other instruments in which the Funds may directly or indirectly invest. The Funds may invest in securities of, or engage in other transactions with, companies with which an Affiliate has significant debt or equity investments or other interests. The Funds may also invest in issuances (such as structured notes) by entities for which an Affiliate provides and is compensated for cash management services relating to the proceeds from the sale of such issuances. The Funds also may invest in securities of, or engage in other transactions with, companies for which an Affiliate provides or may in the future provide research coverage. An Affiliate may have business relationships with, and purchase, or distribute or sell services or products from or to, distributors, consultants or others who recommend the Funds or who engage in transactions with or for the Funds, and may receive compensation for such services. BlackRock or one or more Affiliates may engage in proprietary trading and advise accounts and funds that have investment objectives similar to those of the Funds and/or that engage in and compete for transactions in the same types of securities, currencies and other instruments as the Funds. This may include transactions in securities issued by other open-end and closed-end investment companies (which may include investment companies that are affiliated with the Funds and BlackRock, to the extent permitted under the Investment Company Act). The trading activities of BlackRock and these Affiliates are carried out without reference to positions held directly or indirectly by the Funds and may result in BlackRock or an Affiliate having positions in certain securities that are senior or junior to, or have interests different from or adverse to, the securities that are owned by the Funds.

Neither BlackRock nor any Affiliate is under any obligation to share any investment opportunity, idea or strategy with the Funds. As a result, an Affiliate may compete with the Funds for appropriate investment opportunities. The results of a Fund's investment activities, therefore, may differ from those of an Affiliate and of other accounts managed by BlackRock or an Affiliate, and it is possible that a Fund could sustain losses during periods in which one or more Affiliates and other accounts achieve profits on their trading for proprietary or other accounts. The opposite result is also possible.

In addition, the Funds may, from time to time, enter into transactions in which BlackRock or an Affiliate or their directors, officers or employees or other clients have an adverse interest. Furthermore, transactions undertaken by clients advised or managed by BlackRock or its Affiliates may adversely impact the Funds. Transactions by one or more clients or BlackRock or its Affiliates or their directors, officers or employees, may have the effect of diluting or otherwise disadvantaging the values, prices or investment strategies of the Funds. The Funds' activities may be limited because of regulatory restrictions applicable to BlackRock or one or more Affiliates and/or their internal policies designed to comply with such restrictions.

Under a securities lending program approved by the Board, the Company, on behalf of each Fund, has retained BlackRock Investment Management, LLC, an Affiliate of BlackRock, to serve as the securities lending agent for the Funds to the extent that the Funds participate in the securities lending program. For these services, the securities lending agent will receive a fee from the Funds based on the returns earned on the Funds' lending activities, including investment of the cash received as collateral for the loaned securities. In addition, one or more Affiliates may be among the entities to which the Funds may lend their portfolio securities under the securities lending program.

The activities of BlackRock and its Affiliates and their respective directors, officers or employees, may give rise to other conflicts of interest that could disadvantage the Funds and their shareholders. BlackRock has adopted policies and procedures designed to address these potential conflicts of interest. See the SAI for further information.

Valuation of Fund Investments

When an Insurance Company purchases shares, the Insurance Company pays the net asset value. This is the offering price. Shares are also redeemed at their net asset value. Each Fund calculates its net asset value of each class of its shares each day the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") is open, generally as of the close of regular trading hours on the NYSE, based on prices at the time of closing. The NYSE generally closes at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time). The net asset value used in determining your share price is the next one calculated after your purchase or redemption order is received. Each business day, the Funds' net asset values are transmitted electronically to the Insurance Companies that use the Funds as underlying investment options for Contracts.

The value of the securities and other assets and liabilities held by the Funds are determined pursuant to BlackRock's valuation policies and procedures. BlackRock has been designated by the Board as the valuation designee for the Funds pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the Investment Company Act. Equity securities and other instruments for which market quotations are readily available are valued at market value, which is generally determined using the last reported closing price or, if a reported closing price is not available, the last traded price on the exchange or market on which the security or instrument is primarily traded at the time of valuation. The Funds value fixed-income portfolio securities and non-exchange traded derivatives using last available bid prices or current market quotations provided by dealers or prices (including evaluated prices) supplied by the Funds' approved independent third-party pricing services, each in accordance with BlackRock's valuation policies and procedures. Pricing services may use matrix pricing or valuation models that utilize certain inputs and assumptions to derive values. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of institutional round lot size, but the Fund may hold or transact in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots may trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. Short-term debt securities with remaining maturities of 60 days or less may be valued on the basis of amortized cost.

