



Janus Aspen Series

Institutional Shares

P R O S P E C T U S

May 1, 2001

Balanced Portfolio

The Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved of these securities or passed on the accuracy or adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.



J A N U S

This prospectus describes Balanced Portfolio (the “Portfolio”). This Portfolio of Janus Aspen Series currently offers two classes of shares. The Institutional Shares (the “Shares”) are sold under the name of “Janus Aspen Series” and are offered by this prospectus in connection with investment in and payments under variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance contracts (collectively, “variable insurance contracts”), as well as certain qualified retirement plans.

Janus Aspen Series sells and redeems its Shares at net asset value without sales charges, commissions or redemption fees. Each variable insurance contract involves fees and expenses that are not described in this Prospectus. See the accompanying contract prospectus for information regarding contract fees and expenses and any restrictions on purchases or allocations.

This prospectus contains information that a prospective purchaser of a variable insurance contract or plan participant should consider in conjunction with the accompanying separate account prospectus of the specific insurance company product before allocating purchase payments or premiums to the Portfolio.

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Risk return | summary

BALANCED PORTFOLIO

Balanced Portfolio is designed for long-term investors who primarily seek growth of capital and who can tolerate the greater risks associated with common stock investments. Although Balanced Portfolio may also emphasize some degree of income, it is not designed for investors who desire a consistent level of income.

1. What is the investment objective of Balanced Portfolio?

Balanced Portfolio seeks long-term capital growth, consistent with preservation of capital and balanced by current income.

The Portfolio's Trustees may change this objective without a shareholder vote and the Portfolio will notify you of any changes that are material. If there is a material change to the Portfolio's objective or policies, you should consider whether the Portfolio remains an appropriate investment for you. There is no guarantee that the Portfolio will meet its objective.

2. What are the main investment strategies of Balanced Portfolio?

The portfolio manager applies a "bottom up" approach in choosing investments. In other words, she looks at companies one at a time to determine if a company is an attractive investment opportunity and is consistent with the Portfolio's investment policies. If the portfolio manager is unable to find investments with earnings growth potential, a significant portion of the Portfolio's assets may be in cash or similar investments.

Within the parameters of its specific investment policies discussed below, the Portfolio may invest without limit in foreign equity and debt securities.

The Portfolio will limit its investment in high-yield/high-risk bonds to less than 35% of its net assets.

Balanced Portfolio normally invests 40-60% of its assets in securities selected primarily for their growth potential and 40-60% of its assets in securities selected primarily for their income potential. The Portfolio will normally invest at least 25% of its assets in fixed-income securities.

3. What are the main risks of investing in Balanced Portfolio?

The biggest risk is that the Portfolio's returns may vary, and you could lose money. Balanced Portfolio is designed for long-term investors who can accept the risks of investing in a portfolio with significant common stock holdings. Common stocks tend to be more volatile than other investment choices.

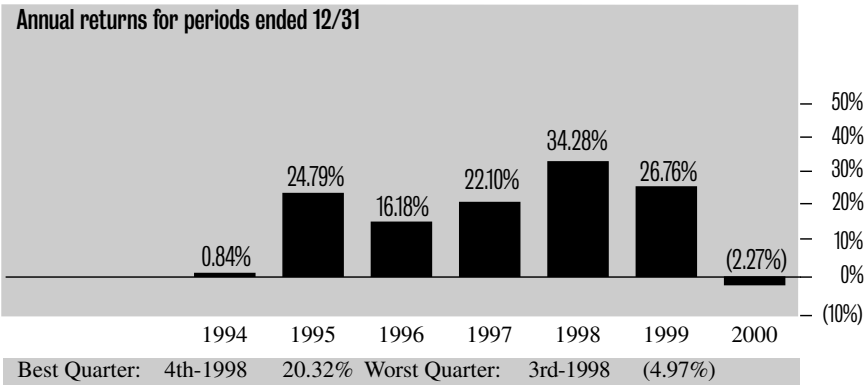
The value of the Portfolio's holdings may decrease if the value of an individual company in the portfolio decreases. The value of the Portfolio's holdings could also decrease if the stock market goes down. If the value of the Portfolio's holdings decreases, the Portfolio's net asset value (NAV) will also decrease, which means if you sell your shares in the Portfolio you may get back less money.

The income component of Balanced Portfolio includes fixed-income securities. A fundamental risk of these securities is that their value will fall if interest rates rise. Since the value of a fixed-income portfolio will generally decrease when interest rates rise, the Portfolio's NAV may likewise decrease. Another fundamental risk associated with fixed-income securities is credit risk, which is the risk that an issuer of a bond will be unable to make principal and interest payments when due.

An investment in the Portfolio is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.

The following information provides some indication of the risks of investing in Balanced Portfolio by showing how Balanced Portfolio's performance has varied over time. The bar chart depicts the change in performance from year to year during the periods indicated. The table compares the average annual returns for the Shares of the Portfolio for the periods indicated to a broad-based securities market index.

Balanced Portfolio – Institutional Shares



	<u>Average annual total return for periods ended 12/31/00</u>		
	1 year	5 years	Since Inception (9/13/93)
Balanced Portfolio – Institutional Shares	(2.27%)	18.73%	17.19%
S&P 500 Index*	(9.10%)	18.33%	17.74%
Lehman Brothers Gov't/Credit Index**	11.85%	6.24%	6.26%

* The S&P 500 is the Standard & Poor's Composite Index of 500 Stocks, a widely recognized, unmanaged index of common stock prices.
 ** Lehman Brothers Gov't/Credit Index is composed of all bonds that are of investment grade with at least one year until maturity.

