

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

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Janus Aspen Series

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Portfolio management perspective
- Investment strategy behind your portfolio
- Portfolio performance, characteristics and holdings

**Janus Henderson**  
— INVESTORS —

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# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio (unaudited)

Team-Based Approach  
Led by Matthew Peron,  
Director of Research

## PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

For the 12-month period ending December 31, 2023, the Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio's Institutional Shares and Service Shares returned 43.17% and 42.81%, respectively. The Portfolio's primary benchmark, the Russell 1000<sup>®</sup> Growth Index, returned 42.68%, and its secondary benchmark, the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index, returned 26.29%. Another benchmark we use to measure performance, the Core Growth Index, returned 34.29%. The Core Growth Index is an internally calculated benchmark combining returns from the Russell 1000 Growth Index (50%) and S&P 500 Index (50%).

## INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT

The U.S. equity market delivered positive returns for the 12-month period ended December 31, 2023. However, stocks encountered periods of volatility as investors awaited clarity on the direction of Federal Reserve (Fed) policy, interest rates, and inflation. Economic growth appeared relatively resilient, as a strong job market supported consumer spending. Yet there were signs of slowing in other areas of the economy, especially manufacturing and housing. The Fed continued to raise its policy rates through July before leaving rates unchanged starting in September. However, policymakers warned that interest rates may need to remain high for an extended period to contain inflation, especially as oil prices surged in the third quarter. These worries led to a broad-based stock market decline in the third quarter. Stocks rallied strongly in the fourth quarter, however, as investor expectations shifted from fears of additional interest rate hikes to hopes that moderating inflation might persuade the Fed to reduce rates in 2024. Declining bond yields and falling crude oil prices were also tailwinds for investor sentiment and stock performance late in the year.

## PERFORMANCE DISCUSSION

We were pleased that the Portfolio outperformed both benchmarks for the reporting period. At the same time, our primary focus remains on the long view. We continue

to look for opportunities to capitalize on long-term trends that may play out over the next three to five years, creating above-average earnings growth potential for disciplined and innovative companies. To take advantage of these long-term opportunities, we remain focused on what we view to be our strengths: picking stocks and avoiding macroeconomic risks. We continue to rely on the stock-picking expertise of our seven global sector teams that employ a bottom-up, fundamental approach to identify what we consider the best long-term global growth opportunities.

Among individual holdings, information technology holding Nvidia was a standout performer. The graphics chipmaker has benefited from its diverse portfolio of new products targeting the gaming and data center markets. It has experienced accelerating demand for its data center graphics processing units (GPU), which are in high demand to support generative artificial intelligence (AI) applications. As a result, Nvidia reported robust revenue growth, assisted by surging demand for its products from data centers, cloud service providers, consumer internet companies, and AI startups. Nvidia's management indicated they expect data center demand to accelerate into 2024, as technology companies rush to deploy AI-related capabilities.

Semiconductor producer Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) was another contributor to relative performance. The stock outperformed as investors became more optimistic about a potential resurgence in chip demand in 2024. AMD reported better-than-expected revenue growth for the third quarter of 2023, reflecting strong demand for its products from data centers, and it indicated a solid revenue outlook for 2024. Investors are particularly excited about AMD's new opportunities tied to AI. In December, the company held an "Advancing AI" event aimed at highlighting the launch of its new MI300x GPU accelerator, which demonstrated broad customer momentum and favorable performance metrics versus its peers.

## Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio (unaudited)

The Portfolio's underweight position in Tesla hindered relative performance as the stock was a strong positive performer in the first half of the year. The stock rose in the second quarter as Tesla reported relatively robust production metrics. It also announced a charging network agreement with Ford. The stock faced headwinds in the second half of the year, as Tesla's core automotive business slowed. However, we continue to see longer-term growth potential for the electric vehicle market and for Tesla's initiatives around AI and autonomous driving. At the same time, we see near-term uncertainty for the business, and we are comfortable with an underweight position relative to the benchmark.

Global package delivery and logistics company United Parcel Service (UPS) was another relative detractor, as uncertainty over the company's labor negotiations weighed on the stock. While UPS avoided a strike, the potential for higher labor costs was a headwind for its business and ultimately led the company to reduce its full-year revenue and margin guidance. UPS also faced concerns over slower volumes, especially within its international business. On a positive note, we were encouraged by the company's focus on cost reduction and productivity initiatives, including investments in automation that the management team hopes will support margin improvement.

### OUTLOOK

We have seen signs that higher interest rates are starting to impact the economy, and we believe we could see further reductions in corporate earnings. While we anticipate slower growth in 2024, we have been reassured by the resilience of the U.S. economy and the general health of consumer and corporate balance sheets. China's more pro-growth policies and relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions could also have positive implications for the global economy.

As the market searches for a bottom, we believe investors will seek out companies with high-quality earnings growth, well-capitalized balance sheets, reasonable valuations, and sustainable, organic growth prospects. In our view, such companies will prove resilient not only in the near term but as we leave behind the era of ultra-low interest rates. Going forward, we believe we could see higher structural inflation and tighter monetary policy. We also believe this environment will reward judicious allocators of capital but penalize companies with high degrees of leverage. Just as this environment will help to distinguish high-quality companies, we believe it will also work to our

advantage as active investment managers. We continue to pay close attention to the price we pay for growth, as we look for opportunities to take advantage of trends such as e-commerce, cloud computing, and healthcare innovation.

Thank you for your investment in Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio.

**Actively managed Portfolios** may fail to produce the intended results. No investment strategy can ensure a profit or eliminate the risk of loss.

**Quantitative Tightening (QT)** is a government monetary policy occasionally used to decrease the money supply by either selling government securities or letting them mature and removing them from its cash balances.

### Important Notice – Tailored Shareholder Reports

Effective January 24, 2023, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") adopted rule and form amendments that require mutual funds and exchange-traded funds to provide shareholders with streamlined annual and semi-annual shareholder reports that highlight key information. Other information, including financial statements, that currently appears in shareholder reports will be made available online, delivered free of charge to shareholders upon request, and filed with the SEC. The first tailored shareholder report for the Portfolio will be for the reporting period ending June 30, 2024. Currently, management is evaluating the impact of the rule and form amendments on the content of the Portfolio's current shareholder reports.

**Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio (unaudited)**  
**Portfolio At A Glance**  
**December 31, 2023**

**5 Top Contributors - Holdings**

	<b>Average Weight</b>	<b>Relative Contribution</b>
NVIDIA Corp	5.59%	1.80%
Advanced Micro Devices Inc	1.51%	0.62%
Booking Holdings Inc	1.96%	0.48%
Lam Research Corp	1.53%	0.45%
Workday Inc - Class A	1.40%	0.27%

**5 Top Detractors - Holdings**

	<b>Average Weight</b>	<b>Relative Contribution</b>
Tesla Inc	0.53%	-0.82%
United Parcel Service Inc	1.67%	-0.77%
Broadcom Inc	0.21%	-0.64%
Deere & Co	1.50%	-0.60%
Procter & Gamble Co	1.66%	-0.59%

**5 Top Contributors - Sectors\***

	<b>Relative Contribution</b>	<b>Portfolio Average Weight</b>	<b>Russell 1000 Growth Index Average Weight</b>
Technology	2.54%	41.35%	41.65%
Consumer	1.02%	17.58%	17.37%
Financials	0.39%	7.79%	7.87%
Communications	0.09%	11.24%	11.05%
Energy	0.03%	0.99%	1.01%

**3 Top Detractors - Sectors\***

	<b>Relative Contribution</b>	<b>Portfolio Average Weight</b>	<b>Russell 1000 Growth Index Average Weight</b>
Industrials	-1.54%	9.49%	9.59%
Healthcare	-1.21%	11.45%	11.45%
Other**	-0.06%	0.11%	0.00%

Relative contribution reflects how the portfolio's holdings impacted return relative to the benchmark. Cash and securities not held in the portfolio are not shown. For equity portfolios, relative contribution compares the performance of a security in the portfolio to the benchmark's total return, factoring in the difference in weight of that security in the benchmark. Returns are calculated using daily returns and previous day ending weights rolled up by ticker, excluding fixed income securities, gross of advisory fees, may exclude certain derivatives and will differ from actual performance. Performance attribution reflects returns gross of advisory fees and may differ from actual returns as they are based on end of day holdings. Attribution is calculated by geometrically linking daily returns for the portfolio and index.

\* The sectors listed above reflect those covered by the six analyst teams who comprise the Janus Henderson Research Team.

\*\* Not a GICS classified sector.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio (unaudited)

## Portfolio At A Glance

### December 31, 2023

#### 5 Largest Equity Holdings - (% of Net Assets)

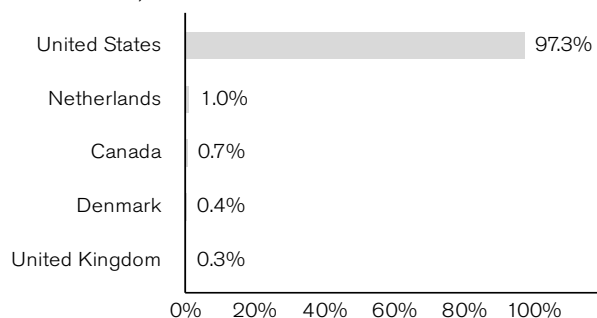
Microsoft Corp	
Software	12.5%
Apple Inc	
Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals	7.1%
NVIDIA Corp	
Semiconductor & Semiconductor Equipment	6.4%
Amazon.com Inc	
Multiline Retail	5.8%
Alphabet Inc - Class C	
Interactive Media & Services	5.8%
	<u>37.6%</u>

#### Asset Allocation - (% of Net Assets)

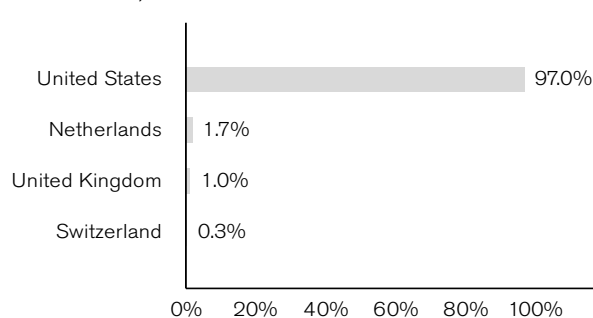
Common Stocks	100.0%
Investments Purchased with Cash	
Collateral from Securities Lending	0.1%
Investment Companies	0.1%
Other	(0.2)%
	<u>100.0%</u>

#### Top Country Allocations - Long Positions - (% of Investment Securities)

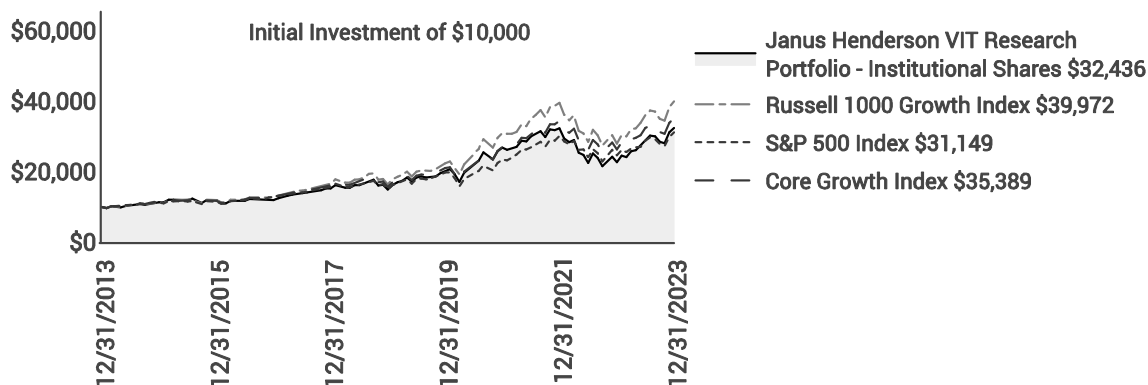
As of December 31, 2023



As of December 31, 2022



## Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio (unaudited) Performance



Average Annual Total Return - for the periods ended December 31, 2023	Prospectus Expense Ratios			
	One Year	Five Year	Ten Year	Since Inception*
Institutional Shares	43.17%	16.83%	12.49%	9.42%
Service Shares	42.81%	16.54%	12.21%	9.13%
Russell 1000 Growth Index	42.68%	19.50%	14.86%	10.63%
S&P 500 Index	26.29%	15.69%	12.03%	10.11%
Core Growth Index	34.29%	17.63%	13.47%	10.41%
Morningstar Quartile - Institutional Shares	2nd	2nd	2nd	3rd
Morningstar Ranking - based on total returns for Large Growth Funds	320/1,212	353/1,096	449/1,012	228/359

Returns quoted are past performance and do not guarantee future results; current performance may be lower or higher. Investment returns and principal value will vary; there may be a gain or loss when shares are sold. For the most recent month-end performance call 800.668.0434 or visit [janushenderson.com/VITperformance](http://janushenderson.com/VITperformance).