Foreign currency exchange rates are generally determined as of the close of business on the NYSE. Foreign securities owned by the Funds may trade on weekends or other days when a Fund does not price its shares. As a result, the Funds' net asset value may change on days when you will not be able to purchase or redeem a Fund's shares. Generally, trading in foreign securities, U.S. Government securities, money market instruments and certain fixed-income securities is substantially completed each day at various times prior to the close of business on the NYSE. The values of such securities used in computing the net asset value of a Fund's shares are determined as of such times.

When market quotations are not readily available or are believed by BlackRock to be unreliable, BlackRock will fair value a Fund's investments in accordance with its policies and procedures. BlackRock may conclude that a market quotation is not readily available or is unreliable if a security or other asset or liability does not have a price source due to its lack of liquidity, if BlackRock believes a market quotation from a broker-dealer or other source is unreliable, where the security or other asset or other liability is thinly traded (e.g., municipal securities, certain small cap and emerging growth companies and certain non-U.S. securities) or where there is a significant event subsequent to the most recent market quotation. For this purpose, a "significant event" is deemed to occur if BlackRock determines, in its business judgment prior to or at the time of pricing a Fund's assets or liabilities, that it is likely that the event will cause a material change to the last closing market price of one or more assets or liabilities held by the Fund. For instance, significant events may occur between the foreign market close and the close of business on the NYSE that may not be reflected in the computation of the Funds' net assets. If such event occurs, those instruments may be fair valued. Similarly, foreign securities whose values are affected by volatility that occurs in U.S. markets on a trading day after the close of foreign securities markets may be fair valued.

For certain foreign securities, a third-party vendor supplies evaluated, systematic fair value pricing based upon the movement of a proprietary multi-factor model after the relevant foreign markets have closed. This systematic fair value pricing methodology is designed to correlate the prices of foreign securities following the close of the local markets to the price that might have prevailed as of a Fund's pricing time.

Fair value represents a good faith approximation of the value of a security. The fair value of one or more securities may not, in retrospect, be the price at which those assets could have been sold during the period in which the particular fair values were used in determining a Fund's net asset value.

A Fund may accept orders from certain authorized financial intermediaries or their designees. A Fund will be deemed to receive an order when accepted by the financial intermediary or designee and the order will receive the net asset value next computed by the Fund after such acceptance. If the payment for a purchase order is not made by a designated later time, the order will be canceled and the financial intermediary could be held liable for any losses.

Dividends and Taxes

Each of BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation ETF V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Core V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage Large Cap Value V.I. Fund, BlackRock Advantage SMID Cap V.I. Fund, BlackRock Basic Value V.I. Fund, BlackRock Capital Appreciation V.I. Fund, BlackRock Equity Dividend V.I. Fund, BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund, BlackRock International Index V.I. Fund, BlackRock Large Cap Focus Growth V.I. Fund, BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund, BlackRock S&P 500 Index V.I. Fund and BlackRock Small Cap Index V.I. Fund declares and reinvests dividends at least annually in additional shares of the respective Fund.

Each Fund has elected to be treated, and intends to qualify each year, as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). In order to qualify to be taxable as a regulated investment company, each Fund must meet certain income and asset diversification tests and distribution requirements. As regulated investment companies, the Funds will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on their net investment income and net capital gains that they distribute to their shareholders.

Distributions made by a Fund to an Account, and exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares made by an Account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding Contract holder to recognize income or gain for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See the Contract prospectus for information regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the distributions to Accounts and the holders of the Contracts.

In order for the Contract holders to be eligible for such U.S. federal income tax deferral, each separate account of the Insurance Companies (referred to as "segregated asset accounts" for U.S. federal income tax purposes) must comply with certain asset diversification requirements and investor control prohibitions.

Diversification Requirements

Specifically, each segregated asset account is required to comply with the diversification requirements of Section 817(h) of the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations thereunder relating to the tax-deferred status of segregated asset accounts. If a segregated asset account fails these requirements, (i) the Contract would not be treated as an annuity or life insurance contract under the Internal Revenue Code and (ii) the holders of such Contract would be required to include as ordinary income the "income on the contract" for each taxable year. Generally, the "income on

the contract” is the excess of (i) the sum of the increase in the net surrender value of the Contract during the taxable year and the cost of the life insurance protection provided under the Contract during the year, over (ii) the premiums paid under the Contract during the taxable year. Contract holders could also be taxable in future years even if the segregated asset account subsequently complied with the diversification tests.