Balanced Portfolio's past performance does not necessarily indicate how it will perform in the future.

FEES AND EXPENSES

Shareholder fees, such as sales loads, redemption fees or exchange fees, are charged directly to an investor's account. The Janus funds are no-load investments, so you will generally not pay any shareholder fees when you buy or sell shares of the Portfolio. However, each variable insurance contract involves fees and expenses not described in this prospectus. See the accompanying contract prospectus for information regarding contract fees and expenses and any restrictions on purchases or allocations.

Annual fund operating expenses are paid out of the Portfolio's assets and include fees for portfolio management, maintenance of shareholder accounts, shareholder servicing, accounting and other services. You do not pay these fees directly but, as the example below shows, these costs are borne indirectly by all shareholders.

This table and example are designed to assist participants in qualified plans that invest in the Shares of the Portfolio in understanding the fees and expenses that you may pay as an investor in the Shares. **Owners of variable insurance contracts that invest in the Shares should refer to the variable insurance contract prospectus for a description of fees and expenses, as the table and example do not reflect deductions at the separate account level or contract level for any charges that may be incurred under a contract.**

	Management Fee	Other Expenses	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses*	
Balanced Portfolio	0.65%	0.01%	0.66%	
* Expenses are based upon expenses for the year ended December 31, 2000, restated to reflect a reduction in the management fee. All expenses are shown without the effect of any expense offset arrangements.				
EXAMPLE: This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Portfolio with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Portfolio 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 Portfolio's operating expenses remain the same. Since no sales load applies, the results apply whether or not you redeem your investment at the end of each period. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:				
	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Balanced Portfolio	\$67	\$211	\$368	\$822

Investment objective, principal investment strategies and risks

Balanced Portfolio has a similar investment objective and similar principal investment strategies to Janus Balanced Fund. Although it is anticipated that the Portfolio and Janus Balanced Fund will hold similar securities, differences in asset size, cash flow needs and other factors may result in differences in investment performance. The expenses of the Portfolio and Janus Balanced Fund are expected to differ. The variable contract owner will also bear various insurance related costs at the insurance company level. You should review the accompanying separate account prospectus for a summary of fees and expenses.

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

This section takes a closer look at the investment objective of Balanced Portfolio, its principal investment strategies and certain risks of investing in the Portfolio. Strategies and policies that are noted as “fundamental” cannot be changed without a shareholder vote.

Please carefully review the “Risks” section of this Prospectus for a discussion of risks associated with certain investment techniques. We’ve also included a Glossary with descriptions of investment terms used throughout this Prospectus.

Balanced Portfolio seeks long-term capital growth, consistent with preservation of capital and balanced by current income. It pursues its objective by normally investing 40-60% of its assets in securities selected primarily for their growth potential and 40-60% of its assets in securities selected primarily for their income potential. This Portfolio normally invests at least 25% of its assets in fixed-income securities.

The following questions and answers are designed to help you better understand Balanced Portfolio’s principal investment strategies.

1. How are common stocks selected?

Consistent with its investment objective and policies, the Portfolio may invest substantially all of its assets in common stocks if the portfolio manager believes that common stocks will appreciate in value. The portfolio manager generally takes a “bottom up” approach to selecting companies. This means she seeks to identify individual companies with earnings growth potential that may not be recognized by the market at large. The portfolio manager makes this assessment by looking at companies one at a time, regardless of size, country of organization, place of principal business activity, or other similar selection criteria.

Balanced Portfolio may also emphasize some degree of income. The portfolio manager may consider dividend-paying characteristics to a greater degree in selecting common stock.

2. Are the same criteria used to select foreign securities?

Generally, yes. The portfolio manager seeks companies that meet her selection criteria, regardless of where a company is located. Foreign securities are generally selected on a stock-by-stock basis without regard to any defined allocation among countries or geographic regions. However, certain factors such as expected levels of inflation, government policies influencing business conditions, the outlook for currency relationships, and prospects for economic growth among countries, regions or geographic areas may warrant greater consideration in selecting foreign securities. There are no limitations on the countries in which the Portfolio may invest and the Portfolio may at times have significant foreign exposure.

3. What does “market capitalization” mean?

Market capitalization is the most commonly used measure of the size and value of a company. It is computed by multiplying the current market price of a share of the company’s stock by the total number of its shares outstanding. The Portfolio does not emphasize companies of any particular size.

4. How are assets allocated between the growth and income components of Balanced Portfolio’s holdings?

Balanced Portfolio shifts assets between the growth and income components of its holdings based on the portfolio manager’s analysis of relevant market, financial and economic conditions. If the portfolio manager believes that growth securities will provide better returns than the yields then available or expected on income-producing securities, the Portfolio will place a greater emphasis on the growth component.

5. What types of securities make up the growth component of Balanced Portfolio’s holdings?

The growth component of the Portfolio is expected to consist primarily of common stocks, but may also include warrants, preferred stocks or convertible securities selected primarily for their growth potential.

6. What types of securities make up the income component of Balanced Portfolio’s holdings?

The income component of Balanced Portfolio is expected to consist of securities that the portfolio manager believes have income potential. Such securities may include equity securities, convertible securities and all types of debt securities. Equity securities may be included in the income component of the Portfolio if they currently pay dividends or the portfolio manager believes they have the potential for either increasing their dividends or commencing dividends, if none are currently paid.

7. How do interest rates affect the value of my fixed-income investments?

Generally, a fixed-income security will increase in value when interest rates fall and decrease in value when interest rates rise. Longer-term securities are generally more sensitive to interest rate changes than shorter-term securities, but they generally offer higher yields to compensate investors for the associated risks. High-yield bond prices are generally less directly responsive to interest rate changes than investment grade issues and may not always follow this pattern.

