

# Putnam Variable Trust

**Putnam VT High Yield Fund** 

Annual report 12 | 31 | 23

# **Message from the Trustees**

February 6, 2024

# Dear Shareholder:

With the new year comes new beginnings. We are pleased to report that on January 1, 2024, Franklin Resources, Inc., a leading global asset management firm operating as Franklin Templeton, acquired Putnam Investments.

With complementary capabilities and an established infrastructure serving over 150 countries, Franklin Templeton enhances Putnam's investment, risk management, operations, and technology platforms. Together, our firms are committed to delivering strong fund performance and more choices for our investors.

As we enter this new chapter, you can rest assured that your fund continues to be actively managed by the same experienced professionals. Your investment team is exploring new and attractive opportunities for your fund, while monitoring changing market conditions. The following pages provide an update on your fund.

Thank you for investing with Putnam.

Respectfully yours,

Robert L. Reynolds

President, The Putnam Funds

Kenneth R. Leibler Chair, Board of Trustees

# Performance summary (as of 12/31/23)

## **Investment objective**

High current income, with a secondary objective of capital growth when consistent with achieving high current income

#### Net asset value December 31, 2023

Class IA: \$5.61 Class IB: \$5.55

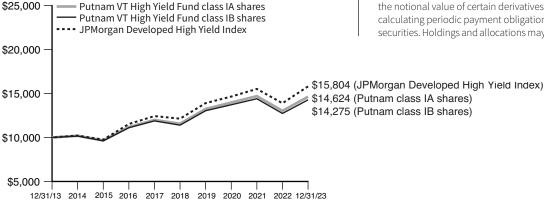
# Annualized total return at net asset value (as of 12/31/23)

	Class IA shares (2/1/88)	Class IB shares (4/30/98)	JPMorgan Developed High Yield Index
1 year	12.29%	12.13%	13.77%
5 years	4.82	4.60	5.43
10 years	3.87	3.62	4.68
Life of fund	6.91	6.69	_

For a portion of the periods, the fund had expense limitations, without which returns would have been lower.

The fund's benchmark, the JPMorgan Developed High Yield Index, was introduced on 12/31/94, which post-dates the inception of the fund's class IA shares.

# Cumulative total returns of a \$10,000 investment in class IA and class IB shares at net asset value - since 12/31/13



The JPMorgan Developed High Yield Index is an unmanaged index of high-yield fixed income securities issued in developed countries.

Data represent past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results. More recent returns may be less or more than those shown. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, and you may have a gain or a loss when you sell your shares. Performance information does not reflect any deduction for taxes a shareholder may owe on fund distributions or on the redemption of fund shares. All total return figures are at net asset value and exclude contract charges and expenses, which are added to the variable annuity contracts to determine total return at unit value. Had these charges and expenses been reflected, performance would have been lower. Performance of class IB shares before their inception is derived from the historical performance of class IA shares, adjusted to reflect the higher operating expenses applicable to such shares. For more recent performance, contact your variable annuity provider who can provide you with performance that reflects the charges and expenses at your contract level.

## **Portfolio composition**

Consumer cyclicals	23.1%
Energy	12.8%
Basic materials	11.7%
Capital goods	9.3%
Technology	7.4%
Health care	7.0%
Financials	6.5%
Communication services	6.0%
Consumer staples	5.6%
Utilities	2.3%
Transportation	1.6%
Non-cash investments	2.0%
Cash and net other assets	6.7%

Allocations are shown as a percentage of the fund's net assets. Cash and net other assets, if any, represent the market value weights of cash, derivatives, short-term securities, and other unclassified assets in the portfolio. Summary information may differ from the portfolio schedule included in the financial statements due to the inclusion of derivative securities, any interest accruals, the use of different classifications of securities for presentation purposes, and rounding. Allocations may not total 100% because the table includes the notional value of certain derivatives (the economic value for purposes of calculating periodic payment obligations), in addition to the market value of securities. Holdings and allocations may vary over time.

# **Credit quality**

DDD	0.00/
BBB	9.0%
ВВ	47.9%
В	28.1%
CCC and below	6.1%
Notrated	2.3%
Cash and net other assets	6.7%

Credit qualities are shown as a percentage of the fund's net assets. A bond rated BBB or higher (A-3 or higher, for short-term debt) is considered investment grade.  $This table \ reflects \ the \ highest \ security \ rating \ provided \ by \ one \ or \ more \ of \ Standard$ & Poor's, Moody's, and Fitch. Ratings and portfolio credit quality will vary over time. Cash and net other assets, if any, represent the market value weights of cash, derivatives, and short-term securities in the portfolio. The fund itself has not been rated by an independent rating agency. Due to rounding, percentages may not equal 100%.

# Report from your fund's managers

# How did high-yield bonds perform during the 12-month reporting period ended December 31, 2023?

The high-yield market registered gains for the year despite bouts of volatility. Heightened geopolitical tensions, tighter credit conditions, high inflation, and the Federal Reserve's aggressive monetary policy weighed on investor sentiment for much of the period. To tackle the persistently high inflation, the Fed hiked its benchmark interest rate four times in 2023, from a target range of 4.25%-4.50% to 5.25%-5.50%. U.S. Treasury rates rose early in the year then fell across the curve, as inflation cooled, and the risk of a recession receded. In turn, fundamentals and market technicals remained surprisingly resilient. The asset class experienced a strong rally in the fourth quarter, due to signs that inflation was moderating and optimism that the Fed would begin to cut rates in the second half of 2024. Although the rally was interest-rate driven, it was broad based.

# How did Putnam VT High Yield Fund perform in this environment?

For the 12-month reporting period, the fund's class IA shares returned 12.29%, underperforming the benchmark, the JPMorgan Developed High Yield Index, which returned 13.77%.

# What decisions had the biggest influence on the fund's performance relative to the benchmark during the period?

Security selection within technology and telecommunications, plus underweight positioning and security selection within utilities were the top contributors to relative returns. Underweight exposure and security selection within automotive and retail, along with security selection within energy, were the largest detractors from relative performance.

In terms of individual holdings, our decision to not invest in Diebold Nixdorf, a financial and retail technology company, was the top positive contributor to relative returns. The company struggled in the aftermath of its filing for bankruptcy in June 2023. An overweight exposure to OneMain Financial and Freedom Mortgage Corp. contributed to relative returns as well. On the other hand, security selection and an overweight exposure to the drugmaker Mallinckrodt was the largest single detractor from relative returns due to the firm's bankruptcy filing in October 2023. The fund's lack of exposure to Carvana and underweight positioning in Dish Network also weighed on relative performance.

# What is your outlook for the coming months?

The high-yield market, along with other risk assets, performed strongly in 2023, as recession risks and inflation readings declined. Corporate fundamentals remained resilient, and high-yield market technicals were supportive. We expect these trends to persist in 2024 against a backdrop of slower economic growth. Valuations are somewhat less compelling after a particularly strong fourth-quarter rally in 2023, in our view. Macroeconomic forces of slower growth, a tight labor market, and inflation still above the Fed's 2% target persist. While interest rates may remain higher for longer, we are likely to see rate reductions in 2024 following dovish rhetoric from the Fed, in ourview.

We remain focused on industry and company fundamentals, the health of balance sheets, generation and use of free cash flow, and the resiliency of credits to slower economic growth. The U.S. high-yield default rate, including distressed exchanges, declined marginally. It ended December 2023 at 2.84%, well below long-term historical averages. Technicals remained supportive, as demand for risk assets improve during calendar 2023. Lower new issuance, coupled with high rising-star volume, should create a somewhat supportive technical backdrop, in our opinion. Yields are now near their long-term median, while credit spreads have tightened to levels that we believe are fair but not compelling. Historically, yields at their current level have been a good entry point for the asset class.

Risks to our outlook include further banking sector volatility, policy missteps from global central banks, a more severe slowdown or recession, and heightened geopolitical tensions. Due to tighter financial conditions and the potential for rising default rates, we reduced risk in the portfolio by maintaining an overweight allocation to higher-quality split-BBB-rated bonds. [A split-bond rating occurs when the credit rating agencies give different ratings to the same issue.] We also decreased the fund's exposure to the lower-quality segment of the market by further underweighting its exposure to CCC-rated securities relative to the benchmark.

The foregoing information reflects our views, which are subject to change. They are not meant as investment advice. Please note that the holdings discussed in this report may not have been held by the fund for the entire period. Portfolio composition is subject to review in accordance with the fund's investment strategy and may vary in the future.

# Your fund's managers



Portfolio Manager Robert L. Salvin is Head of Corporate and Tax-Exempt Credit. He joined Putnam in 2000 and has been in the investment industry since 1986.



Portfolio Manager Norman P. Boucher joined Putnam in 1998 and has been in the investment industry since 1985.

Your fund's managers also manage other accounts advised by Putnam Management or an affiliate, including retail mutual fund counterparts to the funds in Putnam Variable Trust.

# **Understanding your fund's expenses**

As an investor in a variable annuity product that invests in a registered investment company, you pay ongoing expenses, such as management fees, distribution fees (12b-1 fees), and other expenses. Using the following information, you can estimate how these expenses affect your investment and compare them with the expenses of other funds. You may also pay one-time transaction expenses, which are not shown in this section and would result in higher total expenses. Charges and expenses at the insurance company separate account level are not reflected. For more information, see your fund's prospectus or talk to your financial representative.

# Review your fund's expenses

The two left-hand columns of the Expenses per \$1,000 table show the expenses you would have paid on a \$1,000 investment in your fund from 7/1/23 to 12/31/23. They also show how much a \$1,000 investment would be worth at the close of the period, assuming actual returns and expenses. To estimate the ongoing expenses you paid over the period, divide your account value by \$1,000, then multiply  $the \, result \, by \, the \, number \, in \, the \, first \, line \, for \, the \, class \, of \, shares \, you \, own.$ 

## Compare your fund's expenses with those of other funds

The two right-hand columns of the Expenses per \$1,000 table show your fund's expenses based on a \$1,000 investment, assuming a hypothetical 5% annualized return. You can use this information to compare the ongoing expenses (but not transaction expenses or total costs) of investing in the fund with those of other funds. All shareholder reports of mutual funds and funds serving as variable annuity vehicles will provide this information to help you make this comparison. Please note that you cannot use this information to estimate your actual ending account balance and expenses paid during the period.

#### **Expense ratios**

	ClassIA	Class IB
Total annual operating expenses for the fiscal year ended 12/31/22*	0.74%	0.99%
Annualized expense ratio for the six-month period ended 12/31/23†	0.75%	1.00%

Fiscal year expense information in this table is taken from the most recent prospectus, is subject to change, and may differ from that shown for the annualized expense ratio and in the financial highlights of this report.

Expenses are shown as a percentage of average net assets.

†Expense ratios for each class are for the fund's most recent fiscal half year. As a result of this, ratios may differ from expense ratios based on one-year data in the financial highlights.

### Expenses per \$1,000

	Expenses and value for a \$1,000 investment, assuming actual returns for the 6 months ended 12/31/23		Expenses and value for a \$1,000 investment, assuming a hypothetical 5% annualized return for the 6 months ended 12/31/23		
	ClassIA	Class IB	Class IA	Class IB	
Expenses paid per \$1,000*†	\$3.91	\$5.21	\$3.82	\$5.09	
Ending value (after expenses)	\$1,068.60	\$1,067.30	\$1,021.42	\$1,020.16	

\*Expenses for each share class are calculated using the fund's annualized expense ratio for each class, which represents the ongoing expenses as a percentage of average net assets for the six months ended 12/31/23. The expense ratio may differ for each share class.

†Expenses based on actual returns are calculated by multiplying the expense ratio by the average account value for the period; then multiplying the result by the number of days in the period (184); and then dividing that result by the number of days in the year (365). Expenses based on a hypothetical 5% return are calculated by multiplying the expense ratio by the average account value for the six-month period; then multiplying the result by the number of days in the six-month period (184); and then dividing that result by the number of days in the year (365).

<sup>\*</sup>Restated to reflect current fees.

# Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Trustees of Putnam Variable Trust and Shareholders of Putnam VT High Yield Fund:

# Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the fund's portfolio, of Putnam VT High Yield Fund (one of the funds constituting Putnam Variable Trust, referred to hereafter as the "Fund") as of December 31, 2023, the related statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2023, the statement 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 Fund 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 Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Fund'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 Fund 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, transfer agent, agent banks and brokers; when replies were not received from brokers, we performed other auditing procedures. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Boston, Massachusetts February 6, 2024

We have served as the auditor of one or more investment companies in the Putnam Funds family of funds since at least 1957. We have not been able to determine the specific year we began serving as auditor.

# The fund's portfolio 12/31/23

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)*		Principal amount	Value
Advertising and marketing services (0.6%)			
Clear Channel Outdoor Holdings,			
Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. notes		¢c0,000	¢
5.125%, 8/15/27 Clear Channel Outdoor Holdings, Inc.		\$60,000	\$57,275
144A company guaranty sr. unsec.			
sub. notes 7.75%, 4/15/28		250,000	215,551
Outfront Media Capital, LLC/Outfront			
Media Capital Corp. 144A company guaranty sr. notes 7.375%, 2/15/31		280,000	294,039
Outfront Media Capital, LLC/		200,000	23 1,033
Outfront Media Capital Corp. 144A			
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			051.015
5.00%, 8/15/27		260,000	251,315
Automotive (0.3%)			818,180
IHO Verwaltungs GmbH sr. unsub.			
notes Ser. REGS, 8.75%, 5/15/28			
(Germany) ‡‡	EUR	410,000	493,355
Broadcasting (2.3%)			493,355
Banijay Entertainment SASU 144A sr.			
notes 8.125%, 5/1/29 (France)		\$500,000	514,768
Beasley Mezzanine Holdings, LLC			
144A company guaranty sr. notes		20.000	12 200
8.625%, 2/1/26 Gray Escrow II, Inc. 144A sr. unsec.		20,000	13,200
bonds 5.375%, 11/15/31		710,000	535,694
iHeartCommunications, Inc.			
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			
8.375%, 5/1/27		372,569	241,825
iHeartCommunications, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. notes			
5.25%, 8/15/27		75,000	59,593
Nexstar Media, Inc. 144A company			
guaranty sr. unsec. notes		05.000	07.544
4.75%, 11/1/28		95,000	87,541
Scripps Escrow II, Inc. 144A sr. notes 3.875%, 1/15/29		160,000	141,509
Sirius XM Radio, Inc. 144A company		100,000	112,000
guaranty sr. unsec. bonds			
3.875%, 9/1/31		350,000	299,420
Sirius XM Radio, Inc. 144A			
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 4.00%, 7/15/28		380,000	351,440
Townsquare Media, Inc. 144A sr. notes			
6.875%, 2/1/26		235,000	230,206
Univision Communications, Inc.			
144A company guaranty sr. notes 6.625%, 6/1/27		295,000	294,195
Univision Communications, Inc. 144A		233,000	231,133
sr. notes 8.00%, 8/15/28		200,000	206,324
Univision Communications, Inc. 144A			
sr. notes 7.375%, 6/30/30		380,000	378,910
Building materials (2.5%)			3,354,625
American Builders & Contractors			
Supply Co., Inc. 144A sr. notes			
4.00%, 1/15/28		295,000	279,152
American Builders & Contractors			
Supply Co., Inc. 144A sr. unsec. notes 3.875%, 11/15/29		295,000	262,983
		233,000	202,303