To satisfy these diversification requirements, as of the end of each calendar quarter or within 30 days thereafter, each segregated asset account must meet one of two tests. Either (i) the segregated asset account must have no more than 55% of its total assets represented by any one investment, no more than 70% of its total assets represented by any two investments, no more than 80% of its total assets represented by any three investments, and no more than 90% of its total assets represented by any four investments or (ii) the segregated asset account must both (a) meet all the tax diversification requirements under Section 851(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (which are applicable to all regulated investment companies) and (b) have no more than 55% of the value of its total assets be attributable to cash, cash items (including receivables), Government securities or securities of other regulated investment companies. For purposes of the first test, all securities of the same issuer are considered a single investment, but in the case of Government securities, each Government agency or instrumentality is considered to be a separate issuer. An alternative test to establish diversification may be available under certain circumstances.

Section 817(h) of the Internal Revenue Code provides a look-through rule for purposes of testing the diversification of a segregated asset account that invests in a regulated investment company such as a Fund. If the look-through rule applies, a beneficial interest in a regulated investment company will not be treated as a single investment of a segregated asset account for purposes of the diversification requirements described above; instead, a pro rata portion of each asset of the regulated investment company will be treated as an asset of the segregated asset account.

Investor Control Prohibitions

For a Contract to qualify for U.S. federal income tax deferral, it must avoid the prohibition on investor control so that assets in the segregated asset accounts supporting the Contract are considered to be owned for U.S. federal income tax purposes by the Insurance Company and not by the Contract holder. Accordingly, a Contract holder should not have an impermissible level of control over a segregated asset account's or a Fund's investment in any particular asset. If the Contract holder were considered the owner of the Fund shares for U.S. federal income tax purposes, income and gain earned from such Fund shares for the current, future and prior taxable years would be taxable currently to the Contract holders.

Each Fund intends (1) to comply with the requirements necessary to allow a segregated asset account that invests in the Fund to look-through to the Fund's investments for purposes of satisfying the asset diversification requirements of Section 817(h) of the Code, (2) to comply with such asset diversification requirements necessary to prevent the Contract holders from losing their special tax treatment because of investments in the Fund, and (3) to comply with the requirements necessary to prevent the Contract holders from having an impermissible level of control over the Fund's assets.

Tax Treatment to Insurance Companies

Dividends paid by a Fund may be included in the respective Insurance Company's gross income. The tax treatment of these dividends depends on the Insurance Company's tax status. A description of an Insurance Company's tax status is contained in the prospectus for the Contract.

Dividends and interest received by a Fund and capital gains recognized by a Fund may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate such taxes. As a shareholder in a Fund, an Insurance Company may be able to claim a credit or take a deduction for foreign taxes paid by the Fund if certain requirements are met.

This section summarizes some of the consequences under current federal tax law of an investment in a Fund. It is not a substitute for individualized tax advice. Consult your tax adviser about the potential tax consequences of an investment in a Fund under all applicable tax laws.

General Information

Shareholder Documents

Please contact your Insurance Company for a copy of the Funds' annual and semi-annual reports.

Certain Fund Policies

Anti-Money Laundering Requirements

The Funds are subject to the USA PATRIOT Act (the "Patriot Act"). The Patriot Act is intended to prevent the use of the U.S. financial system in furtherance of money laundering, terrorism or other illicit activities. Pursuant to requirements under the Patriot Act, the Funds are required to obtain sufficient information from shareholders to enable it to form a reasonable belief that it knows the true identity of its shareholders. This information will be used to verify the identity of investors or, in some cases, the status of financial intermediaries. Such information may be verified using third-party sources. This information will be used only for compliance with the Patriot Act or other applicable laws, regulations and rules in connection with money laundering, terrorism or economic sanctions.

The Funds reserve the right to reject purchase orders from persons who have not submitted information sufficient to allow the Funds to verify their identity. The Funds also reserve the right to redeem any amounts in the Funds from persons whose identity it is unable to verify on a timely basis. It is the Funds' policy to cooperate fully with appropriate regulators in any investigations conducted with respect to potential money laundering, terrorism or other illicit activities.

BlackRock Privacy Principles

BlackRock is committed to maintaining the privacy of its current and former fund investors and individual clients (collectively, "Clients") and to safeguarding their non-public personal information. The following information is provided to help you understand what personal information BlackRock collects, how we protect that information and why in certain cases we share such information with select parties. If you are located in a jurisdiction where specific laws, rules or regulations require BlackRock to provide you with additional or different privacy-related rights beyond what is set forth below, then BlackRock will comply with those specific laws, rules or regulations.