GENERAL PORTFOLIO POLICIES

The percentage limitations included in these policies and elsewhere in this Prospectus apply at the time of purchase of a security. So, for example, if the Portfolio exceeds a limit as a result of market fluctuations or the sale of other securities, it will not be required to dispose of any securities.

Cash Position

When the portfolio manager believes that market conditions are unfavorable for profitable investing, or when she is otherwise unable to locate attractive investment opportunities, the Portfolio’s cash or similar investments may increase. In other words, the Portfolio does not always stay fully invested in stocks and bonds. Cash or similar investments generally are a residual – they represent the assets that remain after the portfolio manager has committed available assets to desirable investment opportunities. However, the portfolio manager may also temporarily increase the Portfolio’s cash position to protect its assets or maintain liquidity. When the Portfolio’s investments in cash or similar investments increase, it may not participate in market advances or declines to the same extent that it would if the Portfolio remained more fully invested in stocks or bonds.

Other Types of Investments

Balanced Portfolio invests primarily in domestic and foreign equity securities, which may include preferred stocks, common stocks, warrants and securities convertible into common or preferred stocks. To a lesser degree, the Portfolio may invest in other types of domestic and foreign securities and use other investment strategies, which are described in the Glossary. These may include:

- debt securities
- indexed/structured securities
- high-yield/high-risk bonds (less than 35% of the Portfolio's assets)
- options, futures, forwards, swaps and other types of derivatives for hedging purposes or for non-hedging purposes such as seeking to enhance return
- short sales (no more than 8% of the Portfolio's assets may be invested in "naked" short sales)
- securities purchased on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment basis

Illiquid Investments

The Portfolio may invest up to 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is a security or other position that cannot be disposed of quickly in the normal course of business. For example, some securities are not registered under U.S. securities laws and cannot be sold to the U.S. public because of SEC regulations (these are known as "restricted securities"). Under procedures adopted by the Portfolio's Trustees, certain restricted securities may be deemed liquid, and will not be counted toward this 15% limit.

Foreign Securities

Within the parameters of its specific investment policies, the Portfolio may invest without limit in foreign equity and debt securities. The Portfolio may invest directly in foreign securities denominated in a foreign currency and not publicly traded in the United States. Other ways of investing in foreign securities include depositary receipts or shares and passive foreign investment companies.

Special Situations

The Portfolio may invest in special situations. A special situation arises when, in the opinion of the Portfolio's manager, the securities of a particular issuer will be recognized and appreciate in value due to a specific development with respect to that issuer. Special situations may include significant changes in a company's allocation of its existing capital, a restructuring of assets, or a redirection of free cash flow. Developments creating a special situation might include, among others, a new product or process, a technological breakthrough, a management change or other extraordinary corporate event, or differences in market supply of and demand for the security. The Portfolio's performance could suffer if the anticipated development in a "special situation" investment does not occur or does not attract the expected attention.

Portfolio Turnover

The Portfolio generally intends to purchase securities for long-term investment, although, to the extent permitted by its specific investment policies, the Portfolio may purchase securities in anticipation of relatively short-term price gains. Short-term transactions may also result from liquidity needs, securities having reached a price or yield objective, changes in interest rates or the credit standing of an issuer, or by reason of economic or other developments not foreseen at the time of the investment decision. The

Portfolio may also sell one security and simultaneously purchase the same or a comparable security to take advantage of short-term differentials in bond yields or securities prices. Changes are made in the Portfolio's holdings whenever the portfolio manager believes such changes are desirable. Portfolio turnover rates are generally not a factor in making buy and sell decisions.

Increased portfolio turnover may result in higher costs for brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs and may also result in taxable capital gains. Higher costs associated with increased portfolio turnover may offset gains in the Portfolio's performance.

RISKS FOR BALANCED PORTFOLIO

Because the Portfolio may invest substantially all of its assets in common stocks, the main risk is the risk that the value of the stocks it holds might decrease in response to the activities of an individual company or in response to general market and/or economic conditions. If this occurs, the Portfolio's share price may also decrease. The Portfolio's performance may also be affected by risks specific to certain types of investments, such as foreign securities, derivative investments, non-investment grade bonds, initial public offerings (IPOs) or companies with relatively small market capitalizations. IPOs and other investment techniques may have a magnified performance impact on a Portfolio with a small asset base. A Portfolio may not experience similar performance as its assets grow.

The following questions and answers are designed to help you better understand some of the risks of investing in Balanced Portfolio.

1. The Portfolio may invest in smaller or newer companies. Does this create any special risks?

Many attractive investment opportunities may be smaller, start-up companies offering emerging products or services. Smaller or newer companies may suffer more significant losses as well as realize more substantial growth than larger or more established issuers because they may lack depth of management, be unable to generate funds necessary for growth or potential development, or be developing or marketing new products or services for which markets are not yet established and may never become established. In addition, such companies may be insignificant factors in their industries and may become subject to intense competition from larger or more established companies. Securities of smaller or newer companies may have more limited trading markets than the markets for securities of larger or more established issuers, or may not be publicly traded at all, and may be subject to wide price fluctuations. Investments in such companies tend to be more volatile and somewhat more speculative.