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* col	nt.	Principal amount	Value
	π.	amount	value
Building materials cont.  BCPE Ulysses Intermediate, Inc. 144A			
sr. unsec. notes 7.75%, 4/1/27 ‡‡		\$100,000	\$93,202
Camelot Return Merger Sub, Inc. 144A			
sr. notes 8.75%, 8/1/28		455,000	461,838
JELD-WEN, Inc. 144A company			
guaranty sr. unsec. notes 4.875%, 12/15/27		680,000	642,600
LBM Acquisition, LLC 144A		000,000	0.12,000
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			
6.25%, 1/15/29		250,000	223,238
Masonite International Corp. 144A			
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 5.375%, 2/1/28		125,000	120,000
Masonite International Corp. 144A		,	
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			
3.50%, 2/15/30		325,000	281,717
MIWD Holdco II, LLC/MIWD Finance Corp. 144A company guaranty sr.			
unsec. notes 5.50%, 2/1/30		170,000	150,450
Standard Industries, Inc. sr. unsec.		-,	,
notes Ser. REGS, 2.25%, 11/21/26	EUR	100,000	103,951
Standard Industries, Inc. 144A sr.			
unsec. bonds 3.375%, 1/15/31		\$35,000	30,109
Standard Industries, Inc. 144A sr. unsec. notes 5.00%, 2/15/27		210,000	204,737
Standard Industries, Inc. 144A sr.		210,000	201,131
unsec. notes 4.75%, 1/15/28		30,000	28,881
Standard Industries, Inc. 144A sr.			
unsec. notes 4.375%, 7/15/30		630,000	578,585
White Cap Buyer, LLC 144A sr. unsec. notes 6.875%, 10/15/28		290.000	280,723
110tes 0.07370, 10/13/20		290,000	3,742,166
Capital goods (8.3%)			3,1 12,200
Adient Global Holdings, Ltd. company			
guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. notes	EUR	22.000	25.027
Ser. REGS, 3.50%, 8/15/24 Amsted Industries, Inc. 144A	EUR	32,880	35,937
company guaranty sr. unsec. sub.			
notes 5.625%, 7/1/27		\$100,000	99,642
Amsted Industries, Inc. 144A sr. unsec.			
bonds 4.625%, 5/15/30		225,000	205,925
Ardagh Metal Packaging Finance USA, LLC/Ardagh Metal Packaging Finance			
PLC sr. unsec. notes Ser. REGS,			
3.00%, 9/1/29	EUR	100,000	88,610
Ardagh Metal Packaging Finance			
USA, LLC/Ardagh Metal Packaging Finance PLC 144Asr. unsec. notes			
4.00%, 9/1/29		\$400,000	338,591
Ardagh Packaging Finance PLC/		<b>+</b> · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Ardagh Holdings USA, Inc. 144A sr.			
unsec. notes 5.25%, 8/15/27 (Ireland)		280,000	217,522
Benteler International AG 144A			
company guaranty sr. notes 10.50%, 5/15/28 (Austria)		540,000	571,050
Bombardier, Inc. 144A sr. unsec. notes			
7.875%, 4/15/27 (Canada)		174,000	174,031
Bombardier, Inc. 144A sr. unsec. notes		10= 0==	400=::
7.50%, 2/1/29 (Canada)		105,000	106,741
Bombardier, Inc. 144A sr. unsec. notes 7.125%, 6/15/26 (Canada)		156,000	155,272
Bombardier, Inc. 144A sr.		100,000	100,212
unsec. unsub. notes 8.75%,			
11/15/30 (Canada)		260,000	276,823

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)*	cont.	Principal amount	Value
Capital goods cont.			
Chart Industries, Inc. 144A company			
guaranty sr. notes 7.50%, 1/1/30		\$335,000	\$350,158
Chart Industries, Inc. 144A			
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		200,000	201.022
9.50%, 1/1/31 Clarios Global LP 144A company		360,000	391,022
guaranty sr. notes 6.75%, 5/15/25		477,000	481,198
Clarios Global LP 144A sr. notes		,	101,100
6.75%,5/15/28		215,000	219,346
Clarios Global LP/Clarios US Finance			
Co. company guaranty sr. notes			
Ser. REGS, 4.375%, 5/15/26	EUR	115,000	125,600
Clean Harbors, Inc. 144A company			
guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. notes		¢275.000	270.416
6.375%, 2/1/31 Covanta Holding Corp. 144A		\$275,000	279,415
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			
4.875%, 12/1/29		170,000	148,527
Crown Cork & Seal Co., Inc.		.,	
company guaranty sr. unsec. bonds			
7.375%, 12/15/26		155,000	162,750
Emerald Debt Merger Sub, LLC 144A			
sr. notes 6.625%, 12/15/30		355,000	362,100
GFL Environmental, Inc. 144A			
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		240.000	226.076
4.75%, 6/15/29 (Canada)		240,000	226,070
GFL Environmental, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			
4.00%, 8/1/28 (Canada)		70,000	64,707
GFL Environmental, Inc. 144A sr. notes		. 0,000	0 1,1 0 1
6.75%, 1/15/31 (Canada)		115,000	118,482
Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Corp. 144A			
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			
5.25%, 6/1/29		755,000	641,909
Howmet Aerospace, Inc. sr. unsec.			000 705
unsub. bonds 5.95%, 2/1/37		200,000	208,765
Howmet Aerospace, Inc. sr. unsec.		455,000	A15 756
unsub. notes 3.00%, 1/15/29 Madison IAQ, LLC 144A sr. notes		455,000	415,756
4.125%, 6/30/28		235,000	213,648
Madison IAQ, LLC 144A sr. unsec.		255,000	213,010
notes 5.875%, 6/30/29		540,000	475,785
MajorDrive Holdings IV, LLC 144A sr.		,	-, -,
unsec. notes 6.375%, 6/1/29		210,000	180,836
MajorDrive Holdings IV, LLC bank term			
loan FRN Ser. B, 1.000%, 6/1/28		461	459
Owens-Brockway Glass Container,			
Inc. 144A company guaranty sr.			
unsec. notes 7.25%, 5/15/31		420,000	425,834
Panther BF Aggregator 2 LP/Panther			
Finance Co., Inc. 144A company			
guaranty sr. unsec. notes 8.50%, 5/15/27		235,000	235,819
Ritchie Bros Holdings, Inc. 144A			200,010
company guaranty sr. notes			
6.75%, 3/15/28		115,000	118,450
Ritchie Bros Holdings, Inc. 144A			
company guaranty sr. unsec. unsub.			
notes 7.75%, 3/15/31		395,000	421,169
Roller Bearing Co. of America, Inc.			
144A sr. notes 4.375%, 10/15/29		400,000	370,172

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* c	cont.	Principal amount	Value
Capital goods cont.			
Sensata Technologies BV 144A			
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			
4.00%, 4/15/29		\$200,000	\$185,863
Sensata Technologies BV 144A			
company guaranty sr. unsec. unsub.			
notes 5.875%, 9/1/30		490,000	486,823
Spirit Aero Systems, Inc. 144A			
company guaranty sr. notes			
9.75%, 11/15/30		475,000	510,613
Spirit Aero Systems, Inc. 144A sr.			
unsub. notes 9.375%, 11/30/29		170,000	186,027
Terex Corp. 144A company guaranty			
sr. unsec. notes 5.00%, 5/15/29		235,000	221,488
TransDigm, Inc. company guaranty sr.			
unsec. sub. notes 4.875%, 5/1/29		470,000	439,302
TransDigm, Inc. company guaranty sr.			
unsec. sub. notes 4.625%, 1/15/29		245,000	230,024
TransDigm, Inc. 144A company			
guaranty sr. notes 7.125%, 12/1/31		70,000	73,354
TransDigm, Inc. 144A sr. notes			
6.875%, 12/15/30		290,000	298,700
TransDigm, Inc. 144A sr. notes		255 222	262.075
6.75%, 8/15/28		355,000	363,875
Vertical Midco GMBH company			
guaranty sr. notes Ser. REGS, 4.375%,	ELID	210.000	220.000
7/15/27 (Germany)	EUR	310,000	330,089
Chemicals (4.3%)			12,234,279
Avient Corp. 144A sr. unsec. unsub.			
notes 7.125%, 8/1/30		\$415,000	431,707
Axalta Coating Systems, LLC 144A		\$ 113,000	131,101
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			
3.375%, 2/15/29		650,000	583,329
Celanese US Holdings, LLC company		,	,
guaranty sr. unsec. notes 6.33%,			
7/15/29 (Germany)		455,000	476,964
Herens Holdco SARL 144A company			
guaranty sr. notes 4.75%, 5/15/28			
(Luxembourg)		380,000	311,747
Ingevity Corp. 144A company			
guaranty sr. unsec. notes			
3.875%, 11/1/28		245,000	218,969
LSF11 A5 HoldCo, LLC 144A sr. unsec.			
notes 6.625%, 10/15/29		355,000	300,201
Olympus Water US Holding Corp. sr.			
notes Ser. REGS, 3.875%, 10/1/28	EUR	155,000	155,764
Olympus Water US Holding Corp.			
144A sr. notes 9.75%, 11/15/28		\$220,000	233,506
Olympus Water US Holding Corp.			
144A sr. notes 4.25%, 10/1/28		520,000	467,893
Olympus Water US Holding Corp.			
144A sr. unsec. notes 6.25%, 10/1/29		380,000	337,501
PMHC II, Inc. 144A sr. unsec. notes			
9.00%, 2/15/30		420,000	333,027
SCIH Salt Holdings, Inc. 144A sr. notes			
4.875%,5/1/28		525,000	491,041
SCIH Salt Holdings, Inc. 144A sr.			
unsec. notes 6.625%, 5/1/29		415,000	387,287
SCIL IV, LLC/SCIL USA Holdings, LLC			
144A sr. notes 5.375%, 11/1/26		240,000	226,500

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont	Principal . amount	Value	CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont.	Principal amount	Value
Chemicals cont.	· umount	- Value		umount	- Value
			Communication services (5.7%) Altice Financing SA 144A company		
Trinseo Materials Operating SCA/ Trinseo Materials Finance, Inc. 144A			guaranty sr. notes 5.00%, 1/15/28		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			(Luxembourg)	\$205,000	\$185,825
5.125%, 4/1/29 (Luxembourg)	\$105,000	\$42,786	Altice France SA 144A company	Ψ200,000	<b></b>
Tronox, Inc. 144A company guaranty	,,		guaranty sr. notes 5.50%,		
sr. unsec. notes 4.625%, 3/15/29	350,000	310,029	10/15/29 (France)	230,000	180,349
WR Grace Holdings, LLC 144A			Altice France SA 144A company		
company guaranty sr. notes			guaranty sr. notes 5.50%,		
4.875%,6/15/27	185,000	177,989	1/15/28 (France)	400,000	329,430
WR Grace Holdings, LLC 144A sr. notes			Altice France SA 144A company		
7.375%, 3/1/31	355,000	354,113	guaranty sr. notes 5.125%,		
WR Grace Holdings, LLC 144A sr.			7/15/29 (France)	280,000	217,845
unsec. notes 5.625%, 8/15/29	505,000	444,378	CCO Holdings, LLC/CCO Holdings		
		6,284,731	Capital Corp. sr. unsec. bonds	0.40.000	004.400
Commercial and consumer services (2.8%)			4.50%, 5/1/32	340,000	291,198
ADT Security Corp. 144A sr. notes	205.000	200.676	CCO Holdings, LLC/CCO Holdings		
4.125%, 8/1/29	305,000	280,676	Capital Corp. 144A sr. unsec. bonds	675,000	626 246
Allied Universal Holdco LLC/Allied			5.375%, 6/1/29	675,000	636,246
Universal Finance Corp. 144A sr. notes 6.625%, 7/15/26	145,000	144,239	CCO Holdings, LLC/CCO Holdings Capital Corp. 144Asr. unsec. bonds		
Allied Universal Holdco LLC/Allied	145,000	144,233	4.75%, 3/1/30	1,010,000	922,891
Universal Finance Corp. 144Asr.			CCO Holdings, LLC/CCO Holdings	1,010,000	922,091
unsec. notes 6.00%, 6/1/29	340,000	277,200	Capital Corp. 144A sr. unsec. notes		
Allied Universal Holdco LLC/Allied	0.10,000	2,200	4.25%, 2/1/31	330,000	288,397
Universal Finance Corp./Atlas			CCO Holdings, LLC/CCO Holdings	000,000	200,001
Luxco 4 SARL sr. notes Ser. REGS,			Capital Corp. 144A sr. unsec. unsub.		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	EUR 185,000	178,953	notes 4.75%, 2/1/32	550,000	485,078
Block, Inc. sr. unsec. notes			CSC Holdings, LLC sr. unsec. unsub.		
3.50%, 6/1/31	\$580,000	515,012	bonds 5.25%, 6/1/24	105,000	102,785
Carriage Services, Inc. 144A			CSC Holdings, LLC 144A company		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
4.25%, 5/15/29	235,000	208,713	6.50%, 2/1/29	375,000	330,975
Garda World Security Corp. 144A sr.			CSC Holdings, LLC 144A company		
notes 7.75%, 2/15/28 (Canada)	80,000	82,500	guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
Garda World Security Corp. 144A sr.			5.375%, 2/1/28	515,000	454,917
unsec. notes 6.00%, 6/1/29 (Canada)	65,000	58,265	CSC Holdings, LLC 144A company		
Gartner, Inc. 144A company guaranty			guaranty sr. unsec. notes		450.450
sr. unsec. bonds 3.75%, 10/1/30	395,000	349,169	4.125%, 12/1/30	200,000	152,150
GTCRW-2 Merger Sub, LLC 144A sr.	0.05.000	005.704	CSC Holdings, LLC 144A sr. unsec.	425.000	264 562
notes 7.50%, 1/15/31	365,000	385,704	bonds 5.75%, 1/15/30	425,000	264,563
GWB-CR Security Corp. 144A sr.	120.000	100 105	DIRECTV Holdings, LLC/DIRECTV		
unsec. notes 9.50%, 11/1/27 (Canada)	138,000	139,125	Financing Co., Inc. 144A sr. notes 5.875%, 8/15/27	305,000	286,571
Neptune Bidco US, Inc. 144A sr. notes	T1F 000	400.226	DISH DBS Corp. company guaranty sr.	303,000	200,571
9.29%, 4/15/29	515,000	480,236	unsec. unsub. notes 5.125%, 6/1/29	420,000	216,464
Prime Security Services Borrower, LLC/Prime Finance, Inc. 144A			DISH DBS Corp. 144A company	420,000	210,707
company guaranty sr. notes			guaranty sr. notes 5.75%, 12/1/28	90,000	71,784
3.375%, 8/31/27	165,000	152,987	DISH DBS Corp. 144A company	30,000	11,101
Prime Security Services Borrower,	103,000	132,301	guaranty sr. notes 5.25%, 12/1/26	165,000	141,364
LLC/Prime Finance, Inc. 144A notes			Embarg Corp. sr. unsec. unsub. bonds	103,000	111,501
6.25%, 1/15/28	255,000	253,513	7.995%, 6/1/36	530,000	331,250
Sabre GLBL, Inc. 144A company	,	,	Frontier Communications Corp.	,	
guaranty sr. sub. notes 8.625%, 6/1/27	230,000	209,304	144A company guaranty sr. notes		
Shift4 Payments, LLC/Shift4	,		5.875%, 10/15/27	450,000	434,746
Payments Finance Sub, Inc. 144A			Frontier Communications Holdings,		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			LLC 144A company guaranty sr. notes		
4.625%, 11/1/26	475,000	461,895	8.75%, 5/15/30	295,000	303,469
		4,177,491	Level 3 Financing, Inc. 144A company		
			guaranty sr. notes 10.50%, 5/15/30	145,000	140,604
			Level 3 Financing, Inc. 144A		
			company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
			4.25%,7/1/28	295,000	146,025