BlackRock obtains or verifies personal non-public information from and about you from different sources, including the following: (i) information we receive from you or, if applicable, your financial intermediary, on applications, forms or other documents; (ii) information about your transactions with us, our affiliates, or others; (iii) information we receive from a consumer reporting agency; and (iv) from visits to our website.

BlackRock does not sell or disclose to non-affiliated third parties any non-public personal information about its Clients, except as permitted by law, or as is necessary to respond to regulatory requests or to service Client accounts. These non-affiliated third parties are required to protect the confidentiality and security of this information and to use it only for its intended purpose.

We may share information with our affiliates to service your account or to provide you with information about other BlackRock products or services that may be of interest to you. In addition, BlackRock restricts access to non-public personal information about its Clients to those BlackRock employees with a legitimate business need for the information. BlackRock maintains physical, electronic and procedural safeguards that are designed to protect the non-public personal information of its Clients, including procedures relating to the proper storage and disposal of such information.

Statement of Additional Information

If you would like further information about the Funds, including how the Funds invest, please see the SAI.

For a discussion of the Funds' policies and procedures regarding the selective disclosure of their portfolio holdings, please see the SAI.

Glossary

This glossary contains an explanation of some of the common terms used in this prospectus. For additional information about the Funds, please see the SAI.

60% MSCI All Country World Index/40% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index — a customized weighted index comprised of 60% MSCI All Country World Index and 40% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index.

Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses — a Fund's pro rata share of the fees and expenses incurred indirectly by a Fund as a result of investing in other investment companies.

Annual Fund Operating Expenses — expenses that cover the costs of operating a Fund.

Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index — a broad-based flagship benchmark that measures the investment grade, U.S. dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market. The index includes U.S. Treasuries, government-related and corporate securities, mortgage-backed securities (agency fixed-rate pass-throughs), asset-backed securities and commercial mortgage-backed securities (agency and non-agency).

Contract — the Funds offer their shares only to participating insurance companies. These insurance companies write variable annuity and/or variable life insurance contracts that allow the contract owner to choose a Fund as an investment option. The contract owner does not become a Fund shareholder.

Distribution Fees — fees used to support a Fund's marketing and distribution efforts, such as compensating financial professionals and other financial intermediaries, advertising and promotion.

FTSE Non-U.S. Dollar World Government Bond Index — an unmanaged, market capitalization-weighted index that tracks over 20 government bond indexes, excluding the United States.

FTSE WGBI (hedged into USD) — measures the performance of fixed-rate, local currency, investment-grade sovereign bonds. The index is a widely used benchmark that currently includes sovereign debt from over 20 countries, denominated in a variety of currencies.

FTSE World Index — a market cap weighted index representing the performance of the large- and mid-cap stocks from the FTSE Global Equity Index Series and covers 90-95% of the investable market capitalization.

FTSE World (ex U.S.) Index — comprises large- and mid-cap stocks providing coverage of developed and emerging markets excluding the United States. The index is derived from the FTSE Global Equity Index Series (GEIS), which covers 98% of the world's investable market capitalization.

ICE BofA 3-Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index — an unmanaged index that tracks 3-month U.S. Treasury securities.

ICE BofA Current 5-Year U.S. Treasury Index — an unmanaged index designed to track the total return of the current coupon five-year U.S. Treasury bond.

Management Fee — a fee paid to BlackRock for managing a Fund.

MSCI All Country World Index — an index that captures large- and mid-cap representation across 23 developed markets and 24 emerging markets countries. With 2,920 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the global investable equity opportunity set.

MSCI EAFE Index (Europe, Australasia, Far East) — an equity index which captures large- and mid-cap representation across 21 developed markets countries around the world, excluding the United States and Canada. With 783 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

Other Expenses — include accounting, transfer agency, custody, professional fees and registration fees.

Reference Benchmark — an unmanaged weighted index comprised as follows: 36% of the S&P 500[®] Index; 24% FTSE World (ex U.S.) Index; 24% ICE BofA Current 5-Year U.S. Treasury Index; and 16% FTSE Non-U.S. Dollar World Government Bond Index.

Russell 1000[®] Index — an index that measures the performance of the large cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. It is a subset of the Russell 3000[®] Index and includes approximately 1,000 of the largest securities based on a combination of their market capitalization and current index membership. The index represents approximately 93% of the total market capitalization of the Russell 3000[®] Index.

Russell 1000[®] Growth Index — an unmanaged index that measures the performance of the large cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe and consists of those Russell 1000[®] securities with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

Russell 1000® Value Index — an unmanaged index that is a subset of the Russell 1000® Index that consists of those Russell 1000® securities with lower price-to-book ratios and lower expected growth values.