2. How could the Portfolio's investments in foreign securities affect its performance?

Within the parameters of its specific investment policies, the Portfolio may invest without limit in foreign securities either indirectly (e.g., depositary receipts) or directly in foreign markets. Investments in foreign securities, including those of foreign governments, may involve greater risks than investing in domestic securities because the Portfolio's performance may depend on issues other than the performance of a particular company. These issues include:

- **Currency Risk.** As long as the Portfolio holds a foreign security, its value will be affected by the value of the local currency relative to the U.S. dollar. When the Portfolio sells a foreign denominated security, its value may be worth less in U.S. dollars even if the security increases in value in its home country. U.S. dollar denominated securities of foreign issuers may also be affected by currency risk.
- **Political and Economic Risk.** Foreign investments may be subject to heightened political and economic risks, particularly in emerging markets which may have relatively unstable governments, immature economic structures, national policies restricting investments by foreigners, different legal systems, and

economies based on only a few industries. In some countries, there is the risk that the government may take over the assets or operations of a company or that the government may impose taxes or limits on the removal of the Portfolio's assets from that country.

- **Regulatory Risk.** There may be less government supervision of foreign markets. As a result, foreign issuers may not be subject to the uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and practices applicable to domestic issuers and there may be less publicly available information about foreign issuers.
- **Market Risk.** Foreign securities markets, particularly those of emerging market countries, may be less liquid and more volatile than domestic markets. Certain markets may require payment for securities before delivery and delays may be encountered in settling securities transactions. In some foreign markets, there may not be protection against failure by other parties to complete transactions.
- **Transaction Costs.** Costs of buying, selling and holding foreign securities, including brokerage, tax and custody costs, may be higher than those involved in domestic transactions.

3. Are there special risks associated with investments in high-yield/high-risk bonds?

High-yield/high-risk bonds (or “junk” bonds) are bonds rated below investment grade by the primary rating agencies such as Standard & Poor's and Moody's. The value of lower quality bonds generally is more dependent on credit risk and default risk than investment grade bonds. Issuers of high-yield bonds may not be as strong financially as those issuing bonds with higher credit ratings and are more vulnerable to real or perceived economic changes, political changes or adverse developments specific to the issuer.

Please refer to the SAI for a description of bond rating categories.

4. How does the Portfolio try to reduce risk?

The Portfolio may use futures, options, swaps and other derivative instruments to “hedge” or protect its portfolio from adverse movements in securities prices and interest rates. The Portfolio may also use a variety of currency hedging techniques, including forward currency contracts, to manage exchange rate risk. The portfolio manager believes the use of these instruments will benefit the Portfolio. However, the Portfolio's performance could be worse than if the Portfolio had not used such instruments if the portfolio manager's judgement proves incorrect.

Management of the Portfolio

INVESTMENT ADVISER

Janus Capital, 100 Fillmore Street, Denver, Colorado 80206-4928, is the investment adviser to the Portfolio and is responsible for the day-to-day management of the investment portfolio and other business affairs of the Portfolio.

Janus Capital began serving as investment adviser to Janus Fund in 1970 and currently serves as investment adviser to all of the Janus retail funds, acts as sub-adviser for a number of private-label mutual funds and provides separate account advisory services for institutional accounts.

Janus Capital furnishes continuous advice and recommendations concerning the Portfolio's investments. Janus Capital also furnishes certain administrative, compliance and accounting services for the Portfolio, and may be reimbursed by the Portfolio for its costs in providing those services. In addition, Janus Capital employees serve as officers of the Trust and Janus Capital provides office space for the Portfolio and pays the salaries, fees and expenses of all Portfolio officers and those Trustees who are affiliated with Janus Capital.

Participating insurance companies that purchase the Portfolio's shares may perform certain administrative services relating to the Portfolio and Janus Capital or the Portfolio may pay those companies for such services.

MANAGEMENT EXPENSES

The Portfolio pays Janus Capital a management fee which is calculated daily and paid monthly. The Portfolio's advisory agreement spells out the management fee and other expenses that the Portfolio must pay. For the year ended December 31, 2000, the Portfolio paid Janus Capital a management fee of 0.65% of the Portfolio's average net assets.

The Shares of the Portfolio incur expenses not assumed by Janus Capital, including transfer agent and custodian fees and expenses, legal and auditing fees, printing and mailing costs of sending reports and other information to existing shareholders, and independent Trustees' fees and expenses.

PORTFOLIO MANAGER

Karen L. Reidy

is Executive Vice President and portfolio manager of Balanced Portfolio and Equity Income Portfolio, which she has managed since January 2000. Ms. Reidy is Executive Vice President and portfolio manager of Janus Adviser Balanced Fund and Janus Adviser Equity Income Fund, which she has managed since inception. She is also Executive Vice President and portfolio manager of Janus Balanced Fund and Janus Equity Income Fund, which she has managed since January 2000. Ms. Reidy joined Janus Capital in 1995 as a research analyst. She received an undergraduate degree in Accounting from the University of Colorado. Ms. Reidy has earned the right to use the Chartered Financial Analyst designation.

Other information

Classes of Shares

The Portfolio currently offers two classes of Shares, one of which, the Institutional Shares, is offered pursuant to this prospectus and are sold under the name Janus Aspen Series. The Shares offered by this Prospectus are available only in connection with investment in and payments under variable insurance contracts, as well as certain qualified retirement plans. Service Shares of the Portfolio are offered only in connection with investment in and payments under variable insurance contracts as well as certain qualified retirement plans that require a fee from Portfolio assets to procure distribution and administrative services to contract owners and plan participants. Because the expenses of each class may differ, the performance of each class is expected to differ. If you would like additional information about the Service Shares, please call 1-800-525-0020.