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont	Principal : amount	Value
Communication services cont.		
Viasat, Inc. 144A sr. unsec. notes		
7.50%,5/30/31	\$340,000	\$265,625
Virgin Media Finance PLC 144A		
sr. unsec. bonds 5.00%, 7/15/30		
(United Kingdom)	475,000	418,789
Virgin Media Secured Finance PLC		
144A company guaranty sr. sub. notes 4.50%, 8/15/30 (United Kingdom)	245,000	218,124
VZ Secured Financing BV 144A sr.	243,000	210,124
notes 5.00%, 1/15/32 (Netherlands)	240,000	202,800
Ziggo Bond Co. BV 144A sr. unsec.		
notes 6.00%, 1/15/27 (Netherlands)	420,000	408,770
		8,429,034
Construction (1.2%)		
Beacon Roofing Supply, Inc.		
144A company guaranty sr. notes		
6.50%, 8/1/30	90,000	92,022
Beacon Roofing Supply, Inc.		
144A company guaranty sr. notes 4.50%, 11/15/26	155,000	150,284
Beacon Roofing Supply, Inc. 144A sr.	155,000	150,204
unsec. unsub. notes 4.125%, 5/15/29	255,000	232,472
Builders FirstSource, Inc. 144A		,
company guaranty sr. unsec. bonds		
6.375%,6/15/32	135,000	137,859
Builders FirstSource, Inc. 144A		
company guaranty sr. unsec. bonds		
4.25%,2/1/32	320,000	288,634
Cemex SAB de CV sr. unsec. sub. FRB		
Ser. REGS, 9.125%, 3/14/53 (Mexico)	400,000	424,500
CP Atlas Buyer, Inc. 144A sr. unsec.	4.5.000	40000
notes 7.00%, 12/1/28	145,000	126,227
Smyrna Ready Mix Concrete, LLC 144A sr. notes 8.875%, 11/15/31	350,000	267.020
SI. HOLES 6.673%, 11/13/31	350,000	367,938 <b>1,819,936</b>
Consumer (0.3%)		1,013,330
Spectrum Brands, Inc. 144A		
company guaranty sr. unsec. bonds		
5.00%, 10/1/29	455,000	434,127
Spectrum Brands, Inc. 144A		
company guaranty sr. unsec. bonds	70.000	
3.875%, 3/15/31	70,000	63,700
Consumer staples (4.3%)		497,827
1011778 BC ULC/New Red		
Finance, Inc. 144A bonds 4.00%,		
10/15/30 (Canada)	590,000	529,170
Albertsons Cos., Inc./Safeway, Inc./		
New Albertsons LP/Albertsons, LLC		
144A company guaranty sr. unsec.		
notes 4.875%, 2/15/30	500,000	478,663
Albertsons Cos., Inc./Safeway, Inc./		
New Albertsons LP/Albertsons, LLC		
144A company guaranty sr. unsec.	215.000	200.024
notes 4.625%, 1/15/27 Aramark Services, Inc. 144A	215,000	209,024
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
5.00%, 2/1/28	435,000	421,967
Avis Budget Car Rental, LLC/	.55,550	,,,,,,,,
Avis Budget Finance, Inc. 144A		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
8.00%, 2/15/31	30,000	29,959
Avis Budget Finance PLC 144A sr.		
unsec. notes 7.25%, 7/31/30	EUR 445,000	525,209

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont.	Principal amount	Value
Consumer staples cont.		
CDW, LLC/CDW Finance Corp.		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
3.25%, 2/15/29	\$330,000	\$301,750
Coty, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. notes 4.75%, 1/15/29	310,000	295,681
Coty, Inc./HFC Prestige Products,		
Inc./HFC Prestige International US, LLC 144A company guaranty sr. notes		
6.625%, 7/15/30	245,000	251,691
Fertitta Entertainment, LLC/Fertitta		
Entertainment Finance Co., Inc.		
144A company guaranty sr. notes 4.625%, 1/15/29	150,000	136,106
Fertitta Entertainment, LLC/Fertitta	150,000	130,100
Entertainment Finance Co., Inc. 144A		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
6.75%, 1/15/30	215,000	188,771
Herc Holdings, Inc. 144A company		
guaranty sr. unsec. notes 5.50%, 7/15/27	500,000	493,659
Hertz Corp. (The) 144A company	000,000	100,000
guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
5.00%, 12/1/29	505,000	414,255
Hertz Corp. (The) 144A company		
guaranty sr. unsec. notes 4.625%, 12/1/26	30,000	26,896
IRB Holding Corp. 144A company	30,000	20,030
guaranty sr. notes 7.00%, 6/15/25	325,000	325,000
Lamb Weston Holdings, Inc. 144A		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes	270.000	241 114
4.125%, 1/31/30	370,000	341,114
Match Group Holdings II, LLC 144A sr. unsec. notes 4.125%, 8/1/30	25,000	22,685
Match Group Holdings II, LLC 144A sr.		
unsec. unsub. notes 4.625%, 6/1/28	425,000	406,938
PECF USS Intermediate Holding		
III Corp. 144A sr. unsec. notes	420.000	210 200
8.00%, 11/15/29 TripAdvisor, Inc. 144A company	430,000	219,300
guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
7.00%, 7/15/25	300,000	300,714
US Foods, Inc. 144A company		
guaranty sr. unsec. notes	120.000	105 105
7.25%, 1/15/32 US Foods, Inc. 144A company	120,000	125,125
guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
4.75%, 2/15/29	215,000	204,195
VM Consolidated, Inc. 144A		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes	400.000	400.000
5.50%, 4/15/29	180,000	169,990
Energy (oil field) (0.8%)		6,417,862
Nabors Industries, Inc. company		
guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
5.75%, 2/1/25	270,000	269,910
Nabors Industries, Inc. 144A		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 7.375%, 5/15/27	280,000	274,311
USA Compression Partners LP/	200,000	211,911
USA Compression Finance Corp.		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes	006	06
6.875%, 4/1/26	230,000	229,030

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont.	Principal amount	Value	CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont.	Principal amount	Value
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			Financials cont.		
Energy (oil field) cont.  USA Compression Partners LP/USA			Freedom Mortgage Corp. 144A sr.		
Compression Finance Corp. company			unsec. notes 7.625%, 5/1/26	\$235,000	\$231,933
guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. notes			Freedom Mortgage Corp. 144A sr.	,,	, , ,,,,,
6.875%, 9/1/27	\$375,000	\$370,555	unsec. sub. notes 6.625%, 1/15/27	175,000	167,014
Entertainment (1.70/)		1,143,806	GGAM Finance, Ltd. 144A company		
Entertainment (1.7%)			guaranty sr. unsec. notes 8.00%,	400000	100.055
CDI Escrow Issuer, Inc. 144A sr. unsec. notes 5.75%, 4/1/30	315,000	306,338	2/15/27 (Ireland)	130,000	133,255
Churchill Downs, Inc. 144A	313,000	300,330	goeasy, Ltd. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 9.25%,		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			12/1/28 (Canada)	210,000	224,274
6.75%, 5/1/31	60,000	60,896	goeasy, Ltd. 144A company		
Cinemark USA, Inc. 144A company			guaranty sr. unsec. notes 4.375%,		
guaranty sr. unsec. notes	220.000	202.742	5/1/26 (Canada)	195,000	187,745
5.25%, 7/15/28	330,000	302,743	HUB International, Ltd. 144A sr. notes		
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. sub.			7.25%, 6/15/30	205,000	216,527
notes 5.625%, 3/15/26	230,000	227,898	HUB International, Ltd. 144A sr. unsec. notes 7.00%, 5/1/26	70,000	70 271
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc. 144A			HUB International, Ltd. 144A sr. unsec.	70,000	70,271
sr. notes 6.50%, 5/15/27	160,000	162,804	notes 5.625%, 12/1/29	100,000	95,397
NCL Corp., Ltd. 144A company			Icahn Enterprises LP/Icahn	,	,
guaranty sr. notes 8.125%, 1/15/29	150,000	156,750	Enterprises Finance Corp.		
NCL Corp., Ltd. 144A sr. unsec. unsub.	215.000	216 001	company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
notes 7.75%, 2/15/29 Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. 144A	215,000	216,881	6.25%,5/15/26	250,000	238,528
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			Icahn Enterprises LP/Icahn		
7.25%, 1/15/30	205,000	214,098	Enterprises Finance Corp. company guaranty sr. unsec. sub. notes		
Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. 144A	,	,,,,,	4.375%, 2/1/29	165,000	137,785
company guaranty sr. unsec. unsub.			Ladder Capital Finance Holdings,		,
notes 9.25%, 1/15/29	500,000	537,812	LLLP/Ladder Capital Finance Corp.		
Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. 144A sr.	04000		144A company guaranty sr. unsec.		
unsec. notes 5.50%, 8/31/26	210,000	207,931	notes 4.75%, 6/15/29 <b>R</b>	275,000	247,963
Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. 144A sr. unsec. notes 4.25%, 7/1/26	75,000	72,441	Ladder Capital Finance Holdings, LLLP/Ladder Capital Finance Corp.		
unsec. notes 4.25%, 1/1/20	13,000	2,466,592	144A sr. unsec. notes 4.25%, 2/1/27 <b>R</b>	385,000	362,755
Financials (5.8%)		2,100,332	Lloyds Banking Group PLC jr. unsec.		
AG Issuer, LLC 144A sr. notes			sub. FRB 7.50%, perpetual maturity		
6.25%, 3/1/28	275,000	273,368	(United Kingdom)	328,000	324,688
Alliant Holdings Intermediate, LLC/			Nationstar Mortgage Holdings, Inc.		
Alliant Holdings Co-Issuer 144A sr. unsec. notes 6.75%, 10/15/27	465,000	463,356	144A company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 5.75%, 11/15/31	355,000	221 005
Ally Financial, Inc. company guaranty	405,000	405,550	Nationstar Mortgage Holdings, Inc.	355,000	331,005
sr. unsec. notes 8.00%, 11/1/31	370,000	405,335	144A company guaranty sr. unsec.		
Aretec Escrow Issuer 2, Inc. 144A			notes 5.50%, 8/15/28	390,000	375,016
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			OneMain Finance Corp. company		
10.00%, 8/15/30	265,000	281,602	guaranty sr. unsec. sub. notes		
Aretec Escrow Issuer, Inc. 144A sr.	225.000	201.544	7.125%,3/15/26	160,000	163,006
unsec. notes 7.50%, 4/1/29 Bank of America Corp. jr.	335,000	301,544	OneMain Finance Corp. company guaranty sr. unsec. sub. notes		
unsec. sub. FRN Ser. AA, 6.10%,			6.625%, 1/15/28	320,000	323,052
perpetual maturity	140,000	138,671	OneMain Finance Corp. company	020,000	020,002
Cobra AcquisitionCo, LLC 144A			guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. notes		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			5.375%, 11/15/29	185,000	173,234
6.375%, 11/1/29	360,000	277,452	PennyMac Financial Services, Inc.		
Credit Acceptance Corp. 144A			144A company guaranty sr. unsec.	330,000	220.207
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 9.25%, 12/15/28	440,000	469,018	notes 7.875%, 12/15/29 PennyMac Financial Services, Inc.	320,000	329,397
Dresdner Funding Trust I 144A jr.	1 10,000	100,010	144A company guaranty sr. unsec.		
unsec. sub. notes 8.151%, 6/30/31	150,000	165,375	notes 5.375%, 10/15/25	255,000	252,011
Freedom Mortgage Corp. 144A sr.			PHH Mortgage Corp. 144A company		
unsec. notes 12.25%, 10/1/30	95,000	103,313	guaranty sr. notes 7.875%, 3/15/26	345,000	308,982
Freedom Mortgage Corp. 144A sr.			Societe Generale SA 144A jr.		
unsec. notes 12.00%, 10/1/28	140,000	152,425	unsec. sub. FRN 4.75%, perpetual	255,000	222 COE
			maturity (France)	255,000	223,685