Russell 2000® Index — an unmanaged index that is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index representing approximately 7% of the total market capitalization of that index. It includes approximately 2000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership.

Russell 2500™ Index — an index that measures the performance of the small to mid-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe, commonly referred to as “smid” cap. The Russell 2500™ Index is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index. It includes approximately 2500 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership.

Russell 3000® Index — an index that measures the performance of the largest 3,000 U.S. companies representing approximately 96% of the investable U.S. equity market.

S&P 500® Index — an unmanaged index that covers 500 leading companies and captures approximately 80% coverage of available market capitalization.

Service Fees — fees used to compensate securities dealers and other financial intermediaries for certain shareholder servicing activities.

Shareholder Fees — fees paid directly by a shareholder, including sales charges that you may pay when you buy or sell shares of a Fund.

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For More Information

Funds and Service Providers

THE FUNDS

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.
100 Bellevue Parkway
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

Written Correspondence:

P.O. Box 534429
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15253-4429

Overnight Mail:

Attention: 534429
500 Ross Street 154-0520
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15262
(800) 537-4942

MANAGER

BlackRock Advisors, LLC
100 Bellevue Parkway
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

SUB-ADVISERS

BlackRock International Limited¹
Exchange Place One
1 Semple Street
Edinburgh, EH3 8BL, United Kingdom

BlackRock Asset Management North Asia
Limited²
16/F, 2 Queen's Road
Cheung Kong Center
Hong Kong

BlackRock (Singapore) Limited¹
20 Anson Road #18-01
079912 Singapore

TRANSFER AGENT

BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc.
301 Bellevue Parkway
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Deloitte & Touche LLP
200 Berkeley Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

ACCOUNTING SERVICES PROVIDER

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
383 Madison Avenue, Floor 11
New York, New York 10179

DISTRIBUTOR

BlackRock Investments, LLC
50 Hudson Yards
New York, New York 10001

CUSTODIAN

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
383 Madison Avenue, Floor 11
New York, New York 10179

COUNSEL

Sidley Austin LLP
787 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10019

¹ For BlackRock Global Allocation V.I. Fund and BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund.

² For BlackRock Managed Volatility V.I. Fund.

Additional Information

This prospectus contains important information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference. More information about the Funds is available at no charge upon request. This information includes:

Annual/Semi-Annual Reports

These reports contain additional information about each Fund's investments. The annual report describes each Fund's performance, lists portfolio holdings, and discusses recent market conditions, economic trends and Fund investment strategies that significantly affected a Fund's performance for the last fiscal year.

Statement of Additional Information ("SAI")

A Statement of Additional Information, dated May 1, 2024, has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). The SAI, which includes additional information about each Fund, may be obtained free of charge, along with the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports, by calling (800) 537-4942 or visiting www.blackrock.com/prospectus/insurance. The SAI, as amended and/or supplemented from time to time, is incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

BlackRock Investor Services

Representatives are available to discuss mutual fund prospectuses, literature, programs and services available. Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Eastern time), Monday-Friday. (800) 537-4942.

Purchases and Redemptions

Call your financial professional or BlackRock Investment Services at (800) 537-4942.

World Wide Web

General Fund information and specific Fund performance, including the SAI and annual/semi-annual reports, mutual fund prospectuses and literature, can be accessed free of charge at www.blackrock.com/prospectus/insurance. Mutual fund prospectuses can also be requested via this website.

Written Correspondence

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.
P.O. Box 534429
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15253-4429

Overnight Mail

BlackRock Variable Series Funds, Inc.
Attention: 534429
500 Ross Street 154-0520
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15262

Internal Wholesalers/Broker Dealer Support

Available on any business day to support investment professionals. Call: (800) 882-0052

Portfolio Characteristics and Holdings

A description of each Fund's policies and procedures related to disclosure of portfolio characteristics and holdings is available in the SAI.

For information about portfolio holdings and characteristics, BlackRock fund shareholders and prospective investors may call (800) 882-0052.

Securities and Exchange Commission

You may also view and copy public information about each Fund, including the SAI, by visiting the EDGAR database on the SEC's website (<http://www.sec.gov>). Copies of this information can be obtained, for a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following e-mail address: publicinfo@sec.gov.

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. No one is authorized to provide you with information that is different from information contained in this prospectus.

The SEC and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission have not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

BLACKROCK VARIABLE SERIES FUNDS, INC.
INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT FILE NO. 811-03290