This Portfolio has a performance-based management fee that may adjust up or down based on the Portfolio's performance.

Performance may be affected by risks that include those associated with foreign and emerging markets, fixed income securities, high-yield and high-risk securities, undervalued, overlooked and smaller capitalization companies, real estate related securities including Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors, non-diversification, portfolio turnover, derivatives, short sales, initial public offerings (IPOs) and potential conflicts of interest. Each product has different risks. Please see the prospectus for more information about risks, holdings and other details.

High absolute short-term performance is not typical and may not be achieved in the future. Such results should not be the sole basis for evaluating material facts in making an investment decision.

Returns do not reflect the deduction of fees, charges or expenses of any insurance product or qualified plan. If applied, returns would have been lower.

Returns include reinvestment of all dividends and distributions and do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Portfolio distributions or redemptions of Portfolio shares. The returns do not include adjustments in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles required at the period end for financial reporting purposes.

Performance for Service Shares prior to December 31, 1999 reflects the performance of Institutional Shares, adjusted to reflect the expenses of Service Shares.

Ranking is for the share class shown only; other classes may have different performance characteristics.

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See important disclosures on the next page.

## **Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio (unaudited) Performance**

There is no assurance that the investment process will consistently lead to successful investing.

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information for index definitions.

Index performance does not reflect the expenses of managing a portfolio as an index is unmanaged.

See "Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report."

\*The Portfolio's inception date – September 13, 1993

‡ As stated in the prospectus. See Financial Highlights for actual expense ratios during the reporting period.

## Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio (unaudited) Expense Examples

As a shareholder of the Portfolio, you incur two types of costs: (1) transaction costs and (2) ongoing costs, including management fees; 12b-1 distribution and shareholder servicing fees (applicable to Service Shares only); transfer agent fees and expenses payable pursuant to the Transfer Agency Agreement; and other Portfolio expenses. This example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Portfolio and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other funds. The example is based upon an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the period and held for the six-months indicated, unless noted otherwise in the table and footnotes below.

### Actual Expenses

The information in the table under the heading "Actual" provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in these columns, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the appropriate column for your share class under the heading entitled "Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during the period.

### Hypothetical Example for Comparison Purposes

The information in the table under the heading "Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)" provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based upon the Portfolio's actual expense ratio and an assumed rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Portfolio's actual return. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Portfolio and other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other funds. Additionally, for an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in either share class or other similar funds, please visit [www.finra.org/fundalyzer](http://www.finra.org/fundalyzer).

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transaction costs, such as any charges at the separate account level or contract level. These fees are fully described in the Portfolio's prospectuses. Therefore, the hypothetical examples are useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds. In addition, if these transaction costs were included, your costs would have been higher.

	Actual			Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)			Net Annualized Expense Ratio
	Beginning Account Value (7/1/23)	Ending Account Value (12/31/23)	Expenses Paid During Period (7/1/23 - 12/31/23)†	Beginning Account Value (7/1/23)	Ending Account Value (12/31/23)	Expenses Paid During Period (7/1/23 - 12/31/23)†	
Institutional Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,111.20	\$3.03	\$1,000.00	\$1,022.33	\$2.91	0.57%
Service Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,109.80	\$4.36	\$1,000.00	\$1,021.07	\$4.18	0.82%

† Expenses Paid During Period are equal to the Net Annualized Expense Ratio multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 184/365 (to reflect the one-half year period). Expenses in the examples include the effect of applicable fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements, if any. Had such waivers and/or reimbursements not been in effect, your expenses would have been higher. Please refer to the Notes to Financial Statements or the Portfolio's prospectuses for more information regarding waivers and/or reimbursements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Schedule of Investments

### December 31, 2023

	<i>Shares or Principal Amounts</i>	<i>Value</i>
Common Stocks– 100.0%		
Aerospace & Defense – 1.6%		
General Dynamics Corp	16,933	\$4,396,992
Howmet Aerospace Inc	98,816	5,347,922
		9,744,914
Air Freight & Logistics – 0.5%		
United Parcel Service Inc	20,314	3,193,970
Automobiles – 0.9%		
Rivian Automotive Inc - Class A*	130,383	3,058,785
Tesla Inc*	10,169	2,526,793
		5,585,578
Beverages – 2.0%		
Constellation Brands Inc - Class A	23,080	5,579,590
Monster Beverage Corp	106,677	6,145,662
		11,725,252
Biotechnology – 2.6%		
AbbVie Inc	9,989	1,547,995
Amgen Inc	8,038	2,315,105
Argenx SE (ADR)*	3,929	1,494,709
Madrigal Pharmaceuticals Inc*	6,880	1,591,894
Sarepta Therapeutics Inc*	18,371	1,771,516
United Therapeutics Corp*	7,966	1,751,644
Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc*	12,367	5,032,009
		15,504,872
Capital Markets – 1.6%		
Ares Management Corp - Class A	13,901	1,653,107
Blackstone Group Inc	28,965	3,792,098
Charles Schwab Corp	24,727	1,701,218
LPL Financial Holdings Inc	9,478	2,157,382
		9,303,805
Chemicals – 1.0%		
Sherwin-Williams Co	18,497	5,769,214
Diversified Financial Services – 4.9%		
Apollo Global Management Inc	28,626	2,667,657
Global Payments Inc	9,294	1,180,338
Mastercard Inc	28,683	12,233,586
Visa Inc	49,635	12,922,472
		29,004,053
Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components – 0.3%		
Keysight Technologies Inc*	10,213	1,624,786
Energy Equipment & Services – 0.2%		
Atlas Energy Solutions Inc†	52,183	898,591
Entertainment – 2.5%		
Liberty Media Corp-Liberty Formula One - Series C*	100,654	6,354,287
Netflix Inc*	17,128	8,339,281
		14,693,568
Health Care Equipment & Supplies – 1.9%		
Abbott Laboratories	22,563	2,483,509
Boston Scientific Corp*	31,686	1,831,768
Edwards Lifesciences Corp*	38,378	2,926,323
Intuitive Surgical Inc*	6,301	2,125,705
Stryker Corp	5,965	1,786,279
		11,153,584
Health Care Providers & Services – 2.3%		
HCA Healthcare Inc	6,592	1,784,323
UnitedHealth Group Inc	21,986	11,574,969
		13,359,292
Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure – 3.7%		
Booking Holdings Inc*	2,739	9,715,836
Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc*	3,350	7,661,316

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Schedule of Investments

### December 31, 2023

	<i>Shares or Principal Amounts</i>	<i>Value</i>
Common Stocks– (continued)		
Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure– (continued)		
Las Vegas Sands Corp	91,169	\$4,486,427
		21,863,579
Household Products – 1.7%		
Procter & Gamble Co	68,998	10,110,967
Information Technology Services – 0.1%		
Snowflake Inc - Class A*	3,502	696,898
Insurance – 1.1%		
Arthur J Gallagher & Co	7,791	1,752,040
Progressive Corp/The	28,033	4,465,096
		6,217,136
Interactive Media & Services – 10.8%		
Alphabet Inc - Class C*	242,633	34,194,269
Meta Platforms Inc - Class A*	84,879	30,043,771
		64,238,040
Life Sciences Tools & Services – 0.7%		
Danaher Corp	5,428	1,255,714
Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc	5,187	2,753,208
		4,008,922
Machinery – 2.3%		
Deere & Co	22,820	9,125,033
Ingersoll Rand Inc	57,693	4,461,977
		13,587,010
Multiline Retail – 5.8%		
Amazon.com Inc*	227,916	34,629,557
Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels – 0.3%		
EOG Resources Inc	12,888	1,558,804
Pharmaceuticals – 3.3%		
AstraZeneca PLC (ADR)	30,135	2,029,592
Eli Lilly & Co	15,736	9,172,829
Merck & Co Inc	34,061	3,713,330
Novo Nordisk A/S (ADR)	23,487	2,429,730
Zoetis Inc	10,795	2,130,609
		19,476,090
Real Estate Management & Development – 0.6%		
CoStar Group Inc*	42,806	3,740,816
Road & Rail – 2.0%		
JB Hunt Transport Services Inc	16,191	3,233,990
TFI International Inc	30,668	4,170,235
Uber Technologies Inc*	70,871	4,363,527
		11,767,752
Semiconductor & Semiconductor Equipment – 13.5%		
Advanced Micro Devices Inc*	62,893	9,271,057
ASML Holding NV	8,046	6,090,178
Broadcom Inc	4,703	5,249,724
KLA Corp	9,631	5,598,500
Lam Research Corp	11,352	8,891,568
Lattice Semiconductor Corp*	10,677	736,606
Marvell Technology Inc	21,244	1,281,226
NVIDIA Corp	77,096	38,179,481
ON Semiconductor Corp*	32,145	2,685,072
Texas Instruments Inc	13,089	2,231,151
		80,214,563
Software – 20.6%		
Adobe Inc*	19,381	11,562,705
Atlassian Corp - Class A*	3,170	754,016
Cadence Design Systems Inc*	26,520	7,223,252
Dynatrace Inc*	21,224	1,160,741
Microsoft Corp	197,016	74,085,897

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio**  
**Schedule of Investments**  
**December 31, 2023**

	<i>Shares or Principal Amounts</i>	<i>Value</i>
Common Stocks– (continued)		
Software– (continued)		
Palo Alto Networks Inc*	23,506	\$6,931,449
ServiceNow Inc*	5,960	4,210,680
Synopsys Inc*	13,578	6,991,448
Tyler Technologies Inc*	3,726	1,557,915
Workday Inc - Class A*	27,635	7,628,918
		122,107,021
Specialty Retail – 2.5%		
O'Reilly Automotive Inc*	6,910	6,565,053
TJX Cos Inc	90,539	8,493,464
		15,058,517
Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals – 7.1%		
Apple Inc	219,130	42,189,099
Trading Companies & Distributors – 0.8%		
Ferguson PLC	24,316	4,694,690
Wireless Telecommunication Services – 0.8%		
T-Mobile US Inc	29,780	4,774,627
Total Common Stocks (cost \$293,458,201)		592,495,567
Investment Companies– 0.1%		
Money Markets – 0.1%		
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 5.3879% <sup>***,£</sup> (cost \$371,226)	371,152	371,226
Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending– 0.1%		
Investment Companies – 0.1%		
Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, 5.2936% <sup>***,£</sup>	495,940	495,940
Time Deposits – 0%		
Royal Bank of Canada, 5.3100%, 1/2/24	\$123,985	123,985
Total Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending (cost \$619,925)		619,925
Total Investments (total cost \$294,449,352) – 100.2%		593,486,718
Liabilities, net of Cash, Receivables and Other Assets – (0.2)%		(1,046,006)
Net Assets – 100%		\$592,440,712

**Summary of Investments by Country - (Long Positions) (unaudited)**

<i>Country</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>% of Investment Securities</i>
United States	\$577,272,274	97.3 %
Netherlands	6,090,178	1.0
Canada	4,170,235	0.7
Denmark	2,429,730	0.4
United Kingdom	2,029,592	0.3
Belgium	1,494,709	0.3
Total	\$593,486,718	100.0 %

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Schedule of Investments

### December 31, 2023

#### Schedules of Affiliated Investments – (% of Net Assets)

	Dividend Income	Realized Gain/(Loss)	Change in Unrealized Appreciation/ Depreciation	Value at 12/31/23
Investment Companies - 0.1%				
Money Markets - 0.1%				
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 5.3879% <sup>∞</sup>	\$ 18,101	\$ (42)	\$ -	\$ 371,226
Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending - 0.1%				
Investment Companies - 0.1%				
Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, 5.2936% <sup>∞</sup>	2,634 <sup>Δ</sup>	-	-	495,940
Total Affiliated Investments - 0.2%	\$ 20,735	\$ (42)	\$ -	\$ 867,166

	Value at 12/31/22	Purchases	Sales Proceeds	Value at 12/31/23
Investment Companies - 0.1%				
Money Markets - 0.1%				
Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC, 5.3879% <sup>∞</sup>	-	28,533,389	(28,162,121)	371,226
Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending - 0.1%				
Investment Companies - 0.1%				
Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, 5.2936% <sup>∞</sup>	-	22,221,202	(21,725,262)	495,940

#### Offsetting of Financial Assets and Derivative Assets

Counterparty	Gross Amounts of Recognized Assets	Offsetting Asset or Liability <sup>(a)</sup>	Collateral Pledged <sup>(b)</sup>	Net Amount
JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association	\$ 606,540	\$ -	(606,540) \$	-

(a) Represents the amount of assets or liabilities that could be offset with the same counterparty under master netting or similar agreements that management elects not to offset on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

(b) Collateral pledged is limited to the net outstanding amount due to/from an individual counterparty. The actual collateral amounts pledged may exceed these amounts and may fluctuate in value.

See Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information and Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information

Russell 1000® Growth Index	Russell 1000® Growth Index reflects the performance of U.S. large-cap equities with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.
S&P 500® Index	S&P 500® Index reflects U.S. large-cap equity performance and represents broad U.S. equity market performance.
Core Growth Index	Core Growth Index is an internally calculated, hypothetical combination of total returns from the Russell 1000® Growth Index (50%) and the S&P 500® Index (50%).
ADR	American Depositary Receipt
LLC	Limited Liability Company
PLC	Public Limited Company

\* Non-income producing security.

° Rate shown is the 7-day yield as of December 31, 2023.

# Loaned security; a portion of the security is on loan at December 31, 2023.

£ The Portfolio may invest in certain securities that are considered affiliated companies. As defined by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, an affiliated company is one in which the Portfolio owns 5% or more of the outstanding voting securities, or a company which is under common ownership or control.

Δ Net of income paid to the securities lending agent and rebates paid to the borrowing counterparties.

The following is a summary of the inputs that were used to value the Portfolio's investments in securities and other financial instruments as of December 31, 2023. See Notes to Financial Statements for more information.

### Valuation Inputs Summary

	<i>Level 1 - Quoted Prices</i>	<i>Level 2 - Other Significant Observable Inputs</i>	<i>Level 3 - Significant Unobservable Inputs</i>
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Investments In Securities:</b>			
<i>Common Stocks</i>	\$ 592,495,567	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Investment Companies</i>	-	371,226	-
<i>Investments Purchased with Cash Collateral from Securities Lending</i>	-	619,925	-
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 592,495,567</b>	<b>\$ 991,151</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities

### December 31, 2023

Assets:		
Unaffiliated investments, at value (cost \$293,582,186) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	592,619,552
Affiliated investments, at value (cost \$867,166)		867,166
Trustees' deferred compensation		16,259
Receivables:		
Dividends		120,385
Foreign tax reclaims		18,279
Portfolio shares sold		7,246
Dividends from affiliates		6,555
Other assets		5,820
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>593,661,262</b>
Liabilities:		
Collateral for securities loaned (Note 2)		619,925
Payables:		
Advisory fees		255,391
Portfolio shares repurchased		189,374
Professional fees		48,945
12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees		33,691
Transfer agent fees and expenses		26,736
Trustees' deferred compensation fees		16,259
Affiliated portfolio administration fees payable		1,278
Custodian fees		1,058
Trustees' fees and expenses		470
Accrued expenses and other payables		27,423
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>1,220,550</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>592,440,712</b>
Net Assets Consist of:		
Capital (par value and paid-in surplus)	\$	275,122,111
Total distributable earnings (loss)		317,318,601
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>592,440,712</b>
<b>Net Assets - Institutional Shares</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>436,336,490</b>
Shares Outstanding, \$0.001 Par Value (unlimited shares authorized)		9,664,573
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>45.15</b>
<b>Net Assets - Service Shares</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>156,104,222</b>
Shares Outstanding, \$0.001 Par Value (unlimited shares authorized)		3,625,402
<b>Net Asset Value Per Share</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>43.06</b>

(1) Includes \$606,540 of securities on loan. See Note 2 in Notes to Financial Statements.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

**Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio**  
**Statement of Operations**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2023**

Investment Income:		
Dividends	\$	3,845,381
Dividends from affiliates		18,101
Affiliated securities lending income, net		2,634
Unaffiliated securities lending income, net		850
Other income		1,560
Foreign tax withheld		(31,844)
<b>Total Investment Income</b>		<b>3,836,682</b>
Expenses:		
Advisory fees		2,499,230
12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees:		
Service Shares		343,668
Transfer agent administrative fees and expenses:		
Institutional Shares		194,539
Service Shares		68,746
Other transfer agent fees and expenses:		
Institutional Shares		7,372
Service Shares		1,753
Professional fees		68,687
Shareholder reports expense		20,843
Registration fees		18,209
Affiliated portfolio administration fees		16,747
Custodian fees		15,899
Trustees' fees and expenses		12,120
Other expenses		60,470
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>3,328,283</b>
<b>Net Investment Income/(Loss)</b>		<b>508,399</b>
Net Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments:		
Investments and foreign currency transactions		27,042,260
Investments in affiliates		(42)
<b>Total Net Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments</b>		<b>27,042,218</b>
Change in Unrealized Net Appreciation/Depreciation:		
Investments, foreign currency translations and Trustees' deferred compensation		158,899,374
<b>Total Change in Unrealized Net Appreciation/Depreciation</b>		<b>158,899,374</b>
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>186,449,991</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

## Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

### Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	<i>Year ended</i> <i>December 31, 2023</i>	<i>Year ended</i> <i>December 31, 2022</i>
Operations:		
Net investment income/(loss)	\$ 508,399	\$ 912,204
Net realized gain/(loss) on investments	27,042,218	(7,477,293)
Change in unrealized net appreciation/depreciation	158,899,374	(199,308,093)
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations</b>	<b>186,449,991</b>	<b>(205,873,182)</b>
Dividends and Distributions to Shareholders:		
Institutional Shares	(561,306)	(70,400,164)
Service Shares	(84,691)	(25,045,507)
<b>Net Decrease from Dividends and Distributions to Shareholders</b>	<b>(645,997)</b>	<b>(95,445,671)</b>
Capital Share Transactions:		
Institutional Shares	(36,035,890)	37,409,779
Service Shares	(9,640,952)	11,902,394
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) from Capital Share Transactions</b>	<b>(45,676,842)</b>	<b>49,312,173</b>
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>140,127,152</b>	<b>(252,006,680)</b>
Net Assets:		
Beginning of period	452,313,560	704,320,240
<b>End of period</b>	<b>\$ 592,440,712</b>	<b>\$ 452,313,560</b>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Financial Highlights

### Institutional Shares

For a share outstanding during the year ended December 31	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$31.58	\$56.31	\$49.35	\$40.79	\$33.70
Income/(Loss) from Investment Operations:					
Net investment income/(loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.06	0.09	(0.01)	0.14	0.21
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss)	13.57	(16.93)	9.73	12.20	11.26
<b>Total from Investment Operations</b>	<b>13.63</b>	<b>(16.84)</b>	<b>9.72</b>	<b>12.34</b>	<b>11.47</b>
Less Dividends and Distributions:					
Dividends (from net investment income)	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.05)	(0.18)	(0.18)
Distributions (from capital gains)	—	(7.83)	(2.71)	(3.60)	(4.20)
<b>Total Dividends and Distributions</b>	<b>(0.06)</b>	<b>(7.89)</b>	<b>(2.76)</b>	<b>(3.78)</b>	<b>(4.38)</b>
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$45.15	\$31.58	\$56.31	\$49.35	\$40.79
<b>Total Return*</b>	<b>43.17%</b>	<b>(29.89)%</b>	<b>20.33%</b>	<b>32.95%</b>	<b>35.52%</b>
Net Assets, End of Period (in thousands)	\$436,336	\$334,877	\$519,679	\$474,525	\$398,888
Average Net Assets for the Period (in thousands)	\$389,723	\$389,504	\$496,858	\$414,413	\$374,004
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets**:</b>					
Ratio of Gross Expenses	0.57%	0.56%	0.60%	0.60%	0.59%
Ratio of Net Expenses (After Waivers and Expense Offsets)	0.57%	0.56%	0.60%	0.60%	0.59%
Ratio of Net Investment Income/(Loss)	0.16%	0.24%	(0.01)%	0.33%	0.55%
Portfolio Turnover Rate	27%	30%	33%	33%	38%

\* Total return includes adjustments in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles required at the year or period end and are not annualized for periods of less than one full year. Total return does not include fees, charges, or expenses imposed by the variable annuity and life insurance contracts for which Janus Aspen Series serves as an underlying investment vehicle.

\*\* Annualized for periods of less than one full year.

(1) Per share amounts are calculated based on average shares outstanding during the year or period.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Financial Highlights

### Service Shares

For a share outstanding during the year ended December 31	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$30.17	\$54.34	\$47.78	\$39.64	\$32.87
Income/(Loss) from Investment Operations:					
Net investment income/(loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.03)	— <sup>(2)</sup>	(0.13)	0.03	0.11
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss)	12.94	(16.34)	9.41	11.80	10.98
<b>Total from Investment Operations</b>	<b>12.91</b>	<b>(16.34)</b>	<b>9.28</b>	<b>11.83</b>	<b>11.09</b>
Less Dividends and Distributions:					
Dividends (from net investment income)	(0.02)	—	(0.01)	(0.09)	(0.12)
Distributions (from capital gains)	—	(7.83)	(2.71)	(3.60)	(4.20)
<b>Total Dividends and Distributions</b>	<b>(0.02)</b>	<b>(7.83)</b>	<b>(2.72)</b>	<b>(3.69)</b>	<b>(4.32)</b>
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$43.06	\$30.17	\$54.34	\$47.78	\$39.64
<b>Total Return*</b>	<b>42.81%</b>	<b>(30.06)%</b>	<b>20.05%</b>	<b>32.58%</b>	<b>35.22%</b>
Net Assets, End of Period (in thousands)	\$156,104	\$117,437	\$184,641	\$172,198	\$150,614
Average Net Assets for the Period (in thousands)	\$137,706	\$136,703	\$178,748	\$151,973	\$141,550
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets**:</b>					
Ratio of Gross Expenses	0.82%	0.81%	0.85%	0.85%	0.84%
Ratio of Net Expenses (After Waivers and Expense Offsets)	0.82%	0.81%	0.85%	0.85%	0.84%
Ratio of Net Investment Income/(Loss)	(0.09)%	(0.01)%	(0.26)%	0.08%	0.30%
Portfolio Turnover Rate	27%	30%	33%	33%	38%

\* Total return includes adjustments in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles required at the year or period end and are not annualized for periods of less than one full year. Total return does not include fees, charges, or expenses imposed by the variable annuity and life insurance contracts for which Janus Aspen Series serves as an underlying investment vehicle.

\*\* Annualized for periods of less than one full year.

(1) Per share amounts are calculated based on average shares outstanding during the year or period.

(2) Less than \$0.005 on a per share basis.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

### 1. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio (the "Portfolio") is a series of Janus Aspen Series (the "Trust"), which is organized as a Delaware statutory trust and is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company, and therefore has applied the specialized accounting and reporting guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 946. The Trust offers 10 portfolios, each of which offers multiple share classes, with differing investment objectives and policies. The Portfolio seeks long-term growth of capital. The Portfolio is classified as diversified, as defined in the 1940 Act. Janus Henderson Investors US LLC is the investment adviser (the "Adviser") to the Portfolio.

The Portfolio currently offers two classes of shares: Institutional Shares and Service Shares. Each class represents an interest in the same portfolio of investments. Institutional Shares are offered only in connection with investment in and payments under variable insurance contracts as well as certain qualified retirement plans. Service Shares are offered only in connection with investment in and payments under variable insurance contracts as well as certain qualified retirement plans that require a fee from Portfolio assets to procure distribution and administrative services to contract owners and plan participants.

Shareholders, including participating insurance companies, as well as accounts, may from time to time own (beneficially or of record) a significant percentage of the Portfolio's Shares and can be considered to "control" the Portfolio when that ownership exceeds 25% of the Portfolio's assets (and which may differ from control as determined in accordance with United States of America generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP")).

The following accounting policies have been followed by the Portfolio and are in conformity with US GAAP.

#### Investment Valuation

Portfolio holdings are valued in accordance with policies and procedures established by the Adviser pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the 1940 Act and approved by and subject to the oversight of the Trustees (the "Valuation Procedures"). Equity securities traded on a domestic securities exchange are generally valued at readily available market quotations, which are (i) the official close prices or (ii) last sale prices on the primary market or exchange in which the securities trade. If such price is lacking for the trading period immediately preceding the time of determination, such securities are generally valued at their current bid price. Equity securities that are traded on a foreign exchange are generally valued at the closing prices on such markets. In the event that there is no current trading volume on a particular security in such foreign exchange, the bid price from the primary exchange is generally used to value the security. Foreign securities and currencies are converted to U.S. dollars using the current spot USD dollar exchange rate in effect at the close of the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"). The Adviser will determine the market value of individual securities held by it by using prices provided by one or more Adviser-approved professional pricing services or, as needed, by obtaining market quotations from independent broker-dealers. Most debt securities are valued in accordance with the evaluated bid price supplied by the pricing service that is intended to reflect market value. The evaluated bid price supplied by the pricing service is an evaluation that may consider factors such as security prices, yields, maturities and ratings. Certain short-term securities maturing within 60 days or less may be evaluated and valued on an amortized cost basis provided that the amortized cost determined approximates market value. Securities for which market quotations or evaluated prices are not readily available or deemed unreliable are valued at fair value determined in good faith by the Adviser pursuant to the Valuation Procedures. Circumstances in which fair valuation may be utilized include, but are not limited to: (i) a significant event that may affect the securities of a single issuer, such as a merger, bankruptcy, or significant issuer-specific development; (ii) an event that may affect an entire market, such as a natural disaster or significant governmental action; (iii) a nonsignificant event such as a market closing early or not opening, or a security trading halt; and (iv) pricing of a nonvalued security and a restricted or nonpublic security. Special valuation considerations may apply with respect to "odd-lot" fixed-income transactions which, due to their small size, may receive evaluated prices by pricing services which reflect a large block trade and not what actually could be obtained for the odd-lot position. The value of the securities of other mutual funds held by the Portfolio, if any, will be calculated using the NAV of such mutual funds, and the prospectuses for such mutual funds explain the circumstances under which they use fair valuation and the effects of using fair valuation. The value of the securities of any cash management pooled investment vehicles that operate as money market funds held by the Portfolio, if any, will be calculated using the NAV of such funds.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

### Valuation Inputs Summary

FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* (“ASC 820”), defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosure requirements regarding fair value measurements. This standard emphasizes that fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability and establishes a hierarchy that prioritizes inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. These inputs are summarized into three broad levels:

Level 1 – Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets the Portfolio has the ability to access for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 – Observable inputs other than unadjusted quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly. These inputs may include quoted prices for the identical instrument on an inactive market, prices for similar instruments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, yield curves, default rates and similar data.