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* c	ont.	Principal amount	Value	CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont.	Principal amount	Value
Financials cont.				Gaming and lottery cont.		
Societe Generale SA 144A jr. unsec.				Penn Entertainment, Inc. 144A sr.		
sub. notes 5.375%, perpetual				unsec. notes 5.625%, 1/15/27	\$465,000	\$450,810
maturity (France)		\$260,000	\$212,715	Penn Entertainment, Inc. 144A sr.		
USI, Inc./NY 144A sr. unsec. notes				unsec. notes 4.125%, 7/1/29	100,000	85,500
7.50%, 1/15/32		160,000	163,400	Scientific Games Holdings LP/		
F			8,525,097	Scientific Games US FinCo., Inc. 144A		
Forest products and packaging (2.3%)				sr. unsec. notes 6.625%, 3/1/30	525,000	496,351
Boise Cascade Co. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. notes				Station Casinos, LLC 144A sr. unsec.	075.000	0.47.000
4.875%, 7/1/30		575,000	539,891	bonds 4.625%, 12/1/31	275,000	247,960
Graphic Packaging International, LLC		313,000	333,031	Station Casinos, LLC 144A sr. unsec. notes 4.50%, 2/15/28	30E 000	207 562
company guaranty sr. unsec. unsub.					305,000	287,563
notes Ser. REGS, 2.625%, 2/1/29	EUR	215,000	218,658	Wynn Las Vegas, LLC/Wynn Las Vegas Capital Corp. 144A company guaranty		
Graphic Packaging International, LLC				sr. unsec. sub. notes 5.25%, 5/15/27	315,000	306,528
144A company guaranty sr. unsec.				Wynn Resorts Finance, LLC/Wynn	010,000	000,020
notes 3.75%, 2/1/30		\$250,000	225,053	Resorts Capital Corp. 144A company		
Intelligent Packaging Holdco Issuer				guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. notes		
LP 144A sr. unsec. notes 9.00%,				7.125%, 2/15/31	290,000	300,513
1/15/26 (Canada) ‡‡		260,000	218,400	Wynn Resorts Finance, LLC/Wynn		
Intelligent Packaging, Ltd., Finco,				Resorts Capital Corp. 144A sr. unsec.		
Inc./Intelligent Packaging, Ltd.				bonds 5.125%, 10/1/29	435,000	410,547
Co-Issuer, LLC 144A sr. notes 6.00%, 9/15/28 (Canada)		320,000	200 102	Haalth asses (C 00)		5,877,069
Kleopatra Holdings 2 SCA company		320,000	298,102	Health care (6.8%)		
guaranty sr. unsec. notes Ser. REGS,				1375209 BC, Ltd. 144A sr. notes 9.00%,	22.000	22 170
6.50%, 9/1/26 (Luxembourg)	EUR	240,000	137,201	1/30/28 (Canada) Bausch & Lomb Escrow Corp. 144A sr.	33,000	32,178
Louisiana-Pacific Corp. 144A sr.		2.0,000	101,201	notes 8.375%, 10/1/28 (Canada)	440,000	464,174
unsec. notes 3.625%, 3/15/29		\$245,000	219,386	Bausch Health Cos., Inc. 144A	440,000	404,174
Mauser Packaging Solutions Holding		, ,,,,,,		company guaranty sr. notes		
Co. 144A company guaranty notes				6.125%, 2/1/27	225,000	151,875
9.25%, 4/15/27		390,000	382,806	Bausch Health Cos., Inc. 144A sr. notes	•	
Mauser Packaging Solutions Holding				4.875%,6/1/28	280,000	168,628
Co. 144A sr. notes 7.875%, 8/15/26		350,000	356,188	Centene Corp. sr. unsec. bonds		
Mercer International, Inc. sr. unsec.				3.00%, 10/15/30	165,000	142,897
notes 5.125%, 2/1/29 (Canada)		275,000	236,211	Centene Corp. sr. unsec. notes		
Mercer International, Inc.				4.625%, 12/15/29	285,000	273,237
144A sr. unsec. notes 12.875%,		170.000	105.010	Charles River Laboratories		
10/1/28 (Canada)		170,000	185,819	International, Inc. 144A company		
Pactiv Evergreen Group Issuer, LLC/ Pactiv Evergreen Group Issuer, Inc.				guaranty sr. unsec. notes	160,000	144 400
144A sr. notes 4.375%, 10/15/28		325,000	303,841	4.00%, 3/15/31	160,000	144,400
11 1/131.110103 1.31370, 10/13/20		323,000	3,321,556	Charles River Laboratories International, Inc. 144A company		
Gaming and lottery (4.0%)			3,321,330	guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
Boyd Gaming Corp. 144A sr. unsec.				3.75%, 3/15/29	220,000	201,850
bonds 4.75%, 6/15/31		545,000	500,214	CHS/Community Health Systems,		
Caesars Entertainment, Inc. 144A sr.				Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. notes		
notes 7.00%, 2/15/30		520,000	533,227	10.875%, 1/15/32	160,000	167,221
Caesars Entertainment, Inc. 144A sr.				CHS/Community Health Systems,		
unsec. notes 4.625%, 10/15/29		635,000	572,774	Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. notes		
Caesars Resort Collection, LLC/CRC				8.00%, 3/15/26	52,000	51,826
Finco, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr.				CHS/Community Health Systems,		
notes 5.75%, 7/1/25		110,000	109,988	Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. notes		
Everi Holdings, Inc. 144A company				6.00%, 1/15/29	35,000	31,505
guaranty sr. unsec. notes 5.00%, 7/15/29		665,000	602 641	CHS/Community Health Systems,		
Las Vegas Sands Corp. sr. unsec.		665,000	603,641	Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. notes	225.000	200.055
unsub. notes 3.90%, 8/8/29		375,000	345,528	5.625%, 3/15/27	225,000	209,055
Light & Wonder International, Inc.		313,000	373,320	CHS/Community Health Systems, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec.		
144A company guaranty sr. unsec.				sub. notes 6.875%, 4/1/28	240,000	147,300
notes 7.50%, 9/1/31		70,000	73,014	CHS/Community Health Systems, Inc.	210,000	111,500
Light & Wonder International, Inc.		-,	-,,	144A sr. notes 5.25%, 5/15/30	155,000	129,634
144A company guaranty sr. unsec.				Elanco Animal Health, Inc. sr. unsec.		120,001
notes 7.25%, 11/15/29		540,000	552,911	notes Ser. WI, 6.65%, 8/28/28	345,000	357,486
				. , ,	,	,

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* co.	nt.	Principal amount	Value
Health care cont.			
HCA, Inc. company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 3.50%, 9/1/30		\$320,000	\$290,088
Jazz Securities DAC 144A company			
guaranty sr. unsub. notes 4.375%, 1/15/29 (Ireland)		470,000	437,765
Minerva Merger Sub, Inc. 144A sr. unsec. notes 6.50%, 2/15/30		440,000	399,158
Mozart Debt Merger Sub, Inc. 144A sr. notes 3.875%, 4/1/29		850,000	768,523
Mozart Debt Merger Sub, Inc. 144A sr. unsec. notes 5.25%, 10/1/29		480,000	452,437
Option Care Health, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 4.375%, 10/31/29		105,000	94,895
Organon Finance 1, LLC 144A sr. notes 4.125%, 4/30/28		375,000	345,173
Owens & Minor, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		250,000	220.702
6.625%, 4/1/30 Owens & Minor, Inc. 144A sr. unsec.		250,000	238,703
notes 4.50%, 3/31/29 Service Corp. International sr. unsec.		175,000	154,362
bonds 5.125%, 6/1/29 Service Corp. International sr. unsec.		460,000	450,800
notes 3.375%, 8/15/30		225,000	196,222
Service Corp. International sr. unsec. sub. notes 4.00%, 5/15/31		175,000	156,713
Tenet Healthcare Corp. company guaranty sr. notes 5.125%, 11/1/27		370,000	361,694
Tenet Healthcare Corp. company guaranty sr. notes 4.875%, 1/1/26		320,000	316,394
Tenet Healthcare Corp. company guaranty sr. notes 4.25%, 6/1/29		230,000	214,129
Tenet Healthcare Corp. company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 6.125%, 10/1/28		45,000	44,873
Tenet Healthcare Corp. company guaranty sr. unsub. notes		.0,000	,
6.125%,6/15/30		650,000	657,207
Teva Pharmaceutical Finance Netherlands II BV company guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. notes 4.375%,			
5/9/30 (Israel) Teva Pharmaceutical Finance	EUR	225,000	232,879
Netherlands III BV company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 6.75%, 3/1/28 (Israel)		\$525,000	536,550
Teva Pharmaceutical Finance Netherlands III BV company guaranty		, ,	
sr. unsec. unsub. notes 8.125%, 9/15/31 (Israel)		270,000	293,625
Teva Pharmaceutical Finance Netherlands III BV company guaranty			
sr. unsec. unsub. notes 7.875%, 9/15/29 (Israel)		200,000	215,000
Teva Pharmaceutical Finance Netherlands III BV company guaranty			
sr. unsec. unsub. notes 5.125%, 5/9/29 (Israel)		580,000	553,927
			10,084,383

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont.	Principal amount	Value
Homebuilding (1.1%)		
Anywhere Real Estate Group,		
LLC/Anywhere Co-Issuer Corp.		
144A company guaranty notes	ć000 000	\$100 FF0
7.00%,4/15/30	\$208,800	\$192,553
LGI Homes, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
8.75%, 12/15/28	460,000	489,325
Mattamy Group Corp. 144A sr. unsec.	100,000	100,020
notes 4.625%, 3/1/30 (Canada)	345,000	319,730
Realogy Group, LLC/Realogy		
Co-Issuer Corp. 144A company		
guaranty sr. unsec. notes	14.000	10.000
5.75%, 1/15/29 Taylor Morrison Communities Inc	14,000	10,880
Taylor Morrison Communities, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec.		
notes 5.875%, 6/15/27	140,000	140,700
Taylor Morrison Communities, Inc.		
144A sr. unsec. bonds 5.125%, 8/1/30	250,000	241,845
Taylor Morrison Communities, Inc.		
144A sr. unsec. notes 5.75%, 1/15/28	155,000	155,711
Lodging/Tourism (1 504)		1,550,744
Lodging/Tourism (1.5%) Carnival Corp. 144A company		
guaranty sr. notes 7.00%, 8/15/29	105,000	109,633
Carnival Corp. 144A company	100,000	103,033
guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. notes		
10.50%, 6/1/30	465,000	508,617
Carnival Corp. 144A sr. unsec. notes		
5.75%, 3/1/27	395,000	385,296
Carnival Holdings Bermuda, Ltd. 144A		
company guaranty sr. unsec. unsub.	220.000	250 226
notes 10.375%, 5/1/28 (Bermuda) Full House Resorts, Inc. 144A	230,000	250,336
company guaranty sr. notes		
8.25%, 2/15/28	545,000	512,300
SugarHouse HSP Gaming Prop. Mezz		
LP/SugarHouse HSP Gaming Finance		
Corp. 144A company guaranty sr.	450000	
unsub. notes 5.875%, 5/15/25	450,000	447,032
Media (0.2%)		2,213,214
Warnermedia Holdings, Inc.		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
4.279%, 3/15/32	315,000	288,289
N. J. J. (0.00()		288,289
Metals (2.9%)		
ArcelorMittal SA sr. unsec. unsub. notes 7.00%, 10/15/39 (France)	525,000	565,012
ATI, Inc. sr. unsec. notes	323,000	303,012
7.25%, 8/15/30	335,000	348,531
ATI, Inc. sr. unsec. notes		
4.875%, 10/1/29	90,000	83,876
ATI, Inc. sr. unsec. sub. notes		
5.875%, 12/1/27	435,000	428,670
Big River Steel, LLC/BRS Finance	0=0.55	004
Corp. 144A sr. notes 6.625%, 1/31/29	256,000	261,012
Commercial Metals Co. sr. unsec.	165,000	1/10 000
notes 4.375%, 3/15/32 Commercial Metals Co. sr. unsec.	165,000	148,080
notes 4.125%, 1/15/30	130,000	119,117
Constellium NV 144A company	,	
guaranty sr. unsec. notes 5.875%,		
2/15/26 (France)	250,000	248,446

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)	* cont.	Principal amount	Value	CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont.	Principal amount	Value
Metals cont.				Oil and gas cont.		
Constellium SE sr. unsec. notes				Encino Acquisition Partners Holdings,		
Ser. REGS, 3.125%, 7/15/29 (France)	EUR	150,000	\$151,858	LLC 144A company guaranty sr.		
First Quantum Minerals, Ltd. 144A				unsec. notes 8.50%, 5/1/28	\$635,000	\$625,475
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 8.625%, 6/1/31 (Canada)		\$465,000	392,344	Endeavor Energy Resources LP/EER Finance, Inc. 144A sr. unsec. bonds		
FMG Resources August 2006 Pty, Ltd.				5.75%, 1/30/28	940,000	940,887
144A sr. unsec. notes 6.125%, 4/15/32				EnLink Midstream, LLC 144A		
(Australia)		315,000	317,269	company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
HudBay Minerals, Inc. 144A company				5.625%, 1/15/28	595,000	588,266
guaranty sr. unsec. notes 6.125%,		275.000	267.600	EQT Corp. sr. unsec. notes	105.000	100 540
4/1/29 (Canada)		375,000	367,680	7.00%, 2/1/30	185,000	198,549
Novelis Corp. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. bonds 3.875%, 8/15/31		240,000	211,496	Hess Midstream Operations LP 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
Novelis Corp. 144A company guaranty		240,000	211,430	5.50%, 10/15/30	155,000	150,018
sr. unsec. notes 4.75%, 1/30/30		140,000	131,663	Hess Midstream Operations LP 144A	100,000	100,010
Novelis Sheet Ingot GMBH company		110,000	131,003	company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
guaranty sr. unsec. notes Ser. REGS,				5.125%, 6/15/28	345,000	332,855
3.375%, 4/15/29 (Germany)	EUR	100,000	103,779	Hess Midstream Operations LP 144A		
TMS International Holding Corp. 144A				company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
sr. unsec. notes 6.25%, 4/15/29		\$515,000	424,875	4.25%, 2/15/30	135,000	124,200
			4,303,708	Kinetik Holdings LP 144A company		
Oil and gas (11.0%)				guaranty sr. unsec. notes	400.000	202 421
Antero Midstream Partners LP/				5.875%, 6/15/30	400,000	392,421
Antero Midstream Finance Corp. 144A				Occidental Petroleum Corp. sr. unsec.	900.000	010 025
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 7.875%, 5/15/26		190,000	194,602	sub. bonds 6.20%, 3/15/40	890,000	918,925
Antero Resources Corp. 144A		130,000	13 1,002	Ovintiv, Inc. company guaranty sr. unsec. bonds 6.25%, 7/15/33	155,000	160,234
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes				Ovintiv, Inc. company guaranty sr.	133,000	100,231
7.625%,2/1/29		96,000	98,508	unsec. unsub. bonds 7.375%, 11/1/31	260,000	286,413
Apache Corp. sr. unsec. unsub. notes				Ovintiv, Inc. company guaranty sr.	,	,
5.10%, 9/1/40		165,000	141,374	unsec. unsub. bonds 6.625%, 8/15/37	70,000	72,472
Callon Petroleum Co. 144A				Patterson-UTI Energy, Inc. sr. unsec.		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		055.000	000.405	sub. notes 5.15%, 11/15/29	370,000	352,942
8.00%, 8/1/28		255,000	260,425	Permian Resources Operating, LLC		
Callon Petroleum Co. 144A				144A company guaranty sr. unsec.		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 7.50%, 6/15/30		630,000	635,368	notes 5.375%, 1/15/26	320,000	315,739
Centennial Resource Production, LLC		030,000	033,300	Precision Drilling Corp. 144A company		
144A company guaranty sr. unsec.				guaranty sr. unsec. notes 7.125%, 1/15/26 (Canada)	251,000	249,848
notes 6.875%, 4/1/27		585,000	584,599	Precision Drilling Corp. 144A company	231,000	273,070
Cheniere Energy Partners				guaranty sr. unsec. notes 6.875%,		
LP company guaranty sr. unsec.				1/15/29 (Canada)	230,000	221,796
unsub. notes 3.25%, 1/31/32		35,000	29,821	Rockcliff Energy II, LLC 144A sr. unsec.		
Chord Energy Corp. 144A company				notes 5.50%, 10/15/29	510,000	482,008
guaranty sr. unsec. notes		175.000	175.000	Seadrill Finance, Ltd. 144A		
6.375%, 6/1/26 Civitas Resources, Inc. 144A		175,000	175,000	company guaranty notes 8.375%,		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes				8/1/30 (Bermuda)	555,000	579,048
8.625%, 11/1/30		50,000	53,036	Sitio Royalties Operating Partnership		
Civitas Resources, Inc. 144A		,		LP/Sitio Finance Corp. 144A sr. unsec. notes 7.875%, 11/1/28	505,000	523,291
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes				SM Energy Co. sr. unsec. notes	303,000	323,231
8.375%, 7/1/28		305,000	318,403	6.625%, 1/15/27	145,000	144,180
Civitas Resources, Inc. 144A company				SM Energy Co. sr. unsec. unsub. notes	-,	,
guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. notes				6.75%, 9/15/26	90,000	89,766
8.75%, 7/1/31		530,000	564,210	SM Energy Co. sr. unsec. unsub. notes		
Comstock Resources, Inc. 144A				6.50%, 7/15/28	355,000	355,163
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 5.875%, 1/15/30		455,000	394,622	Southwestern Energy Co. company		
Comstock Resources, Inc. 144A sr.		<del></del>	J34,UZZ	guaranty sr. unsec. bonds		
unsec. notes 6.75%, 3/1/29		300,000	274,352	4.75%, 2/1/32	85,000	78,643
Continental Resources, Inc. 144A		,	,~~_	Southwestern Energy Co.		
company guaranty sr. unsec. bonds				company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 5.375%, 2/1/29	740,000	722,161
5.75%, 1/15/31		355,000	353,388	3.31370,2/1/23	7 10,000	122,101