Conflicts of Interest

The Shares offered by this prospectus are available only to variable annuity and variable life separate accounts of insurance companies that are unaffiliated with Janus Capital and to certain qualified retirement plans. Although the Portfolio does not currently anticipate any disadvantages to policy owners because the Portfolio offers its shares to such entities, there is a possibility that a material conflict may arise. The Trustees monitor events in order to identify any disadvantages or material irreconcilable conflicts and to determine what action, if any, should be taken in response. If a material disadvantage or conflict occurs, the Trustees may require one or more insurance company separate accounts or qualified plans to withdraw its investments in the Portfolio or substitute Shares of another Portfolio. If this occurs, the Portfolio may be forced to sell its securities at disadvantageous prices. In addition, the Trustees may refuse to sell Shares of the Portfolio to any separate account or qualified plan or may suspend or terminate the offering of the Portfolio's Shares if such action is required by law or regulatory authority or is in the best interests of the Portfolio's shareholders. It is possible that a qualified plan investing in the Portfolio could lose its qualified plan status under the Internal Revenue Code, which could have adverse tax consequences on insurance company separate accounts investing in the Portfolio. Janus Capital intends to monitor such qualified plans and the Portfolio may discontinue sales to a qualified plan and require plan participants with existing investments in the Portfolio to redeem those investments if a plan loses (or in the opinion of Janus Capital is at risk of losing) its qualified plan status.

Distribution of the Portfolio

The Portfolio is distributed by Janus Distributors, Inc., a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD"). To obtain information about NASD member firms and their associated persons, you may contact NASD Regulation, Inc. at www.nasdr.com, or the Public Disclosure Hotline at 800-289-9999. An investor brochure containing information describing the Public Disclosure Program is available from NASD Regulation, Inc.

Distributions and taxes

DISTRIBUTIONS

To avoid taxation of the Portfolio, the Internal Revenue Code requires the Portfolio to distribute net income and any net gains realized on its investments annually. The Portfolio's income from dividends and interest and any net realized short-term gains are paid to shareholders as ordinary income dividends. Net realized long-term gains are paid to shareholders as capital gains distributions.

How Distributions Affect the Portfolio's NAV

Distributions are paid to shareholders as of the record date of the distribution of the Portfolio, regardless of how long the shares have been held. Undistributed income and realized gains are included in the daily NAV of the Portfolio's Shares. The Share price of the Portfolio drops by the amount of the distribution, net of any subsequent market fluctuations. For example, assume that on December 31, the Shares of Balanced Portfolio declared a dividend in the amount of \$0.25 per share. If the price of Balanced Portfolio's Shares was \$10.00 on December 30, the share price on December 31 would be \$9.75, barring market fluctuations.

TAXES

Taxes on Distributions

Because Shares of the Portfolio may be purchased only through variable insurance contracts and qualified plans, it is anticipated that any income dividends or capital gains distributions made by the Shares of the Portfolio will be exempt from current taxation if left to accumulate within the variable insurance contract or qualified plan. Generally, withdrawals from such contracts may be subject to ordinary income tax and, if made before age 59½, a 10% penalty tax. The tax status of your investment depends on the features of your qualified plan or variable insurance contract. Further information may be found in your plan documents or in the prospectus of the separate account offering such contract.

Taxation of the Portfolio

Dividends, interest and some gains received by the Portfolio on foreign securities may be subject to tax withholding or other foreign taxes. The Portfolio may from year to year make the election permitted under Section 853 of the Internal Revenue Code to pass through such taxes to shareholders as a foreign tax credit. If such an election is not made, any foreign taxes paid or accrued will represent an expense to the Portfolio.

The Portfolio does not expect to pay any federal income or excise taxes because it intends to meet certain requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, because the Shares of the Portfolio are sold in connection with variable insurance contracts, the Portfolio intends to qualify under the Internal Revenue Code with respect to the diversification requirements related to the tax-deferred status of insurance company separate accounts.

Shareholder's | guide

INVESTORS MAY NOT PURCHASE OR REDEEM SHARES OF THE PORTFOLIO DIRECTLY. SHARES MAY BE PURCHASED OR REDEEMED ONLY THROUGH VARIABLE INSURANCE CONTRACTS OFFERED BY THE SEPARATE ACCOUNTS OF PARTICIPATING INSURANCE COMPANIES OR THROUGH QUALIFIED RETIREMENT PLANS. **REFER TO THE PROSPECTUS FOR THE PARTICIPATING INSURANCE COMPANY'S SEPARATE ACCOUNT OR YOUR PLAN DOCUMENTS FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON PURCHASING OR SELLING OF VARIABLE INSURANCE CONTRACTS AND ON HOW TO SELECT THE PORTFOLIO AS AN INVESTMENT OPTION FOR A CONTRACT OR A QUALIFIED PLAN.**

PRICING OF PORTFOLIO SHARES

Investments will be processed at the NAV next calculated after an order is received and accepted by the Portfolio or its agent. In order to receive a day's price, your order must be received by the close of the regular trading session of the New York Stock Exchange. Securities of the Portfolio are valued at market value or, if a market quotation is not readily available, at their fair value determined in good faith under procedures established by and under the supervision of the Trustees. Short-term instruments maturing within 60 days are valued at amortized cost, which approximates market value.

To the extent the Portfolio holds securities that are primarily listed on foreign exchanges that trade on weekends or other days when the Portfolio does not price its shares, the NAV of the Portfolio's shares may change on days when shareholders will not be able to purchase or redeem the Portfolio's shares.

PURCHASES

Purchases of Shares may be made only by the separate accounts of insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable insurance contracts or by qualified plans. Refer to the prospectus of the appropriate insurance company separate account or your plan documents for information on how to invest in the Shares of the Portfolio. Participating insurance companies and certain other designated organizations are authorized to receive purchase orders on the Portfolio's behalf.