Assets or liabilities categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy generally include: debt securities fair valued in accordance with the evaluated bid or ask prices supplied by a pricing service; securities traded on OTC markets and listed securities for which no sales are reported that are fair valued at the latest bid price (or yield equivalent thereof) obtained from one or more dealers transacting in a market for such securities or by a pricing service approved by the Portfolio’s Trustees; certain short-term debt securities with maturities of 60 days or less that are fair valued at amortized cost; and equity securities of foreign issuers whose fair value is determined by using systematic fair valuation models provided by independent third parties in order to adjust for stale pricing which may occur between the close of certain foreign exchanges and the close of the NYSE. Other securities that may be categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy include, but are not limited to, preferred stocks, bank loans, swaps, investments in unregistered investment companies, options, and forward contracts.

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability to the extent that relevant observable inputs are not available, representing the Portfolio’s own assumptions about the assumptions that a market participant would use in valuing the asset or liability, and that would be based on the best information available.

There have been no significant changes in valuation techniques used in valuing any such positions held by the Portfolio since the beginning of the fiscal year.

The inputs or methodology used for fair valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. The summary of inputs used as of December 31, 2023 to fair value the Portfolio’s investments in securities and other financial instruments is included in the “Valuation Inputs Summary” in the Notes to Schedule of Investments and Other Information.

### Investment Transactions and Investment Income

Investment transactions are accounted for as of the date purchased or sold (trade date). Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Certain dividends from foreign securities will be recorded as soon as the Portfolio is informed of the dividend, if such information is obtained subsequent to the ex-dividend date. Dividends from foreign securities may be subject to withholding taxes in foreign jurisdictions. Non-cash dividends, if any, are recorded on the ex-dividend date at fair value. Interest income is recorded daily on the accrual basis and includes amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts. The Portfolio classifies gains and losses on prepayments received as an adjustment to interest income. Debt securities may be placed in non-accrual status and related interest income may be reduced by stopping current accruals and writing off interest receivables when collection of all or a portion of interest has become doubtful. Gains and losses are determined on the identified cost basis, which is the same basis used for federal income tax purposes. Income, as well as gains and losses, both realized and unrealized, are allocated daily to each class of shares based upon the ratio of net assets represented by each class as a percentage of total net assets.

### Expenses

The Portfolio bears expenses incurred specifically on its behalf. Each class of shares bears a portion of general expenses, which are allocated daily to each class of shares based upon the ratio of net assets represented by each class as a percentage of total net assets. Expenses directly attributable to a specific class of shares are charged against the operations of such class.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

### Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with US GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### Indemnifications

In the normal course of business, the Portfolio may enter into contracts that contain provisions for indemnification of other parties against certain potential liabilities. The Portfolio's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, and would involve future claims that may be made against the Portfolio that have not yet occurred. Currently, the risk of material loss from such claims is considered remote.

### Foreign Currency Translations

The Portfolio does not isolate that portion of the results of operations resulting from the effect of changes in foreign exchange rates on investments from the fluctuations arising from changes in market prices of securities held at the date of the financial statements. Net unrealized appreciation or depreciation of investments and foreign currency translations arise from changes in the value of assets and liabilities, including investments in securities held at the date of the financial statements, resulting from changes in the exchange rates and changes in market prices of securities held.

Currency gains and losses are also calculated on payables and receivables that are denominated in foreign currencies. The payables and receivables are generally related to foreign security transactions and income translations.

Foreign currency-denominated assets and forward currency contracts may involve more risks than domestic transactions, including currency risk, counterparty risk, political and economic risk, regulatory risk and equity risk. Risks may arise from unanticipated movements in the value of foreign currencies relative to the U.S. dollar.

### Dividends and Distributions

The Portfolio may make semiannual distributions of substantially all of its investment income and an annual distribution of its net realized capital gains (if any).

The Portfolio may make certain investments in real estate investment trusts ("REITs") which pay dividends to their shareholders based upon funds available from operations. It is quite common for these dividends to exceed the REITs' taxable earnings and profits, resulting in the excess portion of such dividends being designated as a return of capital. If the Portfolio distributes such amounts, such distributions could constitute a return of capital to shareholders for federal income tax purposes.

### Federal Income Taxes

The Portfolio intends to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company and distribute all of its taxable income in accordance with the requirements of Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code. Management has analyzed the Portfolio's tax positions taken for all open federal income tax years, generally a three-year period, and has concluded that no provision for federal income tax is required in the Portfolio's financial statements. The Portfolio is not aware of any tax positions for which it is reasonably possible that the total amounts of unrecognized tax benefits will significantly change in the next twelve months.

## 2. Other Investments and Strategies

### Market Risk

The value of the Portfolio's portfolio may decrease if the value of one or more issuers in the Portfolio's portfolio decreases. Further, regardless of how well individual companies or securities perform, the value of the Portfolio's portfolio could also decrease if there are deteriorating economic or market conditions, including, but not limited to, a general decline in prices on the stock markets, a general decline in real estate markets, a decline in commodities prices, or if the market favors different types of securities than the types of securities in which the Portfolio invests. If the value of the Portfolio's portfolio decreases, the Portfolio's NAV will also decrease, which means if you sell your shares in the Portfolio you may lose money. Market risk may affect a single issuer, industry, economic sector, or the market as a whole. The increasing interconnectivity between global economies and financial markets increases the likelihood that events or conditions in one region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. Social, political, economic and other conditions and events, such as natural disasters, health emergencies (e.g., epidemics and pandemics), terrorism, war, conflicts, including related sanctions, social unrest,

## Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

### Notes to Financial Statements

financial institution failures, and economic recessions could reduce consumer demand or economic output, result in market closures, travel restrictions and/or quarantines, and generally have a significant impact on the global economies and financial markets.

- *COVID-19 Pandemic.* The effects of COVID-19 have contributed to increased volatility in global financial markets and have affected and may continue to affect certain countries, regions, issuers, industries and market sectors more dramatically than others. These conditions and events could have a significant impact on the Portfolio and its investments, the Portfolio's ability to meet redemption requests, and the processes and operations of the Portfolio's service providers, including the Adviser.
- *Armed Conflict.* Recent such examples include conflict, loss of life, and disaster connected to ongoing armed conflict between Russia and Ukraine in Europe and Hamas and Israel in the Middle East. The extent and duration of each conflict, resulting sanctions and resulting future market disruptions in each region are impossible to predict, but could be significant and have a severe adverse effect, including significant negative impacts on the U.S. and broader global economic environment and the markets for certain securities and commodities.

#### Counterparties

Portfolio transactions involving a counterparty are subject to the risk that the counterparty or a third party will not fulfill its obligation to the Portfolio ("counterparty risk"). Counterparty risk may arise because of the counterparty's financial condition (i.e., financial difficulties, bankruptcy, or insolvency), market activities and developments, or other reasons, whether foreseen or not. A counterparty's inability to fulfill its obligation may result in significant financial loss to the Portfolio. The Portfolio may be unable to recover its investment from the counterparty or may obtain a limited recovery, and/or recovery may be delayed. The extent of the Portfolio's exposure to counterparty risk with respect to financial assets and liabilities approximates its carrying value. See the "Offsetting Assets and Liabilities" section of this Note for further details.

The Portfolio may be exposed to counterparty risk through participation in various programs, including, but not limited to, lending its securities to third parties, cash sweep arrangements whereby the Portfolio's cash balance is invested in one or more types of cash management vehicles, as well as investments in, but not limited to, repurchase agreements, debt securities, and derivatives, including various types of swaps, futures and options. The Portfolio intends to enter into financial transactions with counterparties that the Adviser believes to be creditworthy at the time of the transaction. There is always the risk that the Adviser's analysis of a counterparty's creditworthiness is incorrect or may change due to market conditions. To the extent that the Portfolio focuses its transactions with a limited number of counterparties, it will have greater exposure to the risks associated with one or more counterparties.

#### Securities Lending

Under procedures adopted by the Trustees, the Portfolio may seek to earn additional income by lending securities to certain qualified broker-dealers and institutions. JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association acts as securities lending agent and a limited purpose custodian or subcustodian to receive and disburse cash balances and cash collateral, hold short-term investments, hold collateral, and perform other custodial functions in accordance with the Non-Custodial Securities Lending Agreement. For financial reporting purposes, the Portfolio does not offset financial instruments' payables and receivables and related collateral on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The Portfolio may lend portfolio securities in an amount equal to up to 1/3 of its total assets as determined at the time of the loan origination. There is the risk of delay in recovering a loaned security or the risk of loss in collateral rights if the borrower fails financially. In addition, the Adviser makes efforts to balance the benefits and risks from granting such loans. All loans will be continuously secured by collateral which may consist of cash, U.S. Government securities, domestic and foreign short-term debt instruments, letters of credit, time deposits, repurchase agreements, money market mutual funds or other money market accounts, or such other collateral as permitted by the SEC. If the Portfolio is unable to recover a security on loan, the Portfolio may use the collateral to purchase replacement securities in the market. There is a risk that the value of the collateral could decrease below the cost of the replacement security by the time the replacement investment is made, resulting in a loss to the Portfolio. In certain circumstances individual loan transactions could yield negative returns.

Upon receipt of cash collateral, the Adviser may invest it in affiliated or non-affiliated cash management vehicles, whether registered or unregistered entities, as permitted by the 1940 Act and rules promulgated thereunder. The Adviser currently intends to primarily invest the cash collateral in a cash management vehicle for which the Adviser serves as investment adviser, Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, or in time deposits. An investment in Janus

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC is generally subject to the same risks that shareholders experience when investing in similarly structured vehicles, such as the potential for significant fluctuations in assets as a result of the purchase and redemption activity of the securities lending program, a decline in the value of the collateral, and possible liquidity issues. Such risks may delay the return of the cash collateral and cause the Portfolio to violate its agreement to return the cash collateral to a borrower in a timely manner. As adviser to the Portfolio and Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, the Adviser has an inherent conflict of interest as a result of its fiduciary duties to both the Portfolio and Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC. Additionally, the Adviser receives an investment advisory fee of 0.05% for managing Janus Henderson Cash Collateral Fund LLC, but it may not receive a fee for managing certain other affiliated cash management vehicles in which the Portfolio may invest, and therefore may have an incentive to allocate preferred investment opportunities to investment vehicles for which it is receiving a fee.

The value of the collateral must be at least 102% of the market value of the loaned securities that are denominated in U.S. dollars and 105% of the market value of the loaned securities that are not denominated in U.S. dollars. Loaned securities and related collateral are marked-to-market each business day based upon the market value of the loaned securities at the close of business, employing the most recent available pricing information. Collateral levels are then adjusted based on this mark-to-market evaluation. Additional required collateral, or excess collateral returned, is delivered on the next business day. Therefore, the value of the collateral held may be temporarily less than 102% or 105% value of the securities on loan. The cash collateral invested by the Adviser is disclosed in the Schedule of Investments (if applicable).

Income earned from the investment of the cash collateral, net of rebates paid to, or fees paid by, borrowers and less the fees paid to the lending agent are included as "Affiliated securities lending income, net" on the Statement of Operations. As of December 31, 2023, securities lending transactions accounted for as secured borrowings with an overnight and continuous contractual maturity are \$606,540. Gross amounts of recognized liabilities for securities lending (collateral received) as of December 31, 2023 is \$619,925, resulting in the net amount due to the counterparty of \$13,385.

### Offsetting Assets and Liabilities

The Portfolio presents gross and net information about transactions that are either offset in the financial statements or subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement or similar agreement with a designated counterparty, regardless of whether the transactions are actually offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The Offsetting Assets and Liabilities table located in the Schedule of Investments presents gross amounts of recognized assets and/or liabilities and the net amounts after deducting collateral that has been pledged by counterparties or has been pledged to counterparties (if applicable). For corresponding information grouped by type of instrument, see the Portfolio's Schedule of Investments.