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont.	Principal amount	Value	CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont.	Principal amount	Value
Oil and gas cont.			Retail cont.		
Tallgrass Energy Partners LP/			Bath & Body Works, Inc. company		
Tallgrass Energy Finance Corp. 144A			guaranty sr. unsec. notes 7.50%,		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 6.00%, 12/31/30	\$240,000	0.00 2.00	perpetual maturity	\$275,000	\$285,742
Tallgrass Energy Partners LP/	\$240,000	\$223,200	Bath & Body Works, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. unsub.		
Tallgrass Energy Finance Corp. 144A			bonds 6.625%, 10/1/30	275,000	281,064
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			Crocs, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr.	,	
5.50%, 1/15/28	190,000	180,025	unsec. notes 4.25%, 3/15/29	240,000	214,976
Transocean Aquila, Ltd. 144A			Michaels Cos., Inc. (The) 144A sr.		
company guaranty sr. notes	05.000	00.400	unsec. notes 7.875%, 5/1/29	150,000	94,439
8.00%, 9/30/28	95,000	96,422	PetSmart, Inc./PetSmart Finance		
Transocean Poseidon, Ltd. 144A company guaranty sr. notes			Corp. 144A company guaranty sr.	270.000	250 042
6.875%, 2/1/27	176,250	175,375	unsec. notes 7.75%, 2/15/29 Tapestry, Inc. company guaranty sr.	370,000	359,943
Transocean Titan Financing, Ltd. 144A	., .,		unsec. notes 7.70%, 11/27/30	155,000	163,169
company guaranty sr. notes 8.375%,			Victoria's Secret & Co. 144A sr. unsec.	100,000	100,100
2/1/28 (Cayman Islands)	350,000	363,121	notes 4.625%, 7/15/29	425,000	353,281
Transocean, Inc. 144A company					2,055,912
guaranty sr. notes 8.75%, 2/15/30	118,750	124,065	Technology (5.5%)		
Transocean, Inc. 144A company			Ahead DB Holdings, LLC 144A		
guaranty sr. unsec. notes 11.50%, 1/30/27	300,000	313,500	company guaranty sr. unsec. notes	220.000	101.675
Venture Global Calcasieu Pass, LLC	300,000	313,300	6.625%, 5/1/28 Arches Buyer, Inc. 144A sr. notes	220,000	191,675
144A company guaranty sr. notes			4.25%, 6/1/28	720,000	652,057
6.25%, 1/15/30	65,000	64,648	Arches Buyer, Inc. 144A sr. unsec.	120,000	032,031
Venture Global Calcasieu Pass, LLC			notes 6.125%, 12/1/28	165,000	142,725
144A company guaranty sr. notes			Boxer Parent Co., Inc. 144A company		
3.875%, 8/15/29	130,000	117,949	guaranty sr. notes 7.125%, 10/2/25	185,000	185,992
Venture Global LNG, Inc. 144A sr.			Central Parent, Inc./CDK Global, Inc.		
notes 9.875%, 2/1/32	315,000	328,116	144A company guaranty sr. notes		
Venture Global LNG, Inc. 144A sr.	240.000	250 777	7.25%, 6/15/29	200,000	203,972
notes 9.50%, 2/1/29 Venture Global LNG, Inc. 144A sr.	340,000	359,777	Clarivate Science Holdings Corp. 144A	210.000	200.004
notes 8.375%, 6/1/31	480,000	479,752	sr. unsec. notes 4.875%, 7/1/29 Cloud Software Group, Inc. 144A	310,000	290,884
Venture Global LNG, Inc. 144A sr.	100,000	113,132	notes 9.00%, 9/30/29	495,000	470,250
notes 8.125%, 6/1/28	170,000	171,682	Cloud Software Group, Inc. 144A sr.	133,000	110,200
Viper Energy Partners LP 144A			notes. 6.50%, 3/31/29	820,000	781,001
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			CommScope Finance, LLC 144A sr.		
7.375%, 11/1/31	335,000	346,725	notes 6.00%, 3/1/26	140,000	124,807
Viper Energy Partners LP 144A			CommScope Technologies, LLC 144A		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 5.375%, 11/1/27	50,000	49,091	company guaranty sr. unsec. notes	454.000	400.005
5.51570, 11/1/21	30,000	16,376,456	6.00%,6/15/25	151,000	123,065
Publishing (0.9%)		10,570,450	CrowdStrike Holdings, Inc. company guaranty sr. unsec. notes		
McGraw-Hill Education, Inc. 144A sr.			3.00%, 2/15/29	505,000	456,382
notes 5.75%, 8/1/28	455,000	438,734	Gen Digital, Inc. 144A company		,
McGraw-Hill Education, Inc. 144A sr.			guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. notes		
unsec. notes 8.00%, 8/1/29	335,000	311,550	7.125%,9/30/30	190,000	198,516
News Corp. 144A company			Gen Digital, Inc. 144A company		
guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. bonds 5.125%, 2/15/32	40,000	37,976	guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. notes	450000	450.000
News Corp. 144A sr. unsec. notes	+0,000	31,310	6.75%,9/30/27	150,000	152,063
3.875%,5/15/29	620,000	570,071	Imola Merger Corp. 144A sr. notes 4.75%, 5/15/29	875,000	831,341
	,	1,358,331	NCRVoyix Corp. 144A company guaranty	875,000	031,341
Retail (1.4%)		, ,	sr. unsec. sub. notes 5.125%, 4/15/29	525,000	499,066
Asbury Automotive Group, Inc. 144A			Polaris Newco, LLC bank term loan	,	
company guaranty sr. unsec. bonds	25.000	21.000	FRN Ser. B, 1.000%, 6/1/28	571	559
5.00%, 2/15/32	35,000	31,808	RingCentral, Inc. 144A sr. unsec. notes		
Asbury Automotive Group, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			8.50%,8/15/30	380,000	388,075
4.625%, 11/15/29	65,000	60,164	Rocket Software, Inc. 144A sr. unsec.		
Bath & Body Works, Inc. company	,	,	notes 6.50%, 2/15/29	635,000	552,450
guaranty sr. unsec. bonds 6.75%,			Seagate HDD Cayman company		
perpetual maturity	210,000	211,326	guaranty sr. unsec. notes 9.625%, 12/1/32 (Cayman Islands)	80,000	91,480
			12/1/32 (Saymamsianas)	50,000	J1,700

CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)*cont.	Principal amount	Value	CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (82.8%)* cont.	Principal amount	Value
Technology cont.			Utilities and power cont.		
Seagate HDD Cayman company			PG&E Corp. sr. sub. notes		
guaranty sr. unsec. notes 3.125%,			5.25%, 7/1/30	\$95,000	\$91,632
7/15/29 (Cayman Islands) TTM Technologies, Inc. 144A	\$90,000	\$72,898	Vistra Corp. 144A jr. unsec. sub. FRN 8.00%, 10/15/51	150,000	149,346
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			Vistra Corp. 144A jr. unsec. sub. FRN	,	- 7,
4.00%, 3/1/29	455,000	412,913	7.00%, perpetual maturity	140,000	137,900
Twilio, Inc. company guaranty sr.			Vistra Operations Co., LLC 144A		
unsec. notes 3.875%, 3/15/31	390,000	347,297	company guaranty sr. notes	105.000	400.040
Twilio, Inc. company guaranty sr. unsec. notes 3.625%, 3/15/29	335,000	305,616	4.30%, 7/15/29	135,000	126,312
ZoomInfo Technologies, LLC/	333,000	303,010	Vistra Operations Co., LLC 144A sr. bonds 6.95%, 10/15/33	205,000	215,749
ZoomInfo Finance Corp. 144A			Vistra Operations Co., LLC 144A sr.	203,000	213,143
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			unsec. notes 7.75%, 10/15/31	175,000	181,753
3.875%, 2/1/29	770,000	698,386		.,,,,,,	3,011,233
T+11 (0.70/)		8,173,470	Total corporate bonds and notes (cost \$124,887	,914)	\$122,170,565
Textiles (0.7%)				5: : .	
Kontoor Brands, Inc. 144A company guaranty sr. unsec. notes			SENIOR LOANS (6.3%)*c	Principal amount	Value
4.125%, 11/15/29	485,000	434,075	<u> </u>		
Levi Strauss & Co. 144A sr. unsec. sub.	•	,	Basic materials (0.8%)  CP Atlas Buyer, Inc. bank term loan FRN		
bonds 3.50%, 3/1/31	645,000	558,466	Ser. B1, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 3.75%),		
		992,541	8.952%, 11/23/27	\$331,577	\$325,552
Tire and rubber (0.3%)			Klockner-Pentaplast of America, Inc. bank term	444-,411	**,**-
Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. (The)			loan FRN (CME Term SOFR 6 Month + 4.73%),		
company guaranty sr. unsec. notes	125.000	300.005	10.476%, 2/4/26	334,168	313,493
5.625%,4/30/33	425,000	380,965	LSF11 A5 HoldCo, LLC bank term loan FRN		
Toys (0.2%)		380,965	Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 4.25%),		
Mattel, Inc. 144A company guaranty			9.706%, 10/15/28	174,399	174,691
sr. unsec. notes 3.75%, 4/1/29	245,000	223,781	Nouryon USA, LLC bank term loan FRN		
		223,781	Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 4.00%), 9.467%, 4/3/28	286,650	287,456
Transportation (1.1%)			Nouryon USA, LLC bank term loan FRN	200,030	201,430
American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage			Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 4.00%),		
Loyalty IP, Ltd. 144A company guaranty sr. notes 5.75%, 4/20/29	325,000	316,798	9.441%, 4/3/28	134,325	134,627
American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage	323,000	310,730			1,235,819
Loyalty IP, Ltd. 144A company			Capital goods (0.5%)		
guaranty sr. notes 5.50%, 4/20/26	270,833	268,880	DexKo Global, Inc. bank term loan FRN (CME	272 101	270 407
United Airlines, Inc. 144A company			Term SOFR 3 Month + 3.75%), 9.36%, 10/4/28 Filtration Group Corp. bank term loan FRN (CME	373,101	370,407
guaranty sr. notes 4.625%, 4/15/29	130,000	121,581	Term SOFR 1 Month + 4.25%), 9.72%, 10/19/28	64,513	64,727
United Airlines, Inc. 144A company			Filtration Group Corp. bank term loan FRN (CME	04,313	04,121
guaranty sr. notes 4.375%, 4/15/26	130,000	126,673	Term SOFR 3 Month + 3.50%), 8.97%, 10/19/28	213,354	213,427
Watco Cos., LLC/Watco Finance Corp.	720.000	720.000	Madison IAQ, LLC bank term loan FRN (CME Term		
144A sr. unsec. notes 6.50%, 6/15/27	720,000	720,000 <b>1,553,932</b>	SOFR 1 Month + 3.25%), 8.334%, 6/15/28	103,640	103,169
Utilities and power (2.0%)		1,333,332			751,730
Buckeye Partners LP sr. unsec. notes			Communication services (0.2%)		
3.95%, 12/1/26	155,000	146,475	Asurion, LLC bank term loan FRN Ser. B9, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 3.25%), 8.579%, 7/31/27	141,366	140,129
Calpine Corp. 144A sr. unsec. notes			DIRECTV Financing, LLC bankterm loan	141,300	140,129
5.00%, 2/1/31	520,000	476,692	FRN (CME Term SOFR 3 Month + 5.00%),		
Calpine Corp. 144A sr. unsec. notes		0.44 4.05	10.65%, 7/22/27	176,652	176,454
4.625%, 2/1/29	260,000	241,495			316,583
Electricite De France SA 144A jr.			Consumer cyclicals (1.8%)		
unsec. sub. FRB 9.125%, perpetual maturity (France)	200,000	221,750	AMC Entertainment Holdings, Inc. bank term		
Energy Transfer LP jr. unsec. sub. FRN	200,000	221,130	loan FRN Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month	270 605	225 524
6.625%, perpetual maturity	760,000	634,592	+3.00%), 8.23%, 4/22/26	270,695	225,524
NRG Energy, Inc. 144A company	•	•	AppleCaramel Buyer, LLC bank term loan FRN (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 3.75%),		
guaranty sr. notes 7.00%, 3/15/33	110,000	116,265	9.106%, 10/19/27	325,206	325,749
NRG Energy, Inc. 144A jr. unsec. sub.			Clear Channel Outdoor Holdings, Inc. bank	320,200	020,110
FRB 10.25%, perpetual maturity	115,000	119,725	term loan FRN Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 3 Month		
Pacific Gas and Electric Co. company			+3.50%), 8.81%, 8/21/26	305,095	301,534
guaranty sr. unsec. unsub. notes	100.000	151 5 47	CMG Media Corp. bank term loan FRN (CME Term		
2.95%,3/1/26	160,000	151,547	SOFR 3 Month + 3.50%), 8.948%, 12/17/26	214,854	198,202

SENIOR LOANS (6.3%)*c cont.	Principal amount	Value
Consumer cyclicals cont.		
Crocs, Inc. bank term loan FRN Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 3.00%), 8.498%, 2/19/29	\$125,929	\$126,260
Garda World Security Corp. bank term loan FRN Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 3 Month + 4.25%),		
9.725%, 10/30/26	292,003	292,050
iHeartCommunications, Inc. bank term loan FRN (CME Term SOFR 3 Month + 3.25%), 8.72%, 5/1/26	205,068	174,693
iHeartCommunications, Inc. bank term loan FRN Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 3 Month + 3.00%), 8.47%, 5/1/26	25,000	21,489
Mattress Firm, Inc. bank term loan FRN	23,000	21,103
Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 3 Month + 4.25%), 9.86%, 9/21/28	237,479	235,061
Michaels Cos., Inc. (The) bank term loan FRN (CME Term SOFR 3 Month + 4.25%),		
9.86%, 4/15/28	233,043	192,727
Neptune Bidco US, Inc. bank term loan FRN Class C, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 5.00%),		
10.507%, 4/11/29	184,075	167,738
PetSmart, LLC bank term loan FRN Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 3.75%), 9.206%, 1/29/28	294,881	291,195
Robertshaw US Holding Corp. bank term loan FRN (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 8.00%), 13.448%, 2/28/27	200,000	24,000
13.44070, 2/20/21	200,000	2,576,222
Consumer staples (0.7%)		_,0.0,
Ascend Learning, LLC bank term loan FRN (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 5.75%), 10.98%, 11/18/29	230,000	196,567
Hertz Corp. (The) bank term loan FRN (CME Term	405.000	10.1710
SOFR 1 Month + 3.75%), 9.108%, 6/30/28 IRB Holding Corp. bank term loan FRN (CME	135,000	134,719
Term SOFR 3 Month Plus CSA + 3.00%),		
8.456%, 12/15/27	203,447	203,591
PECF USS Intermediate Holding III Corp. bank term loan FRN Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month +4.25%), 9.427%, 12/17/28	316,285	245.054
VM Consolidated, Inc. bank term loan FRN (CME	310,203	245,054
Term SOFR 1 Month + 3.25%), 8.72%, 3/19/28	276,042	277,008
Energy (0.2%)		1,056,939
CQP Holdco LP bank term loan FRN Ser. B, (CME		
Term SOFR 1 Month + 3.00%), 8.36%, 12/31/30	367,909	368,369
Financials (0.1%)		368,369
HUB International, Ltd. bank term loan FRN Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 4.25%),		
9.662%, 6/8/30	200,786	201,543
Hoalth care (0.104)		201,543
Health care (0.1%) One Call Corp. bank term loan FRN (CME Term		
SOFR3 Month + 5.50%), 10.81%, 4/22/27	193,563	166,464 <b>166,464</b>
Technology (1.4%)		100,707
Cloud Software Group, Inc. bank term loan		
FRN Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 1 Month + 4.50%),	272.100	262.020
9.99%, 3/30/29 Genesys Cloud Services Holdings, LLC bank	372,188	362,838
term loan FRN (CME Term SOFR 3 Month		
+4.00%), 9.47%, 12/1/27	345,238	346,346
Proofpoint, Inc. bank term loan FRN Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 3 Month + 6.25%), 11.56%, 8/31/29	610,000	614,575