The Portfolio does not permit excessive trading or market timing. Excessive purchases of Portfolio Shares disrupt portfolio management and drive Portfolio expenses higher. The Portfolio reserves the right to reject any specific purchase order. Purchase orders may be refused if, in Janus Capital's opinion, they are of a size that would disrupt the management of the Portfolio. The Portfolio may also suspend or terminate your exchange privilege if you engage in an excessive pattern of exchanges. For more information about the Portfolio's policy on market timing, see "Excessive Trading" on the next page.

Although there is no present intention to do so, the Portfolio may discontinue sales of its shares if management and the Trustees believe that continued sales may adversely affect the Portfolio's ability to achieve its investment objective. If sales of the Portfolio's Shares are discontinued, it is expected that existing policy owners and plan participants invested in the Portfolio would be permitted to continue to authorize investment in the Portfolio and to reinvest any dividends or capital gains distributions, absent highly unusual circumstances.

The Portfolio may discontinue sales to a qualified plan and require plan participants with existing investments in the Shares to redeem those investments if the plan loses (or in the opinion of Janus Capital, is at risk of losing) its qualified plan status.

REDEMPTIONS

Redemptions, like purchases, may be effected only through the separate accounts of participating insurance companies or through qualified plans. Please refer to the appropriate separate account prospectus or plan documents for details.

Shares of the Portfolio may be redeemed on any business day. Redemptions are processed at the NAV next calculated after receipt and acceptance of the redemption order by the Portfolio or its agent. Redemption proceeds will normally be wired to the participating insurance company the business day following receipt of the redemption order, but in no event later than seven days after receipt of such order.

EXCESSIVE TRADING

Excessive trading of Portfolio shares in response to short-term fluctuations in the market — also known as “market timing” — may make it very difficult to manage the Portfolio’s investments. The Portfolio does not permit frequent trading or market timing. When market timing occurs, the Portfolio may have to sell portfolio securities to have the cash necessary to redeem the market timer’s shares. This can happen at a time when it is not advantageous to sell any securities, which may harm the Portfolio’s performance. When large dollar amounts are involved, market timing can also make it difficult to use long-term investment strategies because the portfolio manager cannot predict how much cash the Portfolio will have to invest. When in Janus Capital’s opinion such activity would have a disruptive effect on portfolio management, the Portfolio reserves the right to refuse purchase orders and exchanges into the Portfolio by any person, group or commonly controlled account. If the Portfolio allows a market timer to trade Portfolio shares, it may in the future require the market timer to enter into a written agreement to follow certain procedures and limitations.

SHAREHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS

Shareholders will receive annual and semiannual reports including the financial statements of the Shares of the Portfolio that they have authorized for investment. Each report will show the investments owned by the Portfolio and the market values thereof, as well as other information about the Portfolio and its operations. The Trust’s fiscal year ends December 31.

Financial highlights

The financial highlights table is intended to help you understand the Institutional Shares' financial performance for each of the five most recent years. Items 1 through 11 reflect financial results for a single Share. Total return in the table represents the rate that an investor would have earned (or lost) on an investment in the Institutional Shares of the Portfolio (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions) but does not include charges and expenses attributable to any insurance product. This information has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, whose report, along with the Portfolio's financial statements, is included in the Annual Report, which is available upon request and incorporated by reference into the SAI.

Balanced Portfolio – Institutional Shares

	2000	Periods ending December 31			
		1999	1998	1997	1996
1. Net asset value, beginning of period	\$27.91	\$22.50	\$17.47	\$14.77	\$13.03
<i>Income from investment operations:</i>					
2. Net investment income	0.64	0.59	0.39	0.34	0.32
3. Net gains (or losses) on securities (both realized and unrealized)	(1.22)	5.38	5.51	2.89	1.81
4. Total from investment operations	(0.58)	5.97	5.90	3.23	2.13
<i>Less distributions:</i>					
5. Dividends (from net investment income)	(0.69)	(0.56)	(0.38)	(0.35)	(0.30)
6. Dividends (in excess of net investment income)	—	—	—	—	—
7. Distributions (from capital gains)	(2.00)	—	(0.45)	(0.18)	(0.09)
8. Distributions (in excess of realized gains)	(0.31)	—	(0.04)	—	—
9. Tax return of capital distributions	(0.02)	—	—	—	—
10. Total distributions	(3.02)	(0.56)	(0.87)	(0.53)	(0.39)
11. Net asset value, end of period	\$24.31	\$27.91	\$22.50	\$17.47	\$14.77
12. Total return	(2.27%)	26.76%	34.28%	22.10%	16.18%
13. Net assets, end of period (in thousands)	\$3,352,381	\$2,453,079	\$882,495	\$362,409	\$85,480
14. Average net assets for the period (in thousands)	\$3,020,072	\$1,583,635	\$555,002	\$176,432	\$43,414
15. Ratio of gross expenses to average net assets ⁽¹⁾	0.66% ⁽²⁾	0.69% ⁽²⁾	0.74% ⁽²⁾	0.83% ⁽²⁾	0.94% ⁽²⁾
16. Ratio of net expenses to average net assets ⁽³⁾	0.66%	0.69%	0.74%	0.82%	0.92%
17. Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	3.15%	2.86%	2.41%	2.87%	2.92%
18. Portfolio turnover rate	72%	92%	70%	139%	103%

(1) The expense ratio reflects expenses prior to any expense offset arrangements.