### 3. Investment Advisory Agreements and Other Transactions with Affiliates

The Portfolio pays the Adviser an investment advisory fee rate that may adjust up or down based on the Portfolio's performance relative to its benchmark index.

The investment advisory fee rate paid to the Adviser by the Portfolio consists of two components: (1) a base fee calculated by applying the contractual fixed rate of the advisory fee to the Portfolio's average daily net assets during the previous month (the "Base Fee Rate"), plus or minus (2) a performance-fee adjustment (the "Performance Adjustment") calculated by applying a variable rate of up to 0.15% (positive or negative) to the Portfolio's average daily net assets based on the Portfolio's relative performance compared to the cumulative investment record of its benchmark index over a 36-month performance measurement period or shorter time period, as applicable. The investment advisory fee rate is calculated daily and paid monthly.

The investment performance of the Portfolio's Service Shares for the performance measurement period is used to calculate the Performance Adjustment. The Portfolio's Base Fee Rate prior to any performance adjustment (expressed as an annual rate) is 0.64%, and the Portfolio's benchmark index used in the calculation is the Russell 1000® Growth Index. Effective May 1, 2020, the Core Growth Index was eliminated from the Performance Adjustment calculation for the Portfolio.

No Performance Adjustment is applied unless the difference between the Portfolio's investment performance and the cumulative investment record of the Portfolio's benchmark index is 0.50% or greater (positive or negative) during the applicable performance measurement period. The Base Fee Rate is subject to an upward or downward Performance Adjustment for every full 0.50% increment by which the Portfolio outperforms or underperforms its benchmark index,

## Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

### Notes to Financial Statements

up to the Portfolio's full performance rate of  $\pm 5.00\%$ . Because the Performance Adjustment is tied to a Portfolio's relative performance compared to its benchmark index (and not its absolute performance), the Performance Adjustment could increase the Adviser's fee even if the Portfolio's Shares lose value during the performance measurement period and could decrease the Adviser's fee even if the Portfolio's Shares increase in value during the performance measurement period. For purposes of computing the Base Fee Rate and the Performance Adjustment, net assets are averaged over different periods (average daily net assets during the previous month for the Base Fee Rate, versus average daily net assets during the performance measurement period for the Performance Adjustment). Performance of the Portfolio is calculated net of expenses whereas the Portfolio's benchmark index does not have any fees or expenses. Reinvestment of dividends and distributions is included in calculating both the performance of a Portfolio and the Portfolio's benchmark index.

The Portfolio's prospectuses and statement(s) of additional information contain additional information about performance-based fees. The amount shown as advisory fees on the Statement of Operations reflects the Base Fee Rate plus/minus any Performance Adjustment. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the performance adjusted investment advisory fee rate before any waivers and/or reimbursements of expenses is 0.47%.

The Adviser serves as administrator to the Portfolio pursuant to an administration agreement between the Adviser and the Trust. Under the administration agreement, the Adviser is authorized to perform, or cause others to perform certain administration, compliance, and accounting services to the Portfolio, including providing office space for the Portfolio, and is reimbursed by the Portfolio for certain of its costs in providing these services (to the extent the Adviser seeks reimbursement and such costs are not otherwise waived). In addition, employees of the Adviser and/or its affiliates may serve as officers of the Trust. The Portfolio pays for some or all of the salaries, fees, and expenses of the Adviser employees and Portfolio officers, with respect to certain specified administration functions they perform on behalf of the Portfolio. The Portfolio pays these costs based on out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Adviser, and these costs are separate and apart from advisory fees and other expenses paid in connection with the investment advisory services the Adviser (or any subadvisor, as applicable) provides to the Portfolio. These amounts are disclosed as "Affiliated portfolio administration fees" on the Statement of Operations. In addition, some expenses related to compensation payable to the Portfolio's Chief Compliance Officer and certain compliance staff, all of whom are employees of the Adviser and/or its affiliates, are shared with the Portfolio. Total compensation of \$31,482 was paid to the Chief Compliance Officer and certain compliance staff by the Trust during the year ended December 31, 2023. The Portfolio's portion is reported as part of "Other expenses" on the Statement of Operations.

Janus Henderson Services US LLC (the "Transfer Agent"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser, is the Portfolio's transfer agent. The Transfer Agent receives an administrative services fee at an annual rate of 0.05% of the average daily net assets of the Portfolio for arranging for the provision by participating insurance companies and qualified plan service providers of administrative services, including, but not limited to, recordkeeping, subaccounting, answering inquiries regarding accounts, order processing, transaction confirmations, the mailing of prospectuses and shareholder reports, and other shareholder services provided on behalf of contract holders or plan participants investing in the Portfolio. The Transfer Agent expects to use this entire fee to compensate insurance companies and qualified plan service providers for providing these services to their customers who invest in the Portfolio.

The Transfer Agent is not compensated for internal services related to the shares, except for out-of-pocket costs. These amounts are disclosed as "Other transfer agent fees and expenses" on the Statement of Operations.

Under a distribution and shareholder servicing plan (the "Plan") adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, the Service Shares may pay the Trust's distributor, Janus Henderson Distributors US LLC (the "Distributor"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser, a fee for the sale and distribution and/or shareholder servicing of the Service Shares at an annual rate of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Service Shares. Under the terms of the Plan, the Trust is authorized to make payments to the Distributor for remittance to insurance companies and qualified plan service providers as compensation for distribution and/or shareholder services performed by such entities. These amounts are disclosed as "12b-1 Distribution and shareholder servicing fees" on the Statement of Operations.

The Board of Trustees has adopted a deferred compensation plan (the "Deferred Plan") for independent Trustees to elect to defer receipt of all or a portion of the annual compensation they are entitled to receive from the Portfolio. All deferred fees are credited to an account established in the name of the Trustees. The amounts credited to the account then increase or decrease, as the case may be, in accordance with the performance of one or more of the Janus Henderson funds that are selected by the Trustees. The account balance continues to fluctuate in accordance with the

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

performance of the selected fund or funds until final payment of all amounts are credited to the account. The fluctuation of the account balance is recorded by the Portfolio as unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) and is included as of December 31, 2023 on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities in the asset, "Trustees' deferred compensation," and liability, "Trustees' deferred compensation fees." Additionally, the recorded unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) is included in "Total distributable earnings (loss)" on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Deferred compensation expenses for the year ended December 31, 2023 are included in "Trustees' fees and expenses" on the Statement of Operations. Trustees are allowed to change their designation of mutual funds from time to time. Amounts will be deferred until distributed in accordance with the Deferred Plan. Deferred fees of \$416,000 were paid by the Trust to the Trustees under the Deferred Plan during the year ended December 31, 2023.

Pursuant to the provisions of the 1940 Act and related rules, the Portfolio may participate in an affiliated or non-affiliated cash sweep program. In the cash sweep program, uninvested cash balances of the Portfolio may be used to purchase shares of affiliated or non-affiliated money market funds or cash management pooled investment vehicles that operate as money market funds. The Portfolio is eligible to participate in the cash sweep program (the "Investing Funds"). The Adviser has an inherent conflict of interest because of its fiduciary duties to the affiliated money market funds or cash management pooled investment vehicles and the Investing Funds. Janus Henderson Cash Liquidity Fund LLC (the "Sweep Vehicle") is an affiliated unregistered cash management pooled investment vehicle that invests primarily in highly-rated short-term fixed-income securities. The Sweep Vehicle operates pursuant to the provisions of the 1940 Act that govern the operation of money market funds and prices its shares at NAV reflecting market-based values of its portfolio securities (i.e., a "floating" NAV) rounded to the fourth decimal place (e.g., \$1.0000). The Sweep Vehicle is permitted to impose a liquidity fee (of up to 2%) on redemptions from the Sweep Vehicle or a redemption gate that temporarily suspends redemptions from the Sweep Vehicle for up to 10 business days during a 90 day period. There are no restrictions on the Portfolio's ability to withdraw investments from the Sweep Vehicle at will, and there are no unfunded capital commitments due from the Portfolio to the Sweep Vehicle. The Sweep Vehicle does not charge any management fee, sales charge or service fee.

Any purchases and sales, realized gains/losses and recorded dividends from affiliated investments during the year ended December 31, 2023 can be found in the "Schedules of Affiliated Investments" located in the Schedule of Investments.

#### 4. Federal Income Tax

The tax components of capital shown in the table below represent: (1) distribution requirements the Portfolio must satisfy under the income tax regulations; (2) losses or deductions the Portfolio may be able to offset against income and gains realized in future years; and (3) unrealized appreciation or depreciation of investments for federal income tax purposes.

Other book to tax differences primarily consist of deferred compensation. The Portfolio has elected to treat gains and losses on forward foreign currency contracts as capital gains and losses, if applicable. Other foreign currency gains and losses on debt instruments are treated as ordinary income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 988 of the Internal Revenue Code.

<i>Undistributed Ordinary Income</i>	<i>Undistributed Long-Term Gains</i>	<i>Accumulated Capital Losses</i>	<i>Loss Deferrals</i>	<i>Other Book to Tax Differences</i>	<i>Net Tax Appreciation/ (Depreciation)</i>
\$ 149,856	\$ 19,672,136	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (14,406)	\$297,511,015

During the year ended December 31, 2023, capital loss carryovers of \$7,617,272 were utilized by the Portfolio.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

The aggregate cost of investments and the composition of unrealized appreciation and depreciation of investment securities for federal income tax purposes as of December 31, 2023 are noted below. The primary differences between book and tax appreciation or depreciation of investments are wash sale loss deferrals, investments in partnerships, and straddle loss deferrals.

<i>Federal Tax Cost</i>	<i>Unrealized Appreciation</i>	<i>Unrealized (Depreciation)</i>	<i>Net Tax Appreciation/ (Depreciation)</i>
\$ 295,975,703	\$300,072,252	\$ (2,561,237)	\$ 297,511,015

Income and capital gains distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations that may differ from US GAAP. These differences are due to differing treatments for items such as net short-term gains, deferral of wash sale losses, foreign currency transactions, and capital loss carryovers. Certain permanent differences such as tax returns of capital and net investment losses noted below have been reclassified to capital.

*For the year ended December 31, 2023*

<i>Distributions</i>			
<i>From Ordinary Income</i>	<i>From Long-Term Capital Gains</i>	<i>Tax Return of Capital</i>	<i>Net Investment Loss</i>
\$ 645,997	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

*For the year ended December 31, 2022*

<i>Distributions</i>			
<i>From Ordinary Income</i>	<i>From Long-Term Capital Gains</i>	<i>Tax Return of Capital</i>	<i>Net Investment Loss</i>
\$ 3,510,683	\$ 91,934,988	\$ -	\$ -

Permanent book to tax basis differences may result in reclassifications between the components of net assets. These differences have no impact on the results of operations or net assets.

### 5. Capital Share Transactions

	<i>Year ended December 31, 2023</i>		<i>Year ended December 31, 2022</i>	
	<i>Shares</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Shares</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>Institutional Shares:</b>				
Shares sold	256,818	\$ 9,980,899	144,237	\$ 5,476,747
Reinvested dividends and distributions	14,132	561,306	2,228,505	70,400,164
Shares repurchased	(1,209,129)	(46,578,095)	(999,614)	(38,467,132)
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>(938,179)</b>	<b>\$(36,035,890)</b>	<b>1,373,128</b>	<b>\$37,409,779</b>
<b>Service Shares:</b>				
Shares sold	313,786	\$ 12,051,380	225,334	\$ 7,953,370
Reinvested dividends and distributions	2,233	84,691	830,421	25,045,507
Shares repurchased	(582,696)	(21,777,023)	(561,806)	(21,096,483)
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>(266,677)</b>	<b>\$ (9,640,952)</b>	<b>493,949</b>	<b>\$11,902,394</b>

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Notes to Financial Statements

### 6. Purchases and Sales of Investment Securities

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the aggregate cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of investment securities (excluding any short-term securities, short-term options contracts, TBAs, and in-kind transactions, as applicable) was as follows:

<i>Purchases of Securities</i>	<i>Proceeds from Sales of Securities</i>	<i>Purchases of Long-Term U.S. Government Obligations</i>	<i>Proceeds from Sales of Long-Term U.S. Government Obligations</i>
\$142,231,602	\$ 187,435,170	\$ -	\$ -

### 7. Subsequent Event

Management has evaluated whether any events or transactions occurred subsequent to December 31, 2023 and through the date of issuance of the Portfolio's financial statements and determined that there were no material events or transactions that would require recognition or disclosure in the Portfolio's financial statements.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Trustees of Janus Aspen Series and Shareholders of Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

### Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the schedule of investments, of Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio (one of the portfolios constituting Janus Aspen Series, referred to hereafter as the "Portfolio") as of December 31, 2023, the related statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2023, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2023, including the related notes, and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2023 (collectively referred to as the "financial statements"). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Portfolio as of December 31, 2023, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2023 and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2023 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Portfolio's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Portfolio's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Portfolio in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits of these financial statements in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2023 by correspondence with the custodian and transfer agent. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

*PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP*

Denver, Colorado  
February 15, 2024

We have served as the auditor of one or more investment companies in Janus Henderson Funds since 1990.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Additional Information (unaudited)

### Proxy Voting Policies and Voting Record

A description of the policies and procedures that the Portfolio uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to its portfolio securities is available without charge: (i) upon request, by calling 1-800-525-1093; (ii) on the Portfolio's website at [janushenderson.com/proxyvoting](http://janushenderson.com/proxyvoting); and (iii) on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Additionally, information regarding the Portfolio's proxy voting record for the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30 is also available, free of charge, through [janushenderson.com/proxyvoting](http://janushenderson.com/proxyvoting) and from the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

### Full Holdings

The Portfolio files its complete portfolio holdings (schedule of investments) with the SEC as an exhibit to Form N-PORT within 60 days of the end of the first and third fiscal quarters, and in the annual report and semiannual report to shareholders. The Portfolio's Form N-PORT filings and annual and semiannual reports: (i) are available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>; and (ii) are available without charge, upon request, by calling a Janus Henderson representative at 1-877-335-2687 (toll free). Portfolio holdings consisting of at least the names of the holdings are generally available on a monthly basis with a 30-day lag under Full Holdings for the Portfolio at [janushenderson.com/vit](http://janushenderson.com/vit).