SENIODI DANS /S 20/-)*s cont	Principal amount	Value
SENIOR LOANS (6.3%)*c cont.	amount	value
Technology cont.		
UKG, Inc. bank term loan FRN (CME Term SOFR 3 Month + 5.25%), 10.56%, 5/3/27	\$215,000	\$215,039
UKG, Inc. bank term loan FRN (CME Term SOFR	Q213,000	QZ13,033
3 Month + 3.25%), 8.764%, 5/3/26	339,576	340,130
		1,878,928
Transportation (0.5%)		
American Airlines, Inc. bank term loan FRN (CME Term SOFR 3 Month + 4.75%), 10.427%, 4/20/28	275 000	202 134
American Airlines, Inc. bank term loan FRN (CME	275,000	282,134
Term SOFR 1 Month + 3.50%), 8.869%, 6/4/29	185,000	185,231
United Airlines, Inc. bank term loan FRN		
Ser. B, (CME Term SOFR 3 Month + 3.75%),		
9.22%, 4/21/28	259,300	259,876
Tatal assistate and (as at \$0,500,001)		727,241
Total senior loans (cost \$9,589,231)		\$9,279,838
	Principal	
CONVERTIBLE BONDS AND NOTES (1.7%)*	amount	Value
Fiverr International, Ltd. cv. sr. unsec. notes		
zero %, 11/1/25 (Israel)	\$225,000	\$199,823
Live Nation Entertainment, Inc. 144A cv. sr.	105.000	221 442
unsec. notes 3.125%, 1/15/29  Match Group Financeco 3, Inc. 144A company	195,000	221,442
guaranty cv. sr. unsec. notes 2.00%, 1/15/30	265,000	230,047
Middleby Corp. (The) cv. sr. unsec. notes	200,000	200,011
1.00%,9/1/25	125,000	152,250
Nabors Industries, Inc. 144A company guaranty		
cv. sr. unsec. unsub. notes 1.75%, 6/15/29	155,000	111,895
ON Semiconductor Corp. cv. sr. unsec. notes	101.000	105 105
zero %, 5/1/27	101,000	165,135
PG&E Corp. 144A cv. sr. notes 4.25%, 12/1/27 Realogy Group, LLC/Realogy Co-Issuer	278,000	291,344
Corp. company guaranty cv. sr. unsec. notes		
0.25%, 6/15/26	274,000	214,761
Seagate HDD Cayman 144A company		
guaranty cv. sr. unsec. notes 3.50%, 6/1/28		
(Cayman Islands)	195,000	235,268
Shake Shack, Inc. cv. sr. unsec. notes zero %, 3/1/28	280,000	227,023
Spotify USA, Inc. company guaranty cv. sr.	200,000	221,023
unsec. notes zero %, 3/15/26	270,000	237,600
Welltower OP, LLC 144A company guaranty cv. sr.		
unsec. notes 2.75%, 5/15/28 <b>R</b>	204,000	225,542
Total convertible bonds and notes (cost \$2,571,0	96)	\$2,512,130
COMMON STOCKS (0.6%)*	Shares	Value
EQT Corp.	6,835	\$264,241
GFL Environmental, Inc. (Canada)	4,430	152,879
OneMain Holdings, Inc.	3,625	178,350
Permian Resources Corp.	14,815	201,484
Texas Competitive Electric Holdings Co., LLC/		
TCEH Finance, Inc. (Rights) †	36,615	42,107
Total common stocks (cost \$775,368)		\$839,061
CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED STOCKS (0.4%)*	Shares	Value
Apollo Global Management, Inc. \$3.38 cv. pfd.	5,667	\$318,486
Chart Industries, Inc. \$3.375 cv. pfd.	5,389	304,802

SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS (6.3%)*	Shares	Value
Putnam Short Term Investment Fund		
Class P 5.53% L	9,365,201	\$9,365,201
Total short-term investments (cost \$9,365,201)		\$9,365,201

Total investments (cost \$147,741,610)

\$144,790,083

#### Key to holding's currency abbreviations

EUR Euro

#### Key to holding's abbreviations

Basis Points CME Chicago Mercantile Exchange DAC Designated Activity Company FRB Floating Rate Bonds: The rate shown is the current interest rate at the close of the reporting period. Rates may be subject to a cap or floor. For certain securities, the rate may represent a fixed rate currently in place at the close of the reporting period. FRN Floating Rate Notes: The rate shown is the current interest rate or yield at the close of the reporting period. Rates may be subject to a cap or floor. For certain securities, the rate may represent a fixed rate currently in place at the close of the reporting period. Securities sold under Regulation S may not be offered, sold

or delivered within the United States except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933.

SOFR Secured Overnight Financing Rate

#### Notes to the fund's portfolio

Unless noted otherwise, the notes to the fund's portfolio are for the close of the fund's reporting period, which ran from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 (the reporting period). Within the following notes to the portfolio, references to "Putnam Management" represent Putnam Investment Management, LLC, the fund's manager, an indirect whollyowned subsidiary of Franklin Resources, Inc., and references to "ASC 820" represent Accounting Standards Codification 820 Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures.

- \* Percentages indicated are based on net assets of \$147,543,666.
- † This security is non-income-producing.
- ‡‡ Income may be received in cash or additional securities at the discretion of the issuer. The rate shown in parenthesis is the rate paid in kind, if applicable.
- c Senior loans are exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, but contain certain restrictions on resale and cannot be sold publicly. These loans pay interest at rates which adjust periodically. The interest rates shown for senior loans are the current interest rates at the close of the reporting period. Senior loans are also subject to mandatory and/or optional prepayment which cannot be predicted. As a result, the remaining maturity may be substantially less than the stated maturity shown
- L Affiliated company (Note 5). The rate quoted in the security description is the annualized 7-day yield of the fund at the close of the reporting period.
- R Real Estate Investment Trust.

Debt obligations are considered secured unless otherwise indicated.

144A after the name of an issuer represents securities exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers.

The dates shown on debt obligations are the original maturity dates.

#### FORWARD CURRENCY CONTRACTS at 12/31/23 (aggregate face value \$2,877,850)

Countaryantu	Cumanau	Contract	Delivery date	Value	Aggregate face value	Unrealized
Counterparty	Currency	type*	uate	value	race value	depreciation
Bank of America N.A.						
	Euro	Sell	3/20/24	\$107,745	\$105,532	\$(2,213)
Goldman Sachs International						
	Euro	Sell	3/20/24	97,004	95,010	(1,994)
JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A.						
	Euro	Sell	3/20/24	143,290	140,343	(2,947)
Morgan Stanley & Co. Internation	nalPLC					
	Euro	Sell	3/20/24	896,506	888,131	(8,375)
State Street Bank and Trust Co.						
	Euro	Sell	3/20/24	1,631,894	1,598,287	(33,607)
UBSAG						
	Euro	Sell	3/20/24	51,602	50,547	(1,055)
Unrealized appreciation	,					_
Unrealized (depreciation)						(50,191)
Total						\$(50,191)

<sup>\*</sup> The exchange currency for all contracts listed is the United States Dollar.

#### CENTRALLY CLEARED CREDIT DEFAULT CONTRACTS OUTSTANDING — PROTECTION SOLD at 12/31/23

Referenced debt*	Rating***	Upfront premium received (paid)**	Notional amount	Value	Termi- nation date	Payments received by fund	Unrealized appreciation
CDX NA HY Series 41 Index	B+/P	\$(3,340)	\$2,734,380	\$159,961	12/20/28	500 bp — Quarterly	\$161,178
Total		\$(3,340)					\$161,178

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  Payments related to the referenced debt are made upon a credit default event.

ASC 820 establishes a three-level hierarchy for disclosure of fair value measurements. The valuation hierarchy is based upon the transparency of inputs to the valuation of the fund's investments. The three levels are defined as follows:

Level 1: Valuations based on quoted prices for identical securities in active markets.

Level 2: Valuations based on quoted prices in markets that are not active or for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly.

 $Level \ 3: Valuations \ based \ on inputs \ that \ are \ unobservable \ and \ significant \ to \ the \ fair \ value \ measurement.$ 

The following is a summary of the inputs used to value the fund's net assets as of the close of the reporting period:

	Valuation inputs					
Investments in securities:	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3			
Common stocks*:						
Capital goods	\$152,879	\$—	\$—			
Energy	465,725	_	_			
Financials	178,350	_	_			
Utilities and power	_	42,107	_			
Total common stocks	796,954	42,107	_			
Convertible bonds and notes	_	2,512,130	_			
Convertible preferred stocks	_	623,288	_			
Corporate bonds and notes	_	122,170,565	_			
Seniorloans	_	9,279,838	_			
Short-term investments	_	9,365,201	_			
Totals by level	\$796,954	\$143,993,129	\$-			

	Valuation inputs			
Other financial instruments:	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Forward currency contracts	\$-	\$(50,191)	\$—	
Credit default contracts	_	164,518	_	
Totals by level	\$-	\$114,327	\$-	

<sup>\*</sup> Common stock classifications are presented at the sector level, which may differ from the fund's portfolio presentation.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star\star}$  Upfront premium is based on the difference between the original spread on issue and the market spread on day of execution.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Ratings for an underlying index represent the average of the ratings of all the securities included in that index. The Moody's, Standard & Poor's or Fitch ratings are believed to be the most recent ratings available at December 31, 2023. Securities rated by Fitch are indicated by "/F." Securities rated by Putnam are indicated by "/P." The Putnam rating categories are comparable to the Standard & Poor's classifications.

# Statement of assets and liabilities

12/31/23

## Assets

Investment in securities, at value (Notes 1 and 9):	
Unaffiliated issuers (identified cost \$138,376,409)	\$135,424,882
Affiliated issuers (identified cost \$9,365,201) (Note 5)	9,365,201
Cash	129,650
Dividends, interest and other receivables	2,281,048
Receivable for shares of the fund sold	202,427
Receivable for investments sold	658,257
Deposits with broker (Note 1)	228,140
Total assets	148,289,605
Liabilities	
Payable for investments purchased	322,778
Payable for shares of the fund repurchased	52,917
Payable for compensation of Manager (Note 2)	68,758
Payable for custodian fees (Note 2)	7,903
Payable for investor servicing fees (Note 2)	16,598
Payable for Trustee compensation and expenses (Note 2)	114,668
Payable for administrative services (Note 2)	2,056
Payable for distribution fees (Note 2)	9,981
Payable for auditing and tax fees	78,103
Payable for variation margin on centrally cleared swap contracts (Note 1)	1,940
Unrealized depreciation on forward currency contracts (Note 1)	50,191
Payable to broker (Note 1)	27
Other accrued expenses	20,019
Total liabilities	745,939
Net assets	\$147,543,666
Represented by	
Paid-in capital (Unlimited shares authorized) (Notes 1 and 4)	\$166,399,071
Total distributable earnings (Note 1)	(18,855,405)
Total — Representing net assets applicable to capital shares outstanding	\$147,543,666
Computation of net asset value Class IA	
Netassets	\$99,900,675
Number of shares outstanding	17,793,852
Net asset value, offering price and redemption price per share (net assets divided by number of shares outstanding)	\$5.61
Computation of net asset value Class IB	
Netassets	\$47,642,991
Number of shares outstanding	8,583,486
Net asset value, offering price and redemption price per share (net assets divided by number of shares outstanding)	\$5.55

# Statement of operations

Year ended 12/31/23

Investment income	
Interest (including interest income of \$401,313 from investments in affiliated issuers) (Note 5)	\$9,603,240
Dividends (net of foreign tax of \$14)	58,808
Total investment income	9,662,048
Expenses	
Compensation of Manager (Note 2)	781,852
Investor servicing fees (Note 2)	97,742
Custodian fees (Note 2)	21,875
Trustee compensation and expenses (Note 2)	6,021
Distribution fees (Note 2)	108,318
Administrative services (Note 2)	4,537
Auditing and tax fees	79,872
Other	53,208
Total expenses	1,153,425
Expense reduction (Note 2)	(2,270)
Net expenses	1,151,155
Net investment income	8,510,893
Realized and unrealized gain (loss)	
Net realized gain (loss) on:	
Securities from unaffiliated issuers (Notes 1 and 3)	(6,304,494)
Foreign currency transactions (Note 1)	1,885
Forward currency contracts (Note 1)	25,093
Swap contracts (Note 1)	87,774
Total net realized loss	(6,189,742)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Securities from unaffiliated issuers	13,693,681
Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies	16
Forward currency contracts	(36,606)
Swap contracts	138,636
Total change in net unrealized appreciation	13,795,727
Net gain on investments	7,605,985
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	\$16,116,878

# Statement of changes in net assets

	Year ended 12/31/23	Year ended 12/31/22
Increase (decrease) in net assets		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$8,510,893	\$7,467,073
Net realized loss on investments and foreign currency transactions	(6,189,742)	(4,622,229)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and assets and liabilities in foreign currencies	13,795,727	(21,584,910)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	16,116,878	(18,740,066)
Distributions to shareholders (Note 1):		
From ordinary income		
Net investment income		
Class IA	(5,311,398)	(5,650,434)
Class IB	(2,098,210)	(2,083,476)
Net realized short-term gain on investments		
Class IA	_	(147,243)
Class IB	_	(57,475)
Net realized long-term gain on investments		
Class IA	_	(55,216)
Class IB	_	(21,553)
Increase (decrease) from capital share transactions (Note 4)	6,954,748	(9,646,235)
Total increase (decrease) in net assets	15,662,018	(36,401,698)
Net assets:		
Beginning of year	131,881,648	168,283,346
End of year	\$147,543,666	\$131,881,648

# **Financial highlights**

(For a common share outstanding throughout the period)

INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	i:				LESS DIS	TRIBUTI	ONS:			RATIOSAND	SUPPLEN	IENTAL D	ATA:
Period ended	Net asset value, beginning of period	Net investment income (loss) a	Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	Total from investment operations	From net investment income	From net realized gain on investments	Total distributions	Net asset value, end of period	Total return at net asset value (%) Þ.c	Net assets, end of period (in thousands)	Ratio of expenses to average net assets (%) b.d	Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets (%)	Portfolio turnover (%)
ClassIA													
12/31/23	\$5.29	.33	.29	.62	(.30)	_	(.30)	\$5.61	12.29	\$99,901	.75	6.18	45
12/31/22	6.30	.29	(.98)	(.69)	(.31)	(.01)	(.32)	5.29	(11.37)	94,436	.75 <b>f</b>	5.24	28
12/31/21	6.30	.28	.03	.31	(.31)	_	(.31)	6.30	5.20	119,199	.70	4.56	44
12/31/20	6.39	.30	(.03) <b>e</b>	.27	(.36)	_	(.36)	6.30	5.50	125,959	.72	4.98	48
12/31/19	5.94	.33	.51	.84	(.39)	_	(.39)	6.39	14.55	131,799	.73	5.29	37
ClassIB													
12/31/23	\$5.23	.31	.30	.61	(.29)	_	(.29)	\$5.55	12.13	\$47,643	1.00	5.93	45
12/31/22	6.23	.27	(.97)	(.70)	(.29)	(.01)	(.30)	5.23	(11.60)	37,446	1.00 <b>f</b>	4.98	28
12/31/21	6.23	.27	.03	.30	(.30)	_	(.30)	6.23	4.97	49,084	.95	4.32	44
12/31/20	6.32	.28	(.03) <b>e</b>	.25	(.34)	_	(.34)	6.23	5.21	53,426	.97	4.71	48
12/31/19	5.87	.31	.51	.82	(.37)	_	(.37)	6.32	14.40	54,261	.98	5.04	37

a Per share net investment income (loss) has been determined on the basis of the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period.