(2) The ratio was 0.66% in 2000, 0.69% in 1999, 0.74% in 1998, 0.83% in 1997 and 1.07% in 1996 before waiver of certain fees and/or reduction of adviser's fees to the effective rate of Janus Balanced Fund.

(3) The expense ratio reflects expenses after any expense offset arrangements.

Glossary of investment terms

This glossary provides a more detailed description of some of the types of securities, investment strategies and other instruments in which the Portfolio may invest. The Portfolio may invest in these instruments to the extent permitted by its investment objective and policies. The Portfolio is not limited by this discussion and may invest in any other types of instruments not precluded by the policies discussed elsewhere in this Prospectus.

I. EQUITY AND DEBT SECURITIES

Bonds are debt securities issued by a company, municipality, government or government agency. The issuer of a bond is required to pay the holder the amount of the loan (or par value of the bond) at a specified maturity and to make scheduled interest payments.

Commercial paper is a short-term debt obligation with a maturity ranging from 1 to 270 days issued by banks, corporations and other borrowers to investors seeking to invest idle cash. The Portfolio may purchase commercial paper issued in private placements under Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933.

Common stocks are equity securities representing shares of ownership in a company and usually carry voting rights and earn dividends. Unlike preferred stock, dividends on common stock are not fixed but are declared at the discretion of the issuer's board of directors.

Convertible securities are preferred stocks or bonds that pay a fixed dividend or interest payment and are convertible into common stock at a specified price or conversion ratio.

Debt securities are securities representing money borrowed that must be repaid at a later date. Such securities have specific maturities and usually a specific rate of interest or an original purchase discount.

Depository receipts are receipts for shares of a foreign-based corporation that entitle the holder to dividends and capital gains on the underlying security. Receipts include those issued by domestic banks (American Depositary Receipts), foreign banks (Global or European Depositary Receipts) and broker-dealers (depository shares).

Fixed-income securities are securities that pay a specified rate of return. The term generally includes short- and long-term government, corporate and municipal obligations that pay a specified rate of interest or coupons for a specified period of time, and preferred stock, which pays fixed dividends. Coupon and dividend rates may be fixed for the life of the issue or, in the case of adjustable and floating rate securities, for a shorter period.

High-yield/High-risk bonds are bonds that are rated below investment grade by the primary rating agencies (e.g., BB or lower by Standard & Poor's and Ba or lower by Moody's). Other terms commonly used to describe such bonds include "lower rated bonds," "noninvestment grade bonds" and "junk bonds."

Mortgage- and asset-backed securities are shares in a pool of mortgages or other debt. These securities are generally pass-through securities, which means that principal and interest payments on the underlying securities (less servicing fees) are passed through to shareholders on a pro rata basis. These securities involve prepayment risk, which is the risk that the underlying mortgages or other debt may be refinanced or paid off prior to their maturities during periods of declining interest rates. In that case, the portfolio manager may have to reinvest the proceeds from the securities at a lower rate. Potential market gains on a security subject to prepayment risk may be more limited than potential market gains on a comparable security that is not subject to prepayment risk.

Passive foreign investment companies (PFICs) are any foreign corporations which generate certain amounts of passive income or hold certain amounts of assets for the production of passive income. Passive income includes dividends, interest, royalties, rents and annuities. To avoid taxes and interest that the

Portfolio must pay if these investments are profitable, the Portfolio may make various elections permitted by the tax laws. These elections could require that the Portfolio recognize taxable income, which in turn must be distributed, before the securities are sold and before cash is received to pay the distributions.

Pay-in-kind bonds are debt securities that normally give the issuer an option to pay cash at a coupon payment date or give the holder of the security a similar bond with the same coupon rate and a face value equal to the amount of the coupon payment that would have been made.

Preferred stocks are equity securities that generally pay dividends at a specified rate and have preference over common stock in the payment of dividends and liquidation. Preferred stock generally does not carry voting rights.

Rule 144A securities are securities that are not registered for sale to the general public under the Securities Act of 1933, but that may be resold to certain institutional investors.

Standby commitments are obligations purchased by the Portfolio from a dealer that give the Portfolio the option to sell a security to the dealer at a specified price.

Step coupon bonds are debt securities that trade at a discount from their face value and pay coupon interest. The discount from the face value depends on the time remaining until cash payments begin, prevailing interest rates, liquidity of the security and the perceived credit quality of the issuer.

Strip bonds are debt securities that are stripped of their interest (usually by a financial intermediary) after the securities are issued. The market value of these securities generally fluctuates more in response to changes in interest rates than interest-paying securities of comparable maturity.

Tender option bonds are generally long-term securities that are coupled with an option to tender the securities to a bank, broker-dealer or other financial institution at periodic intervals and receive the face value of the bond. This type of security is commonly used as a means of enhancing the security's liquidity.

U.S. government securities include direct obligations of the U.S. government that are supported by its full faith and credit. Treasury bills have initial maturities of less than one year, Treasury notes have initial maturities of one to ten years and Treasury bonds may be issued with any maturity but generally have maturities of at least ten years. U.S. government securities also include indirect obligations of the U.S. government that are issued by federal agencies and government sponsored entities. Unlike Treasury securities, agency securities generally are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. Some agency securities are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the Treasury, others are supported by the discretionary authority of the U.S. government to purchase the agency's obligations and others are supported only by the credit of the sponsoring agency.

Variable and floating rate securities have variable or floating rates of interest and, under certain limited circumstances, may have varying principal amounts. These securities pay interest at rates that are adjusted periodically according to a specified formula, usually with reference to some interest rate index or market interest rate (the "underlying index"). The floating rate tends to decrease the security's price sensitivity to changes in interest rates.