### APPROVAL OF ADVISORY AGREEMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

The Trustees of Janus Aspen Series and Janus Investment Fund, each of whom serves as an "independent" Trustee (collectively, the "Trustees"), oversee the management of each portfolio of Janus Aspen Series (each, a "VIT Portfolio," and collectively, the "VIT Portfolios"), as well as each fund of Janus Investment Fund (each, a "Fund," and collectively, the "Funds" and together with the VIT Portfolios, the "Janus Henderson Funds," and each, a "Janus Henderson Fund"). As required by law, the Trustees determine annually whether to continue the investment advisory agreement for each Janus Henderson Fund.

In connection with their most recent consideration of those agreements for each Janus Henderson Fund, the Trustees received and reviewed information provided by Janus Henderson Investors US LLC (the "Adviser") in response to requests of the Trustees and their independent legal counsel. They also received and reviewed information and analysis provided by, and in response to requests of, their independent fee consultant. Throughout their consideration of the agreements, the Trustees were advised by their independent legal counsel. The Trustees met with management to consider the agreements, and also met separately in executive session with their independent legal counsel and their independent fee consultant.

At meetings held on November 3, 2023 and December 14-15, 2023, the Trustees evaluated the information provided by the Adviser and the independent fee consultant, as well as other information provided by the Adviser and the independent fee consultant during the year. Following such evaluation, the Trustees determined that the overall arrangements between each Janus Henderson Fund and the Adviser were fair and reasonable in light of the nature, extent, and quality of the services provided by the Adviser and its affiliates, the fees charged for those services, and other matters that the Trustees considered relevant in the exercise of their business judgment, and unanimously approved the continuation of the investment advisory agreement for each Janus Henderson Fund for the period from February 1, 2024 through February 1, 2025, subject to earlier termination as provided for in each agreement.

In considering the continuation of those agreements, the Trustees reviewed and analyzed various factors that they determined were relevant, including the factors described below, none of which by itself was considered dispositive. However, the material factors and conclusions that formed the basis for the Trustees' determination to approve the continuation of the agreements are discussed separately below. Also included is a summary of the independent fee consultant's conclusions and opinions that arose during, and were included as part of, the Trustees' consideration of the agreements. "Management fees," as used herein, reflect actual annual advisory fees and, for the purpose of peer comparisons any administration fees (excluding out of pocket costs), net of any waivers, paid by a fund as a percentage of average net assets.

### *Nature, Extent and Quality of Services*

The Trustees reviewed the nature, extent, and quality of the services provided by the Adviser to the Janus Henderson Funds, taking into account the investment objective, strategies, and policies of each Janus Henderson Fund, and the knowledge the Trustees gained from their regular meetings with management on at least a quarterly basis and their ongoing review of information related to the Janus Henderson Funds. In addition, the Trustees reviewed the resources and key personnel of the Adviser, particularly noting those employees who provide investment and risk management services to the Janus Henderson Funds. The Trustees also considered other services provided to the Janus Henderson

## **Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio**

### **Additional Information (unaudited)**

Funds by the Adviser, such as managing the execution of portfolio transactions and the selection of broker-dealers for those transactions. The Trustees considered the Adviser's role as administrator to the Janus Henderson Funds, noting that the Adviser generally does not receive a fee for its services as administrator, but is reimbursed for its out-of-pocket costs. The Trustees considered the role of the Adviser in monitoring adherence to the Janus Henderson Funds' investment restrictions, providing support services for the Trustees and Trustee committees, and overseeing communications with Janus Henderson Fund shareholders and the activities of other service providers, including monitoring compliance with various policies and procedures of the Janus Henderson Funds and with applicable securities laws and regulations.

In this regard, the independent fee consultant noted that the Adviser provides a number of different services for the Janus Henderson Funds and their shareholders, ranging from investment management services to various other servicing functions, and that, in its view, the Adviser is a capable provider of those services. The independent fee consultant also provided its belief that the Adviser has developed a number of institutional competitive advantages that should enable it to provide superior investment and service performance over the long term.

The Trustees concluded that the nature, extent, and quality of the services provided by the Adviser to each Janus Henderson Fund were appropriate and consistent with the terms of the respective advisory agreements, and that, taking into account steps taken to address those Janus Henderson Funds whose performance lagged that of their peers for certain periods, the Janus Henderson Funds were likely to benefit from the continued provision of those services. They also concluded that the Adviser had sufficient personnel, with the appropriate education and experience, to serve the Janus Henderson Funds effectively and had demonstrated its ability to attract well-qualified personnel.

#### ***Performance of the Funds***

The Trustees considered the performance results of each Janus Henderson Fund over various time periods. They noted that they considered Janus Henderson Fund performance data throughout the year, including periodic meetings with each Janus Henderson Fund's portfolio manager(s), and also reviewed information comparing each Janus Henderson Fund's performance with the performance of comparable fund peer groups identified by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge"), an independent data provider, and with the Janus Henderson Fund's benchmark index.

In this regard, as reported by Broadridge: (i) for the 12 months ended June 30, 2023, approximately 44% of the Janus Henderson Funds were in the top two quartiles of their Broadridge peer groups; and (ii) for the 36 months ended June 30, 2023, approximately 50% of the Janus Henderson Funds were in the top two quartiles of their Broadridge peer groups. In addition, the independent fee consultant found that the Janus Henderson Funds' average 2023 performance has been reasonable, noting that: (i) for the 12 months ended September 30, 2023, approximately 43% of the Janus Henderson Funds were in the top two quartiles of performance as reported by Morningstar; (ii) for the 36 months ended September 30, 2023, approximately 45% of the Janus Henderson Funds were in the top two quartiles of performance as reported by Morningstar; and (iii) for the 5- and 10-year periods ended September 30, 2023, approximately 63% and 66% of the Janus Henderson Funds were in the top two quartiles of performance, respectively, as reported by Morningstar.

The Trustees considered the performance of each Janus Henderson Fund, noting that performance may vary by share class, and noted the following with respect to the VIT Portfolios:

- For Janus Henderson Balanced Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's performance was in the first Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended June 30, 2023 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended June 30, 2023.
- For Janus Henderson Enterprise Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's performance was in the first Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended June 30, 2023 and the third Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended June 30, 2023.
- For Janus Henderson Flexible Bond Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's performance was in the second Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended June 30, 2023 and the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended June 30, 2023.
- For Janus Henderson Forty Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's performance was in the third Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended June 30, 2023 and the second Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended June 30, 2023. The Trustees noted the reasons for the VIT Portfolio's underperformance, while also noting

## Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

### Additional Information (unaudited)

that the VIT Portfolio has a performance fee structure that results in lower management fees during periods of underperformance, the steps the Adviser had taken or was taking to improve performance, and that the performance trend was improving.

- For Janus Henderson Global Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's performance was in the first Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended June 30, 2023 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended June 30, 2023.
- For Janus Henderson Global Sustainable Equity Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's performance was in the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended June 30, 2023. The Trustees noted that 36 month-end performance was not yet available.
- For Janus Henderson Global Technology and Innovation Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's performance was in the second Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended June 30, 2023 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended June 30, 2023.
- For Janus Henderson Mid Cap Value Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's performance was in the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended June 30, 2023 and the third Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended June 30, 2023. The Trustees noted the reasons for the VIT Portfolio's underperformance, while also noting that the VIT Portfolio has a performance fee structure that results in lower management fees during periods of underperformance, the steps the Adviser had taken or was taking to improve performance.
- For Janus Henderson Overseas Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's performance was in the first Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended June 30, 2023 and the bottom Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended June 30, 2023.
- For Janus Henderson Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's performance was in the second Broadridge quartile for the 36 months ended June 30, 2023 and the first Broadridge quartile for the 12 months ended June 30, 2023.

In consideration of each Janus Henderson Fund's performance, the Trustees concluded that, taking into account the factors relevant to performance, as well as other considerations, including steps taken to improve performance, as applicable, the Janus Henderson Fund's performance warranted continuation of such Janus Henderson Fund's investment advisory agreement.

### **Costs of Services Provided**

The Trustees examined information regarding the fees and expenses of each Janus Henderson Fund in comparison to similar information for other comparable funds as provided by Broadridge, an independent data provider. They also reviewed an analysis of that information provided by their independent fee consultant. The independent fee consultant provided its belief that the management fees charged by the Adviser to each of the Janus Henderson Funds under the current investment advisory and administration agreements are reasonable in relation to the services provided by the Adviser. The independent fee consultant found: (1) the total expenses and management fees of the Janus Henderson Funds to be reasonable relative to other comparable mutual funds; (2) the total expenses, on average, were 8% under the average total expenses of the respective Broadridge peer group; and (3) the management fees for the Janus Henderson Funds, on average, were 6% under the average management fees for the respective Broadridge peer group. The Trustees also considered the total expenses for each share class of each Janus Henderson Fund compared to the average total expenses for its Broadridge Expense Group and to average total expenses for its Broadridge Expense Universe.

For Janus Henderson Funds with three or more years of performance history, the independent fee consultant also performed a systematic "focus list" analysis of expenses which assessed fund fees in the context of fund performance being delivered. Based on this analysis, the independent fee consultant found that the combination of service quality/performance and expenses on these individual Janus Henderson Funds was reasonable considering performance trends, performance histories, changes in portfolio management, relative average net asset levels, and the existence of performance fees, breakpoints, and/or expense waivers on such Janus Henderson Funds.

The Trustees considered the methodology used by the Adviser in determining compensation payable to portfolio managers, the competitive environment for investment management talent, and the competitive market for mutual funds in different distribution channels.

## Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

### Additional Information (unaudited)

The Trustees also reviewed management fees charged by the Adviser to comparable institutional/separate account clients and to comparable non-affiliated funds subadvised by the Adviser (for which the Adviser provides only or primarily portfolio management services). Although in most instances subadvisory and institutional/separate account fee rates for various investment strategies were lower than management fee rates for Janus Henderson Funds having a similar strategy, the Trustees considered that the Adviser noted that, under the terms of the management agreements with the Janus Henderson Funds, the Adviser performs significant additional services for the Janus Henderson Funds that it does not provide to those other clients, including administration services, oversight of the Janus Henderson Funds' other service providers, Trustee support, regulatory compliance, and numerous other services, and that, in serving the Janus Henderson Funds, the Adviser assumes many legal risks and other costs that it does not assume in servicing its other clients. Moreover, the Trustees noted that the independent fee consultant referenced its past analyses from 2022, which found that: (1) the management fees the Adviser charges to the Janus Henderson Funds are reasonable in relation to the management fees the Adviser charges to funds subadvised by the Adviser and to the fees the Adviser charges to its institutional separate account clients; (2) these subadvised and institutional separate accounts have different service and infrastructure needs and operate in markets very different from the retail fund market; (3) Janus Henderson mutual fund investors enjoy reasonable fees relative to the fees charged in these other markets; and (4) 9 of 11 Janus Henderson Funds had lower management fees than similar funds subadvised by the Adviser. As part of their review of the 2022 independent consultant findings, the Trustees noted that for the two Janus Henderson Funds that did not have lower management fees than similar funds subadvised by the Adviser, management fees for each were under the average of its 15(c) peer group.