**b** The charges and expenses at the insurance company separate account level are not reflected.

<sup>•</sup> Total return assumes dividend reinvestment.

d Includes amounts paid through expense offset and/or brokerage/service arrangements, if any (Note 2). Also excludes acquired fund fees and expenses, if any.

 $<sup>{\</sup>tt e \ The \ Net \ realized \ and \ unrealized \ gain \ (loss) \ on \ investments \ shown \ for \ the \ period \ noted \ may \ not \ correspond \ with \ the \ amounts \ shown \ on \ the \ Statement \ of \ changes \ in \ net \ net \ of \ changes \ in \ net \ net \ of \ changes \ in \ net \ net \ of \ changes \ in \ net \$ assets as a result of timing of share activity.

f Includes one-time proxy cost of 0.01%.

# Notes to financial statements 12/31/23

Unless otherwise noted, the "reporting period" represents the period from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The following table defines commonly used references within the Notes to financial statements:

References to	Represent
Franklin Templeton	Franklin Resources, Inc.
JPMorgan	JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
OTC	over-the-counter
PIL	Putnam Investments Limited, an affiliate of Putnam Management
Putnam Management	Putnam Investment Management, LLC, the fund's manager, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Franklin Templeton
SEC	Securities and Exchange Commission
State Street	State Street Bank and Trust Company

Putnam VT High Yield Fund (the fund) is a diversified series of Putnam Variable Trust (the Trust), a Massachusetts business trust registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, as an open-end management investment company. The goal of the fund is to seek high current income. Capital growth is a secondary goal when consistent with achieving high current income. The fund invests mainly in bonds that are obligations of U.S. companies, are below-investment-grade in quality (sometimes referred to as "junk bonds"), and have intermediate- to long-term maturities (three years or longer). Under normal circumstances, Putnam Management invests at least 80% of the fund's net assets in securities rated below investment-grade. This policy may be changed only after 60 days' notice to shareholders. The fund may also invest in other debt instruments, including loans. Putnam Management may consider, among other factors, credit, interest rate and prepayment risks, as well as general market conditions, when deciding whether to buy or sell investments. Putnam Management may also use derivatives, such as futures, options, certain foreign currency transactions and credit default swap contracts for both hedging and non-hedging purposes.

The fund offers class IA and class IB shares of beneficial interest. Class IA shares are offered at net asset value and are not subject to a distribution fee. Class IB shares are offered at net asset value and pay an ongoing distribution fee, which is

In the normal course of business, the fund enters into contracts that may include agreements to indemnify another party under given circumstances. The fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be, but have not yet been, made against the fund. However, the fund's management team expects the risk of material loss to be remote.

The fund has entered into contractual arrangements with an investment adviser, administrator, distributor, shareholder servicing agent and custodian, who each provide services to the fund. Unless expressly stated otherwise, shareholders are not parties to, or intended beneficiaries of these contractual arrangements, and these contractual arrangements are not intended to create any shareholder right to enforce them against the service providers or to seek any remedy under them against the service providers, either directly or on behalf of the fund.

Under the Trust's Amended and Restated Agreement and Declaration of Trust, any claims asserted by a shareholder against or on behalf of the Trust (or its series), including claims against Trustees and Officers, must be brought in state and federal courts located within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

### Note 1 — Significant accounting policies

The fund follows the accounting and reporting guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification Topic 946, Financial Services - Investment Companies (ASC 946) and applies the specialized accounting and reporting guidance in U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (U.S. GAAP), including, but not limited to, ASC 946. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the fund in the preparation of its financial statements. The preparation of financial statements is in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the reported amounts of increases and decreases in net assets from operations. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Subsequent events after the Statement of assets and liabilities date through the date that the financial statements were issued have been evaluated in the preparation of the financial statements.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses and expenses of the fund are borne pro-rata based on the relative net assets of each class to the total net assets of the fund, except that each class bears expenses unique to that class (including the distribution fees applicable to such classes). Each class votes as a class only with respect to its own distribution plan or other matters on which a class vote is required by law or determined by the Trustees. If the fund were liquidated, shares of each class would receive their pro-rata share of the net assets of the fund. In addition, the Trustees declare separate dividends on each class of shares.

Security valuation Portfolio securities and other investments are valued using policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees. The Trustees have formed a Pricing Committee to oversee the implementation of these procedures and have delegated responsibility for valuing the fund's assets in accordance with these procedures to Putnam Management. Putnam Management has established an internal Valuation Committee that is responsible for making fair value determinations, evaluating the effectiveness of the pricing policies of the fund and reporting to the Pricing Committee.

Investments for which market quotations are readily available are valued at the last reported sales price on their principal exchange, or official closing price for certain markets, and are classified as Level 1 securities under Accounting Standards Codification 820 Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (ASC 820). If no sales are reported, as in the case of some securities that are traded OTC, a security is valued at its last reported bid price and is generally categorized as a Level 2 security.

Investments in open-end investment companies (excluding exchange-traded funds), if any, which can be classified as Level 1 or Level 2 securities, are valued based on their net asset value. The net asset value of such investment companies  $\,$ equals the total value of their assets less their liabilities and divided by the number of their outstanding shares.

Market quotations are not considered to be readily available for certain debt obligations (including short-term investments with remaining maturities of 60 days or less) and other investments; such investments are valued on the basis of valuations furnished by an independent pricing service approved by the Trustees or dealers selected by Putnam Management. Such services or dealers determine valuations for normal institutional-size trading units of such securities using methods based on market transactions for comparable securities and various relationships, generally recognized by institutional traders, between securities (which consider such factors as security prices, yields, maturities and ratings). These securities will generally be categorized as Level 2.

Many securities markets and exchanges outside the U.S. close prior to the scheduled close of the New York Stock Exchange and therefore the closing prices for securities in such markets or on such exchanges may not fully reflect events that occur after such close but before the scheduled close of the New York Stock Exchange. Accordingly, on certain days, the fund will fair value certain foreign equity securities taking into account multiple factors including movements in the U.S. securities markets, currency valuations and comparisons to the valuation of American Depository Receipts, exchange-traded funds and futures contracts. The foreign equity securities, which would generally be classified as Level 1 securities, will be transferred to Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy when they are valued at fair value. The number of days on which fair value prices will be used will depend on market activity and it is possible that fair value prices will be used by the fund to a significant extent. Securities quoted in foreign currencies, if any, are translated into U.S. dollars at the current exchange rate.

To the extent a pricing service or dealer is unable to value a security or provides a valuation that Putnam Management does not believe accurately reflects the security's fair value, the security will be valued at fair value by Putnam Management, which has been designated as valuation designee pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, in accordance with policies and procedures approved by the Trustees. Certain investments, including certain restricted and illiquid securities and derivatives, are also valued at fair value following procedures approved by the Trustees. These valuations consider such factors as significant market or specific security events such as interest rate or credit quality changes, various relationships with other securities, discount rates, U.S. Treasury, U.S. swap and credit yields, index levels, convexity exposures, recovery rates, sales and other multiples and resale restrictions. These securities are classified as Level 2 or as Level 3 depending on the priority of the significant inputs.

To assess the continuing appropriateness of fair valuations, the Valuation Committee reviews and affirms the reasonableness of such valuations on a regular basis after considering all relevant information that is reasonably available. Such valuations and procedures are reviewed periodically by the Trustees. The fair value of securities is generally determined as the amount that the fund could reasonably expect to realize from an orderly disposition of such securities over a reasonable period of time. By its nature, a fair value price is a good faith estimate of the value of a security in a current sale and does not reflect an actual market price, which may be different by a material amount.

Security transactions and related investment income Security transactions are recorded on the trade date (the date the order to buy or sell is executed). Gains or losses on securities sold are determined on the identified cost basis.

Interest income, net of any applicable withholding taxes, if any, is recorded on the accrual basis. Amortization and accretion of premiums and discounts on debt securities, if any, is recorded on the accrual basis.

Dividend income, net of any applicable withholding taxes, is recognized on the ex-dividend date except that certain dividends from foreign securities, if any, are recognized as soon as the fund is informed of the ex-dividend date. Non-cash dividends, if any, are recorded at the fair value of the securities received. Dividends representing a return of capital or capital gains, if any, are reflected as a reduction of cost and/or as a realized gain.

The fund may have earned certain fees in connection with its senior loan purchasing activities. These fees, if any, are treated as market discount and are amortized into income in the Statement of operations.

Foreign currency translation The accounting records of the fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. The fair value of foreign securities, currency holdings, and other assets and liabilities is recorded in the books and records of the fund after translation to U.S. dollars based on the exchange rates on that day. The cost of each security is determined using historical exchange rates. Income and withholding taxes are translated at prevailing exchange rates when earned or incurred. The fund does not isolate that portion of realized or unrealized gains or losses resulting from changes in the foreign exchange rate on investments from fluctuations arising from changes in the market prices of the securities. Such gains and losses are included with the net realized and unrealized gain or loss on investments. Net realized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net realized exchange gains or losses on disposition of foreign currencies, currency gains and losses realized between the trade and settlement dates on securities transactions and the difference between the amount of investment income and foreign withholding taxes recorded on the fund's books and the U.S. dollar equivalent amounts actually received or paid. Net unrealized appreciation and depreciation of assets and liabilities in foreign currencies arise from changes in the value of assets and liabilities other than investments at the period end, resulting from changes in the exchange rate.

Forward currency contracts The fund buys and sells forward currency contracts, which are agreements between two parties to buy and sell currencies at a set price on a future date. These contracts are used for hedging currency exposures.

The U.S. dollar value of forward currency contracts is determined using current forward currency exchange rates supplied by a quotation service. The fair value of the contract will fluctuate with changes in currency exchange rates. The contract is marked to market daily and the change in fair value is recorded as an unrealized gain or loss. The fund records a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the value of the contract at the time it was opened and the value at the time it was closed when the contract matures or by delivery of the currency. The fund could be exposed to risk if the value of the currency changes unfavorably, if the counterparties to the contracts are unable to meet the terms of their contracts or if the fund is unable to enter into a closing position. Risks may exceed amounts recognized on the Statement of assets and liabilities.

Forward currency contracts outstanding at period end, if any, are listed after the fund's portfolio.

Credit default contracts The fund entered into OTC and/or centrally cleared credit default contracts to hedge credit risk, to gain liquid exposure to individual names and to hedge market risk.

In OTC and centrally cleared credit default contracts, the protection buyer typically makes a periodic stream of payments to a counterparty, the protection seller, in exchange for the right to receive a contingent payment upon the occurrence of a credit event on the reference obligation or all other equally ranked obligations of the reference entity. Credit events are contract specific but may include bankruptcy, failure to pay, restructuring and obligation acceleration. For OTC credit default contracts, an upfront payment received by the fund is recorded as

a liability on the fund's books. An upfront payment made by the fund is recorded as an asset on the fund's books. Centrally cleared credit default contracts provide the same rights to the protection buyer and seller except the payments between parties, including upfront premiums, are settled through a central clearing agent through variation margin payments. Upfront and periodic payments received or paid by the fund for OTC and centrally cleared credit default contracts are recorded as realized gains or losses at the reset date or close of the contract. The OTC and centrally cleared credit default contracts are marked to market daily based upon quotations from an independent pricing service or market makers. Any change in value of OTC credit default contracts is recorded as an unrealized gain or loss. Daily fluctuations in the value of centrally cleared credit default contracts are recorded in variation margin on the Statement of assets and liabilities and recorded as unrealized gain or loss. Upon the occurrence of a credit event, the difference between the par value and fair value of the reference obligation, net of any proportional amount of the upfront payment, is recorded as a realized gain or loss.

In addition to bearing the risk that the credit event will occur, the fund could be exposed to market risk due to unfavorable changes in interest rates or in the price of the underlying security or index or the possibility that the fund may be unable to close out its position at the same time or at the same price as if it had purchased the underlying reference obligations. In certain circumstances, the fund may enter into offsetting OTC and centrally cleared credit default contracts which would mitigate its risk of loss. Risks of loss may exceed amounts recognized on the Statement of assets and liabilities. The fund's maximum risk of loss from counterparty risk, either as the protection seller or as the protection buyer, is the fair value of the contract. This risk may be mitigated for OTC credit default contracts by having a master netting arrangement between the fund and the counterparty and for centrally cleared credit default contracts through the daily exchange of variation margin. Counterparty risk is further mitigated with respect to centrally cleared credit default swap contracts due to the clearinghouse guarantee fund and other resources that are available in the event of a clearing member default. Where the fund is a seller of protection, the maximum potential amount of future payments the fund may be required to make is equal to the notional amount.

OTC and centrally cleared credit default contracts outstanding, including their respective notional amounts at period end, if any, are listed after the fund's portfolio.

At the close of the reporting period, the fund has deposited cash valued at \$228,140 in a segregated account to cover margin requirements on open centrally cleared credit default contracts.

Master agreements The fund is a party to ISDA (International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc.) Master Agreements that govern OTC derivative and foreign exchange contracts and Master Securities Forward Transaction Agreements that govern transactions involving mortgage-backed and other assetbacked securities that may result in delayed delivery (Master Agreements) with certain counterparties entered into from time to time. The Master Agreements may contain provisions regarding, among other things, the parties' general obligations, representations, agreements, collateral requirements, events of default and early termination. With respect to certain counterparties, in accordance with the terms of the Master Agreements, collateral pledged to the fund is held in a segregated account by the fund's custodian and, with respect to those amounts which can be sold or repledged, are presented in the fund's portfolio.

Collateral pledged by the fund is segregated by the fund's custodian and identified in the fund's portfolio. Collateral can be in the form of cash or debt securities issued by the U.S. Government or related agencies or other securities as agreed to by the fund and the applicable counterparty. Collateral requirements are determined based on the fund's net position with each counterparty.

With respect to ISDA Master Agreements, termination events applicable to the fund may occur upon a decline in the fund's net assets below a specified threshold over a certain period of time. Termination events applicable to counterparties may occur upon a decline in the counterparty's long-term or short-term credit ratings below a specified level. In each case, upon occurrence, the other party may elect to terminate early and cause settlement of all derivative and foreign exchange contracts outstanding, including the payment of any losses and costs resulting from such early termination, as reasonably determined by the terminating party. Any decision by one or more of the fund's counterparties to elect early termination could impact the fund's future derivative activity.

At the close of the reporting period, the fund had a net liability position of \$50,191 on open derivative contracts subject to the Master Agreements. There was no collateral pledged by the fund at period end for these agreements.

Interfund lending The fund, along with other Putnam funds, may participate in an interfund lending program pursuant to an exemptive order issued by the SEC. This program allows the fund to borrow from or lend to other Putnam funds that permit such transactions. Interfund lending transactions are subject to each fund's investment policies and borrowing and lending limits. Interest earned or paid on the interfund lending transaction will be based on the average of certain current market rates. During the reporting period, the fund did not utilize the program.