Warrants are securities, typically issued with preferred stock or bonds, that give the holder the right to buy a proportionate amount of common stock at a specified price. The specified price is usually higher than the market price at the time of issuance of the warrant. The right may last for a period of years or indefinitely.

Zero coupon bonds are debt securities that do not pay regular interest at regular intervals, but are issued at a discount from face value. The discount approximates the total amount of interest the security will accrue from the date of issuance to maturity. The market value of these securities generally fluctuates more in response to changes in interest rates than interest-paying securities.

II. FUTURES, OPTIONS AND OTHER DERIVATIVES

Forward contracts are contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a financial instrument for an agreed upon price at a specified time. Forward contracts are not currently exchange traded and are typically negotiated on an individual basis. The Portfolio may enter into forward currency contracts to hedge against declines in the value of securities denominated in, or whose value is tied to, a currency other than the U.S. dollar or to reduce the impact of currency appreciation on purchases of such securities. It may also enter into forward contracts to purchase or sell securities or other financial indices.

Futures contracts are contracts that obligate the buyer to receive and the seller to deliver an instrument or money at a specified price on a specified date. The Portfolio may buy and sell futures contracts on foreign currencies, securities and financial indices including indices of U.S. government, foreign government, equity or fixed-income securities. The Portfolio may also buy options on futures contracts. An option on a futures contract gives the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a futures contract at a specified price on or before a specified date. Futures contracts and options on futures are standardized and traded on designated exchanges.

Indexed/structured securities are typically short- to intermediate-term debt securities whose value at maturity or interest rate is linked to currencies, interest rates, equity securities, indices, commodity prices or other financial indicators. Such securities may be positively or negatively indexed (i.e. their value may increase or decrease if the reference index or instrument appreciates). Indexed/structured securities may have return characteristics similar to direct investments in the underlying instruments and may be more volatile than the underlying instruments. The Portfolio bears the market risk of an investment in the underlying instruments, as well as the credit risk of the issuer.

Interest rate swaps involve the exchange by two parties of their respective commitments to pay or receive interest (e.g., an exchange of floating rate payments for fixed rate payments).

Inverse floaters are debt instruments whose interest rate bears an inverse relationship to the interest rate on another instrument or index. For example, upon reset the interest rate payable on a security may go down when the underlying index has risen. Certain inverse floaters may have an interest rate reset mechanism that multiplies the effects of change in the underlying index. Such mechanism may increase the volatility of the security's market value.

Options are the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a specified amount of securities or other assets on or before a fixed date at a predetermined price. The Portfolio may purchase and write put and call options on securities, securities indices and foreign currencies.

III. OTHER INVESTMENTS, STRATEGIES AND/OR TECHNIQUES

Repurchase agreements involve the purchase of a security by the Portfolio and a simultaneous agreement by the seller (generally a bank or dealer) to repurchase the security from the Portfolio at a specified date or upon demand. This technique offers a method of earning income on idle cash. These securities involve the risk that the seller will fail to repurchase the security, as agreed. In that case, the Portfolio will bear the risk of market value fluctuations until the security can be sold and may encounter delays and incur costs in liquidating the security.

Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of a security by the Portfolio to another party (generally a bank or dealer) in return for cash and an agreement by the Portfolio to buy the security back at a specified price and time. This technique will be used primarily to provide cash to satisfy unusually high redemption requests, or for other temporary or emergency purposes.

Short sales in which the Portfolio may engage may be of two types, short sales “against the box” or “naked” short sales. Short sales against the box involve selling either a security that the Portfolio owns, or a security equivalent in kind or amount to the security sold short that the Portfolio has the right to obtain, for delivery at a specified date in the future. Naked short sales involve selling a security that the Portfolio borrows and does not own. The Portfolio may enter into a short sale to hedge against anticipated declines in the market price of a security or to reduce portfolio volatility. If the value of a security sold short increases prior to the scheduled delivery date, the Portfolio loses the opportunity to participate in the gain. For “naked” short sales, the Portfolio will incur a loss if the value of a security increases during this period because it will be paying more for the security than it has received from the purchaser in the short sale and if the price declines during this period, the Portfolio will realize a short-term capital gain. Although the Portfolio’s potential for gain as a result of a short sale is limited to the price at which it sold the security short less the cost of borrowing the security, its potential for loss is theoretically unlimited because there is no limit to the cost of replacing the borrowed security.

When-issued, delayed delivery and forward transactions generally involve the purchase of a security with payment and delivery at some time in the future – i.e., beyond normal settlement. The Portfolio does not earn interest on such securities until settlement and bears the risk of market value fluctuations in between the purchase and settlement dates. New issues of stocks and bonds, private placements and U.S. government securities may be sold in this manner.



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You can request other information, including a Statement of Additional Information, Annual Report or Semiannual Report, free of charge, by contacting your insurance company or plan sponsor or visiting our Web site at janus.com. In the Portfolio's Annual Report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Portfolio's performance during its last fiscal year. Other information is also available from financial intermediaries that sell Shares of the Portfolio.

The Statement of Additional Information provides detailed information about the Portfolio and is incorporated into this Prospectus by reference. You may review and copy information about the Portfolio (including the Portfolio's Statement of Additional Information) at the Public Reference Room of the SEC or get text only copies, after paying a duplicating fee, by sending an electronic request by e-mail to publicinfo@sec.gov or by writing to or calling the Public Reference Room, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102 (1-202-942-8090). You may also obtain reports and other information about the Portfolio from the Electronic Data Gathering Analysis and Retrieval (EDGAR) Database on the SEC's Web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.