The Trustees considered the fees for each Janus Henderson Fund for its fiscal year ended in 2022 and noted the following with regard to each VIT Portfolio's total expenses, net of applicable fee waivers (the VIT Portfolio's "total expenses") as reflected in the comparative information provided by Broadridge:

- For Janus Henderson Balanced Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the VIT Portfolio's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the VIT Portfolio's total expenses were reasonable.
- For Janus Henderson Enterprise Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.
- For Janus Henderson Flexible Bond Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the VIT Portfolio's total expenses exceeded the peer group for one share class, overall the VIT Portfolio's total expenses were reasonable. The Trustees also noted that the Adviser has contractually agreed to limit the VIT Portfolio's expenses, although this limit did not apply because the Fund's total expenses as shown were below the applicable fee limit.
- For Janus Henderson Forty Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.
- For Janus Henderson Global Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.
- For Janus Henderson Global Sustainable Equity Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.
- For Janus Henderson Global Technology and Innovation Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.
- For Janus Henderson Mid Cap Value Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.
- For Janus Henderson Overseas Portfolio, the Trustees noted that, although the VIT Portfolio's total expenses exceeded the peer group average for one share class, overall the VIT Portfolio's total expenses were reasonable.
- For Janus Henderson Research Portfolio, the Trustees noted that the VIT Portfolio's total expenses were below the peer group average for both share classes.

The Trustees reviewed information on the overall profitability to the Adviser and its affiliates from their relationships with the Janus Henderson Funds, and considered profitability data of other publicly traded mutual fund advisers. The Trustees recognized that profitability comparisons among fund managers are difficult because of the variation in the type of comparative information that is publicly available, and the profitability of any fund manager is affected by

## **Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio**

### **Additional Information (unaudited)**

numerous factors, including the organizational structure of the particular fund manager, differences in complex size, difference in product mix, difference in types of business (mutual fund, institutional and other), differences in the types of funds and other accounts it manages, possible other lines of business, the methodology for allocating expenses and the fund manager's capital structure and cost of capital.

Additionally, the Trustees considered the estimated profitability to the Adviser from the investment management services it provided to each Janus Henderson Fund. In their review, the Trustees considered whether the Adviser receives adequate incentives and resources to manage the Janus Henderson Funds effectively. In reviewing profitability, the Trustees noted that the estimated profitability for an individual Janus Henderson Fund is necessarily a product of the allocation methodology utilized by the Adviser to allocate its expenses as part of the estimated profitability calculation. In this regard, the Trustees noted that the independent fee consultant found as part of its 2022 review, which assessed 2021 fund-level profitability, that (1) the expense allocation methodology and rationales utilized by the Adviser were reasonable and (2) no clear correlation exists between expense allocations and operating margins. The Trustees noted that the Adviser reported no changes to its allocation methodology for the 2023 15(c) process; however, at the Trustees' request, the independent fee consultant reviewed changes to the allocation methodology that were reflected in the 2021 data for the 2022 15(c) process, but were not separately analyzed by the independent fee consultant as part of its 2022 review. The independent fee consultant found the new allocation methodology and the rationale for the changes to be reasonable. Further, the independent fee consultant's analysis of fund operating margins showed de minimis impact on operating margins as a result of the changes to the allocation methodology. As part of their overall review of fund profitability, the Trustees also considered that the estimated profitability for an individual Janus Henderson Fund was influenced by a number of factors, including not only the allocation methodology selected, but also the presence of fee waivers and expense caps, and whether the Janus Henderson Fund's investment management agreement contained breakpoints or a performance fee component. The Trustees determined, after taking into account these factors, among others, that the Adviser's estimated profitability with respect to each Janus Henderson Fund was not unreasonable in relation to the services provided, and that the variation in the range of such estimated profitability among the Janus Henderson Funds was not a material factor in the Board's approval of the reasonableness of any Janus Henderson Fund's investment management fees.

The Trustees concluded that the management fees payable by each Janus Henderson Fund to the Adviser were reasonable in relation to the nature, extent, and quality of the services provided, taking into account the fees charged by other advisers for managing comparable mutual funds with similar strategies, the fees the Adviser charges to other clients, and, as applicable, the impact of fund performance on management fees payable by the Janus Henderson Funds. The Trustees also concluded that each Janus Henderson Fund's total expenses were reasonable, taking into account the size of the Janus Henderson Fund, the quality of services provided by the Adviser, the investment performance of the Janus Henderson Fund, and any expense limitations agreed to or provided by the Adviser.

#### ***Economies of Scale***

The Trustees considered information about the potential for the Adviser to realize economies of scale as the assets of the Janus Henderson Funds increase. They noted that their independent fee consultant published a report to the Trustees in 2022, which provided its research and analysis into economies of scale. The Trustees also considered the following from the independent fee consultant's 2023 report: (1) past analyses completed by it cannot confirm or deny the existence of economies of scale in the Janus Henderson complex, but the independent fee consultant provided its belief that Janus Henderson Fund investors are well-served by the fee levels, management fee breakpoints, and performance fee structures in place on the Janus Henderson Funds in light of any economies of scale that may be present at the Adviser; (2) that 28% of Janus Henderson Funds had management fee breakpoints in place whereby investors pay lower management fees as fund AUM increases; (3) that 31% of Janus Henderson Funds have low flat-rate fees and performance fees where the Adviser is incentivized to invest in resources which drive Janus Henderson Fund performance; and (4) that 41% of Janus Henderson Funds have low flat-rate fees (the "Low Flat-Rate Fee Funds") versus peers where investors pay low fixed fees when the Janus Henderson Fund is small/midsized and higher fees when the Janus Henderson Fund grows in assets.

With respect to the Low Flat-Rate Fee Funds, the independent fee consultant concluded in its 2023 report that (1) 70% of such funds have contractual management fees (gross of waivers) below their respective Broadridge peer group averages; (2) to the extent there were economies of scale at the Adviser, the Adviser's general strategy of setting fixed management fees below peers appeared to share any such economies with investors even on smaller Janus Henderson Funds, which have not yet achieved those economies; and (3) by setting lower fixed fees from the start on

## **Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio**

### **Additional Information (unaudited)**

the Low Flat-Rate Fee Funds, the Adviser appeared to be investing to increase the likelihood that these Janus Henderson Funds will grow to a level to achieve any economies of scale that may exist.

The Trustees also noted that the Janus Henderson Funds share directly in economies of scale through the significant investments made by the Adviser and its affiliates related to services provided to the Funds and the lower charges of third-party service providers that are based in part on the combined scale of all of the Janus Henderson Funds.

Based on all of the information reviewed, including the recent and past research and analysis conducted by the Trustees' independent fee consultant, the Trustees concluded that the current fee structure of each Janus Henderson Fund was reasonable and that the current rates of fees do reflect a sharing between the Adviser and the Janus Henderson Fund of any economies of scale that may be present at the current asset level of the Janus Henderson Fund.

#### ***Other Benefits to the Adviser***

The Trustees also considered other benefits that accrue to the Adviser and its affiliates from their relationships with the Janus Henderson Funds. They recognized that two affiliates of the Adviser separately serve the Janus Henderson Funds as transfer agent and distributor, respectively, and the transfer agent receives compensation directly from the non-money market Janus Henderson Funds for services provided, and that such compensation contributes to the overall profitability of the Adviser and its affiliates that results from their relationship with the Janus Henderson Funds. The Trustees also considered the Adviser's past and proposed use of commissions paid by Janus Henderson Funds on portfolio brokerage transactions to obtain proprietary and third-party research products and services benefiting the Janus Henderson Fund and/or other clients of the Adviser and/or the Adviser. The Trustees concluded that the Adviser's use of these types of client commission arrangements to obtain proprietary and third-party research products and services was consistent with regulatory requirements and guidelines and was likely to benefit such Janus Henderson Funds. The Trustees also concluded that, other than the services provided by the Adviser and its affiliates pursuant to the agreements and the fees to be paid by each Janus Henderson Fund therefor, the Janus Henderson Funds and the Adviser may potentially benefit from their relationship with each other in other ways. They concluded that the Adviser and its affiliates share directly in economies of scale through the lower charges of third-party service providers that are based in part on the combined scale of the Janus Henderson Funds and other clients serviced by the Adviser and its affiliates. They also concluded that the Adviser benefits from the receipt of research products and services acquired through commissions paid on portfolio transactions of the Janus Henderson Funds and that the Janus Henderson Funds benefit from the Adviser's receipt of those products and services as well as research products and services acquired through commissions paid by other clients of the Adviser. They further concluded that the success of any Janus Henderson Fund could attract other business to the Adviser or other Janus Henderson Funds, and that the success of the Adviser could enhance the Adviser's ability to serve the Janus Henderson Funds.

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)

### Management Commentary

The Management Commentary in this report includes valuable insight as well as statistical information to help you understand how your Portfolio's performance and characteristics stack up against those of comparable indices.

If the Portfolio invests in foreign securities, this report may include information about country exposure. Country exposure is based primarily on the country of risk. A company may be allocated to a country based on other factors such as location of the company's principal office, the location of the principal trading market for the company's securities, or the country where a majority of the company's revenues are derived.

Please keep in mind that the opinions expressed in the Management Commentary are just that: opinions. They are a reflection based on best judgment at the time this report was compiled, which was December 31, 2023. As the investing environment changes, so could opinions. These views are unique and are not necessarily shared by fellow employees or by Janus Henderson in general.

### Performance Overviews

Performance overview graphs compare the performance of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment in the Portfolio with one or more widely used market indices. When comparing the performance of the Portfolio with an index, keep in mind that market indices are not available for investment and do not reflect deduction of expenses.

Average annual total returns are quoted for a Portfolio with more than one year of performance history. Average annual total return is calculated by taking the growth or decline in value of an investment over a period of time, including reinvestment of dividends and distributions, then calculating the annual compounded percentage rate that would have produced the same result had the rate of growth been constant throughout the period. Average annual total return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Portfolio distributions or redemptions of Portfolio shares.

Cumulative total returns are quoted for a Portfolio with less than one year of performance history. Cumulative total return is the growth or decline in value of an investment over time, independent of the period of time involved.

Cumulative total return does not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Portfolio distributions or redemptions of Portfolio shares.

Pursuant to federal securities rules, expense ratios shown in the performance chart reflect subsidized (if applicable) and unsubsidized ratios. The total annual fund operating expenses ratio is gross of any fee waivers, reflecting the Portfolio's unsubsidized expense ratio. The net annual fund operating expenses ratio (if applicable) includes contractual waivers of the Adviser and reflects the Portfolio's subsidized expense ratio. Ratios may be higher or lower than those shown in the "Financial Highlights" in this report.

### Schedule of Investments

Following the performance overview section is the Portfolio's Schedule of Investments. This schedule reports the types of securities held in the Portfolio on the last day of the reporting period. Securities are usually listed by type (common stock, corporate bonds, U.S. Government obligations, etc.) and by industry classification (banking, communications, insurance, etc.). Holdings are subject to change without notice.

The value of each security is quoted as of the last day of the reporting period. The value of securities denominated in foreign currencies is converted into U.S. dollars.

If the Portfolio invests in foreign securities, it will also provide a summary of investments by country. This summary reports the Portfolio exposure to different countries by providing the percentage of securities invested in each country. The country of each security represents the country of risk. The Portfolio's Schedule of Investments relies upon the industry group and country classifications published by Bloomberg and/or MSCI Inc.

Tables listing details of individual forward currency contracts, futures, written options, swaptions, and swaps follow the Portfolio's Schedule of Investments (if applicable).

### Statement of Assets and Liabilities

This statement is often referred to as the "balance sheet." It lists the assets and liabilities of the Portfolio on the last day of the reporting period.

## **Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio**

### **Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)**

The Portfolio's assets are calculated by adding the value of the securities owned, the receivable for securities sold but not yet settled, the receivable for dividends declared but not yet received on securities owned, and the receivable for Portfolio shares sold to investors but not yet settled. The Portfolio's liabilities include payables for securities purchased but not yet settled, Portfolio shares redeemed but not yet paid, and expenses owed but not yet paid. Additionally, there may be other assets and liabilities such as unrealized gain or loss on forward currency contracts.

The section entitled "Net Assets Consist of" breaks down the components of the Portfolio's net assets. Because the Portfolio must distribute substantially all earnings, you will notice that a significant portion of net assets is shareholder capital.

The last section of this statement reports the net asset value ("NAV") per share on the last day of the reporting period. The NAV is calculated by dividing the Portfolio's net assets for each share class (assets minus liabilities) by the number of shares outstanding.

#### **Statement of Operations**

This statement details the Portfolio's income, expenses, realized gains and losses on securities and currency transactions, and changes in unrealized appreciation or depreciation of Portfolio holdings.

The first section in this statement, entitled "Investment Income," reports the dividends earned from securities and interest earned from interest-bearing securities in the Portfolio.

The next section reports the expenses incurred by the Portfolio, including the advisory fee paid to the investment adviser, transfer agent fees and expenses, and printing and postage for mailing statements, financial reports and prospectuses. Expense offsets and expense reimbursements, if any, are also shown.

The last section lists the amounts of realized gains or losses from investment and foreign currency transactions, and changes in unrealized appreciation or depreciation of investments and foreign currency-denominated assets and liabilities. The Portfolio will realize a gain (or loss) when it sells its position in a particular security. A change in unrealized gain (or loss) refers to the change in net appreciation or depreciation of the Portfolio during the reporting period. "Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments" is affected both by changes in the market value of Portfolio holdings and by gains (or losses) realized during the reporting period.

#### **Statements of Changes in Net Assets**

These statements report the increase or decrease in the Portfolio's net assets during the reporting period. Changes in the Portfolio's net assets are attributable to investment operations, dividends and distributions to investors, and capital share transactions. This is important to investors because it shows exactly what caused the Portfolio's net asset size to change during the period.

The first section summarizes the information from the Statement of Operations regarding changes in net assets due to the Portfolio's investment operations. The Portfolio's net assets may also change as a result of dividend and capital gains distributions to investors. If investors receive their dividends and/or distributions in cash, money is taken out of the Portfolio to pay the dividend and/or distribution. If investors reinvest their dividends and/or distributions, the Portfolio's net assets will not be affected.

The reinvestment of dividends and distributions is included under "Capital Share Transactions." "Capital Shares" refers to the money investors contribute to the Portfolio through purchases or withdrawals via redemptions. The Portfolio's net assets will increase and decrease in value as investors purchase and redeem shares from the Portfolio.

#### **Financial Highlights**

This schedule provides a per-share breakdown of the components that affect the Portfolio's NAV for current and past reporting periods as well as total return, asset size, ratios, and portfolio turnover rate.

The first line in the table reflects the NAV per share at the beginning of the reporting period. The next line reports the net investment income/(loss) per share. Following is the per share total of net gains/(losses), realized and unrealized. Per share dividends and distributions to investors are then subtracted to arrive at the NAV per share at the end of the period. The next line reflects the total return for the period. The total return may include adjustments in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles required at the period end for financial reporting purposes. As a result, the total return may differ from the total return reflected for individual shareholder transactions. Also included are ratios of expenses and net investment income to average net assets.

## **Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio**

### **Useful Information About Your Portfolio Report (unaudited)**

The Portfolio's expenses may be reduced through expense offsets and expense reimbursements. The ratios shown reflect expenses before and after any such offsets and reimbursements.

The ratio of net investment income/(loss) summarizes the income earned less expenses, divided by the average net assets of the Portfolio during the reporting period. Do not confuse this ratio with the Portfolio's yield. The net investment income ratio is not a true measure of the Portfolio's yield because it does not take into account the dividends distributed to the Portfolio's investors.

The next figure is the portfolio turnover rate, which measures the buying and selling activity in the Portfolio. Portfolio turnover is affected by market conditions, changes in the asset size of the Portfolio, fluctuating volume of shareholder purchase and redemption orders, the nature of the Portfolio's investments, and the investment style and/or outlook of the portfolio manager(s) and/or investment personnel. A 100% rate implies that an amount equal to the value of the entire portfolio was replaced once during the fiscal year; a 50% rate means that an amount equal to the value of half the portfolio is traded in a year; and a 200% rate means that an amount equal to the value of the entire portfolio is traded every six months.

## Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio Designation Requirements (unaudited)

For federal income tax purposes, the Portfolio designated the following for the year ended December 31, 2023:

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Dividends Received Deduction Percentage	84%
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## **Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio Trustees and Officers (unaudited)**

The following are the Trustees and officers of the Trust, together with a brief description of their principal occupations during the last five years (principal occupations for certain Trustees may include periods over five years). The Portfolio's Statement of Additional Information includes additional information about the Trustees and officers and is available, without charge, by calling 1-877-335-2687.

Each Trustee has served in that capacity since he or she was originally elected or appointed. The Trustees do not serve a specified term of office. Each Trustee will hold office until the termination of the Trust or his or her earlier death, resignation, retirement, incapacity, or removal. Under the Portfolio's Governance Procedures and Guidelines, the policy is for Trustees to retire no later than the end of the calendar year in which the Trustee turns 75, unless extended by the Trustees. The Trustees review the Portfolio's Governance Procedures and Guidelines from time to time and may make changes they deem appropriate. The Portfolio's Nominating and Governance Committee will consider nominees for the position of Trustee recommended by shareholders. Shareholders may submit the name of a candidate for consideration by the Committee by submitting their recommendations to the Trust's Secretary. Each Trustee is currently a Trustee of one other registered investment company advised by the Adviser: Janus Investment Fund. Collectively, these two registered investment companies consist of 48 series or funds referred to herein as the Fund Complex.

The Trust's officers are elected annually by the Trustees for a one-year term. Certain officers also serve as officers of Janus Investment Fund. Certain officers of the Portfolio may also be officers and/or directors of the Adviser. Except as otherwise disclosed, Portfolio officers receive no compensation from the Portfolio, except for the Portfolio's Chief Compliance Officer, as authorized by the Trustees.



# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### TRUSTEES

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios/Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
<b>Independent Trustees</b>					
William D. Cvengros 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1948	Trustee	1/11- Present	Chief Executive Officer of SJC Capital, LLC (a personal investment company and consulting firm) (since 2002). Formerly, Chief Executive Officer and President of PIMCO Advisors Holdings L.P. (a publicly traded investment management firm) (1994-2000), and Chief Investment Officer (1987-1994) and Vice Chairman and Director (1990-1994) of Pacific Life Insurance Company (a mutual life insurance and annuity company) (1987-1994).	48	Board Member, Revitate Capital (alternate asset manager) (since 2023), Member, Limited Partner Advisory Committee, Karmel Capital Fund III (later stage growth fund) (since 2022), Member of the Investment Committee for the Orange County Community Foundation (a grantmaking foundation) (since 2020), Advisory Board Member, RevOZ Fund LP and related funds (real estate investments for opportunity zones) (since 2020), and Advisory Board Member, Innovate Partners Emerging Growth and Equity Fund I (early stage venture capital fund) (since 2014). Formerly, Managing Trustee of National Retirement Partners Liquidating Trust (2013-2016), Chairman, National Retirement Partners, Inc. (formerly a network of advisors to 401(k) plans) (2005-2013), Director of Prospect Acquisition Corp. (a special purpose acquisition corporation) (2007-2009), Director of RemedyTemp, Inc. (temporary help services company) (1996-2006), and Trustee of PIMCO Funds Multi-Manager Series (1990-2000) and Pacific Life Variable Life & Annuity Trusts (1987-1994).

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### TRUSTEES

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios/Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
<b>Independent Trustees</b>					
Raudline Etienne 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1965	Trustee	6/16- Present	Founder, Daraja Capital (advisory and investment firm) (since 2016). Formerly, Senior Vice President and Senior Advisor, Albright Stonebridge Group LLC (global strategy firm) (2011-2021), and Deputy Comptroller and Chief Investment Officer, New York State Common Retirement Fund (public pension fund) (2008-2011).	48	Member of the Investment Committee for Cooper Union (private college) (since 2021) and Director of Brightwood Capital Advisors, LLC (since 2014). Formerly, Board Member, Van Alen Institute (nonprofit architectural and design organization) (2019-2022).

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### TRUSTEES

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios/Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
<b>Independent Trustees</b>					
Darrell B. Jackson 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1958	Trustee	8/22- Present	President and Chief Executive Officer, The Efficace Group Inc. (since 2018). Formerly, President and Chief Executive Officer, Seaway Bank and Trust Company (community bank) (2014-2015), and Executive Vice President and Co-President, Wealth Management (2009-2014), and several senior positions, including Group Executive, Senior Vice President, and Vice President (1995-2009) of Northern Trust Company (financial services company) (1995-2014).	48	Advisory Board Member, Dome Construction (construction) (since 2023), Director of Amalgamated Financial Corp (bank) (since August 2021), Director of YR Media (a not-for-profit production company) (since 2021), and Director of Gray-Bowen-Scott (transportation project consulting firm) (since April 2020). Formerly, Director of Delaware Place Bank (closely held commercial bank) (2016-2018) and Director of Seaway Bank and Trust Company (2014-2015).

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### TRUSTEES

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios/Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
<b>Independent Trustees</b>					
William F. McCalpin 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1957	Trustee	6/02- Present	Chief Executive Officer, muun chi LLC (organic food business) (since 2022) and Independent Consultant (since 2019). Formerly, Chief Operating Officer, muun chi LLC (2020-2022), Managing Partner, Impact Investments, Athena Capital Advisors LLC (independent registered investment advisor) (2016-2019), Managing Director, Holos Consulting LLC (provides consulting services to foundations and other nonprofit organizations) (2009-2016), Chief Executive Officer, Imprint Capital Advisors (impact investment firm) (2013-2015), and Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of The Rockefeller Brothers Fund (a private family foundation) (1998-2006).	48	Chairman of the Board of The Investment Fund for Foundations Investment Program (TIP) (consisting of 1 fund) (since 2008). Formerly, Trustee, TIP (2008-2023), Director of the F.B. Heron Foundation (a private grantmaking foundation) (2006-2022), and Director of Mutual Fund Directors Forum (a non-profit organization serving independent directors of U.S. mutual funds) (2016-2021).

# Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

## Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### TRUSTEES

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios/Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
<b>Independent Trustees</b>					
Gary A. Poliner 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1953	Trustee	6/16- Present	Retired. Formerly, President (2010-2013) of Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company.	48	Formerly, Director of MGIC Investment Corporation (private mortgage insurance) (2013-2023), Director, West Bend Mutual Insurance Company (property/casualty insurance) (2013-2021), Trustee of Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company (2010-2013) and Director of Frank Russell Company (global asset management firm) (2008-2013).
Diane L. Wallace 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1958	Trustee	6/17- Present	Retired. Formerly, Chief Operating Officer, Senior Vice President-Operations, and Chief Financial Officer for Driehaus Capital Management, LLC (1988-2006) and Treasurer for Driehaus Mutual Funds (1996-2002).	48	Formerly, Director of Family Service of Lake County (2019-2021), Independent Trustee, Henderson Global Funds (13 portfolios) (2015-2017), Independent Trustee, State Farm Associates' Funds Trust, State Farm Mutual Fund Trust, and State Farm Variable Product Trust (28 portfolios) (2013-2017).

## Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio

### Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

#### OFFICERS

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Term of Office* and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years
Matthew Peron 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1968	Executive Vice President and Co-Portfolio Manager Janus Henderson Research Portfolio	4/20-Present	Director of Research of the Adviser, Global Head of Solutions, and Portfolio Manager for other Janus Henderson accounts. Formerly, Chief Investment Officer for City National Rochdale (2018-2020), Executive Vice President and Managing Director of Global Equity at Northern Trust (2005-2018).
Michelle Rosenberg 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1973	President and Chief Executive Officer	9/22-Present	General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Janus Henderson Investors (since 2018). Formerly, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of the Trust and Janus Investment Fund (2022), Senior Vice President and Head of Legal, North America of Janus Henderson Investors (2017-2018) and Deputy General Counsel of Janus Henderson US (Holdings) Inc. (2015-2018).
Kristin Mariani 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1966	Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer	7/20-Present	Head of Compliance, North America at Janus Henderson Investors (since September 2020) and Chief Compliance Officer at Janus Henderson Investors US LLC (since September 2017). Formerly, Anti-Money Laundering Officer for the Trust and Janus Investment Fund (July 2020-December 2022), Global Head of Investment Management Compliance at Janus Henderson Investors (February 2019-August 2020), Vice President, Head of Global Distribution Compliance and Chief Compliance Officer at Janus Henderson Distributors US LLC (May 2017-September 2017), Vice President, Compliance at Janus Henderson US (Holdings) Inc., Janus Henderson Investors US LLC, and Janus Henderson Distributors US LLC (2009-2017).

\* Officers are elected at least annually by the Trustees for a one-year term and may also be elected from time to time by the Trustees for an interim period.

## Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio Trustees and Officers (unaudited)

### OFFICERS

Name, Address, and Age	Positions Held with the Trust	Term of Office* and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years
Jesper Nergaard 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1962	Chief Financial Officer	3/05-Present	Head of U.S. Fund Administration, Janus Henderson Investors and Janus Henderson Services US LLC.
	Vice President, Treasurer, and Principal Accounting Officer	2/05-Present	
Abigail J. Murray 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1975	Vice President, Chief Legal Counsel, and Secretary	12/20-Present	Managing Counsel (since 2020). Formerly, Senior Counsel for Invesco Ltd. (2017-2020).
Ciaran Askin 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206 DOB: 1978	Anti-Money Laundering Officer	12/22-Present	Global Head of Financial Crime, Janus Henderson Investors (since 2022). Formerly, Global Head of Financial Crime for Invesco Ltd. (2017-2022).

\* Officers are elected at least annually by the Trustees for a one-year term and may also be elected from time to time by the Trustees for an interim period.

**Janus Henderson VIT Research Portfolio  
Notes**

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*This report is submitted for the general information of shareholders of the Portfolio. It is not an offer or solicitation for the Portfolio and is not authorized for distribution to prospective investors unless preceded or accompanied by an effective prospectus.*

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