Lines of credit The fund participates, along with other Putnam funds, in a \$320 million syndicated unsecured committed line of credit, provided by State Street (\$160 million) and JPMorgan (\$160 million), and a \$235.5 million unsecured uncommitted line of credit, provided by State Street. Borrowings may be made for temporary or emergency purposes, including the funding of shareholder redemption requests and trade settlements. Interest is charged to the fund based on the fund's borrowing at a rate equal to 1.25% plus the higher of (1) the Federal Funds rate and (2) the Overnight Bank Funding Rate for the committed line of credit and 1.30% plus the higher of (1) the Federal Funds rate and (2) the Overnight Bank Funding Rate for the uncommitted line of credit. A closing fee equal to 0.04% of the committed line of credit and 0.04% of the uncommitted line of credit has been paid by the participating funds and a \$75,000 fee has been paid by the participating funds to State Street as agent of the syndicated committed line of credit. In addition, a commitment fee of 0.21% per annum on any unutilized portion of the committed line of credit is allocated to the participating funds based on their relative net assets and paid quarterly. During the reporting period, the fund had no borrowings against these arrangements.

Federal taxes It is the policy of the fund to distribute all of its taxable income within the prescribed time period and otherwise comply with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), applicable to regulated

The fund is subject to the provisions of Accounting Standards Codification 740 Income Taxes (ASC 740). ASC 740 sets forth a minimum threshold for financial statement recognition of the benefit of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The fund did not have a liability to record for any unrecognized tax benefits in the accompanying financial statements. No provision has been made for federal taxes on income, capital gains or unrealized appreciation on securities held nor for excise tax on income and capital gains. Each of the fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remains subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

The fund may also be subject to taxes imposed by governments of countries in which it invests. Such taxes are generally based on either income or gains earned or repatriated. The fund accrues and applies such taxes to net investment income, net realized gains and net unrealized gains as income and/or capital gains are earned. In some cases, the fund may be entitled to reclaim all or a portion of such taxes, and such reclaim amounts, if any, are reflected as an asset on the fund's books. In many cases, however, the fund may not receive such amounts for an extended period of time, depending on the country of investment.

Under the Regulated Investment Company Modernization Act of 2010, the fund will be permitted to carry forward capital losses incurred for an unlimited period and the carry forwards will retain their character as either short-term or long-term capital losses. At December 31, 2023, the fund had the following capital loss carryovers available, to the extent allowed by the Code, to offset future net capital gain, if any:

	Loss carryover					
Total	Long-term	Short-term				
\$24,296,780	\$23,165,051	\$1,131,729				

**Distributions to shareholders** Distributions to shareholders from net investment income, if any, are recorded by the fund on the ex-dividend date. Distributions from capital gains, if any, are recorded on the ex-dividend date and paid at least annually. The amount and character of income and gains to be distributed are determined in accordance with income tax regulations, which may differ from generally accepted accounting principles. These differences include temporary and/or permanent differences from income on swap contracts. Reclassifications are made to the fund's capital accounts to reflect income and gains available for distribution (or available capital loss carryovers) under income tax regulations. At the close of the reporting period, the fund reclassified \$117,847 to increase undistributed net investment income and \$117,847 to increase accumulated net

Tax cost of investments includes adjustments to net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) which may not necessarily be final tax cost basis adjustments, but closely approximate the tax basis unrealized gains and losses that may be realized and distributed to shareholders. The tax basis components of distributable earnings and the federal tax cost as of the close of the reporting period were

Unrealized appreciation	\$3,166,913
Unrealized depreciation	(6,150,502)
Net unrealized depreciation	(2,983,589)
Undistributed ordinary income	8,424,039
Capital loss carryforward	(24,296,780)
Cost for federal income tax purposes	\$147,887,999

Expenses of the Trust Expenses directly charged or attributable to any fund will be paid from the assets of that fund. Generally, expenses of the Trust will be allocated among and charged to the assets of each fund on a basis that the Trustees deem fair and equitable, which may be based on the relative assets of each fund or the nature of the services performed and relative applicability to each fund.

Beneficial interest At the close of the reporting period, insurance companies or their separate accounts were record owners of all but a de minimis number of the shares of the fund. Approximately 31.7% of the fund is owned by accounts of one insurance company.

#### Note 2 — Management fee, administrative services and other transactions

The fund pays Putnam Management a management fee (based on the fund's average net assets and computed and paid monthly) at annual rates that may vary based on the average of the aggregate net assets of all open-end mutual funds sponsored by Putnam Management (excluding net assets of funds that are invested in, or that are invested in by, other Putnam funds to the extent necessary to avoid "double counting" of those assets). Such annual rates may vary as follows:

0.720%	of the first \$5 billion,
0.670%	of the next \$5 billion,
0.620%	of the next \$10 billion,
0.570%	of the next \$10 billion,
0.520%	of the next \$50 billion,
0.500%	of the next \$50 billion,
0.490%	of the next \$100 billion and
0.485%	of any excess thereafter.

For the reporting period, the management fee represented an effective rate (excluding the impact from any expense waivers in effect) of 0.560% of the fund's average net assets.

Putnam Management has contractually agreed, through April 30, 2025, to waive fees and/or reimburse the fund's expenses to the extent necessary to limit the cumulative expenses of the fund, exclusive of brokerage, interest, taxes, investment-related expenses, extraordinary expenses, acquired fund fees and expenses and payments under the fund's investor servicing contract, investment management contract and distribution plan, on a fiscal year-to-date basis to an annual rate of 0.20% of the fund's average net assets over such fiscal year-to-date period. During the reporting period, the fund's expenses were not reduced as a result of this limit.

PIL is authorized by the Trustees to manage a separate portion of the assets of the fund as determined by Putnam Management from time to time. PIL did not manage any portion of the assets of the fund during the reporting period. If Putnam Management were to engage the services of PIL, Putnam Management would pay a quarterly sub-management fee to PIL for its services at an annual rate of 0.20% of the average net assets of the portion of the fund managed by PIL.

On January 1, 2024, a subsidiary of Franklin Templeton acquired Putnam U.S. Holdings I, LLC ("Putnam Holdings"), the parent company of Putnam Management and PIL, in a stock and cash transaction (the "Transaction"). As a result of the Transaction, Putnam Management (the investment manager to the fund and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Putnam Holdings) and PIL (sub-adviser to the fund and an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Putnam Holdings) became indirect, wholly-owned subsidiaries of Franklin Templeton. The Transaction also resulted in the automatic termination of the investment management contract between the fund and Putnam Management and the sub-management contract for the fund between Putnam Management and PIL that were in place for the fund before the Transaction. However, Putnam Management and PIL continue to provide uninterrupted services with respect to the fund pursuant to new investment management and sub-management contracts that were approved by fund shareholders at a shareholder meeting held in connection with the Transaction and that took

effect on January 1, 2024. The terms of the new investment management and sub-management contracts are substantially similar to those of the previous investment management and sub-management contracts, and the fee rates payable under the new investment management and sub-management contracts are the same as the fee rates under the previous investment management and sub-management contracts.

The fund reimburses Putnam Management an allocated amount for the compensation and related expenses of certain officers of the fund and their staff who provide administrative services to the fund. The aggregate amount of all such reimbursements is determined annually by the Trustees.

Custodial functions for the fund's assets are provided by State Street. Custody fees are based on the fund's asset level, the number of its security holdings and transaction volumes.

Putnam Investor Services, Inc., an affiliate of Putnam Management, provides investor servicing agent functions to the fund. Putnam Investor Services, Inc. was paid a monthly fee for investor servicing at an annual rate of 0.07% of the fund's average daily net assets. During the reporting period, the expenses for each class of shares related to investor servicing fees were as follows:

Class IA	\$67,418
Class IB	30,324
Total	\$97,742

The fund has entered into expense offset arrangements with Putnam Investor Services, Inc. and State Street whereby Putnam Investor Services, Inc.'s and State Street's fees are reduced by credits allowed on cash balances. For the reporting period, the fund's expenses were reduced by \$2,270 under the expense offset arrangements.

Each Independent Trustee of the fund receives an annual Trustee fee, of which \$120, as a quarterly retainer, has been allocated to the fund, and an additional fee for each Trustees meeting attended. Trustees also are reimbursed for expenses they incur relating to their services as Trustees.

The fund has adopted a Trustee Fee Deferral Plan (the Deferral Plan) which allows the Trustees to defer the receipt of all or a portion of Trustees fees payable from July 1, 1995 through December 31, 2023. The deferred fees remain invested in certain Putnam funds until distribution in accordance with the Deferral Plan.

The fund has adopted an unfunded noncontributory defined benefit pension plan (the Pension Plan) covering all Trustees of the fund who have served as a Trustee for at least five years and were first elected prior to 2004. Benefits under the Pension Plan are equal to 50% of the Trustee's average annual attendance and retainer fees for the three years ended December 31, 2005. The retirement benefit is payable during a Trustee's lifetime, beginning the year following retirement, for the number of years of service through December 31, 2006. Pension expense for the fund is included in Trustee compensation and expenses in the Statement of operations. Accrued pension liability is included in Payable for Trustee compensation and expenses in the Statement of assets and liabilities. The Trustees have terminated the Pension Plan with respect to any Trustee first elected after 2003.

The fund has adopted a distribution plan (the Plan) with respect to its class IB shares pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The purpose of the Plan is to compensate Putnam Retail Management Limited Partnership, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Franklin Templeton, for services provided and expenses incurred in distributing shares of the fund. The Plan provides for payment by the fund to Putnam Retail Management Limited Partnership at an annual rate of up to 0.35% of the average net assets attributable to the fund's class IB shares. The Trustees have approved payment by the fund at an annual rate of 0.25% of the average net assets attributable to the fund's class IB shares. The expenses related to distribution fees during the reporting period are included in Distribution fees in the Statement of operations.

#### Note 3 — Purchases and sales of securities

During the reporting period, the cost of purchases and the proceeds from sales, excluding short-term investments, were as follows:

	Cost of purchases	Proceeds from sales
Investments in securities (Long-term)	\$63,154,534	\$57,826,957
U.S. government securities (Long-term)	_	_
Total	\$63,154,534	\$57,826,957

The fund may purchase or sell investments from or to other Putnam funds in the ordinary course of business, which can reduce the fund's transaction costs, at prices determined in accordance with SEC requirements and policies approved by the Trustees. During the reporting period, purchases or sales of long-term securities from or to other Putnam funds, if any, did not represent more than 5% of the fund's total cost of purchases and/or total proceeds from sales.

#### Note 4 — Capital shares

At the close of the reporting period, there were an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest authorized. Subscriptions and redemptions are presented at the omnibus level. Transactions in capital shares were as follows:

	Class IA shares			Class IB shares				
	Year en	ided 12/31/23	Year e	nded 12/31/22	Year e	nded 12/31/23	Year ended 12/31/22	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Shares sold	1,253,002	\$6,688,795	968,114	\$5,398,356	6,271,005	\$32,957,979	5,483,499	\$30,031,186
Shares issued in connection with reinvestment of distributions	1,035,360	5,311,398	1,021,448	5,852,893	413,033	2,098,210	380,723	2,162,504
	2,288,362	12,000,193	1,989,562	11,251,249	6,684,038	35,056,189	5,864,222	32,193,690
Shares repurchased	(2,348,572)	(12,479,399)	(3,057,964)	(16,978,774)	(5,259,473)	(27,622,235)	(6,582,917)	(36,112,400)
Net increase (decrease)	(60,210) \$(479,206) (1,068,402) \$(5,727,525)				1,424,565	\$7,433,954	(718,695)	\$(3,918,710)

#### Note 5 — Affiliated transactions

Transactions during the reporting period with any company which is under common ownership or control were as follows:

Name of affiliate	Fair value as of 12/31/22	Purchase cost	Sale proceeds	Investment income	Shares outstanding and fair value as of 12/31/23
Short-term investments					
Putnam Short Term Investment Fund Class P*	\$6,780,708	\$56,840,790	\$54,256,297	\$401,313	\$9,365,201
Total Short-term investments	\$6,780,708	\$56,840,790	\$54,256,297	\$401,313	\$9,365,201

<sup>\*</sup>Management fees charged to Putnam Short Term Investment Fund have been waived by Putnam Management. There were no realized or unrealized gains or losses during the period.

#### Note 6 — Market, credit and other risks

In the normal course of business, the fund trades financial instruments and enters into financial transactions where risk of potential loss exists due to changes in the market (market risk) or failure of the contracting party to the transaction to perform (credit risk). The fund may be exposed to additional credit risk that an institution or other entity with which the fund has unsettled or open transactions will default. Investments in foreign securities involve certain risks, including those related to economic instability, unfavorable political developments, and currency fluctuations. The fund may invest in higher-yielding, lower-rated bonds that may have a higher rate of default.

#### Note 7 — Senior loan commitments

Senior loans are purchased or sold on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis and may be settled a month or more after the trade date, which from time to time can delay the actual investment of available cash balances; interest income is accrued based on the terms of the securities. Senior loans can be acquired through an agent, by assignment from another holder of the loan, or as a participation interest in another holder's portion of the loan. When the fund invests in a loan or participation, the fund is subject to the risk that an intermediate participant between the fund and the borrower will fail to meet its obligations to the fund, in addition to the risk that the borrower under the loan may default on its obligations.

#### Note 8 — Summary of derivative activity

The volume of activity for the reporting period for any derivative type that was held during the period is listed below and was based on an average of the holdings at the end of each fiscal quarter:

Forward currency contracts (contract amount)	\$1,900,000
Centrally cleared credit default contracts (notional)	\$2,100,000
Warrants (number of warrants)	10

The following is a summary of the fair value of derivative instruments as of the close of the reporting period:

#### Fair value of derivative instruments as of the close of the reporting period

	Asset de	rivatives	Liability derivatives		
Derivatives not accounted for as hedging instruments under ASC 815	Statement of assets and liabilities location	Fair value	Statement of assets and liabilities location	Fair value	
Credit contracts	Receivables	\$164,518*	Payables	\$—	
Foreign exchange contracts	Receivables	_	Payables	50,191	
Total		\$164,518		\$50,191	

<sup>\*</sup>Includes cumulative appreciation/depreciation of centrally cleared swaps as reported in the fund's portfolio. Only current day's variation margin is reported within the Statement of assets and liabilities.

The following is a summary of realized and change in unrealized gains or losses of derivative instruments in the Statement of operations for the reporting period (Note 1):

## Amount of realized gain or (loss) on derivatives recognized in net gain or (loss) on investments

Derivatives not accounted for as hedging instruments under ASC 815	Warrants	Forward currency contracts	Swaps	Total
Credit contracts	\$-	\$—	\$87,774	\$87,774
Foreign exchange contracts	_	25,093	_	\$25,093
Equity contracts	(9)	_	_	\$(9)
Total	\$(9)	\$25,093	\$87,774	\$112,858

# Change in unrealized appreciation or (depreciation) on derivatives recognized in net gain or (loss) on investments

Derivatives not accounted for as hedging		Forward currency		
instruments under ASC 815	Warrants	contracts	Swaps	Total
Credit contracts	\$-	\$-	\$138,636	\$138,636
Foreign exchange contracts	_	(36,606)	_	\$(36,606)
Equity contracts	7	_	_	\$7
Total	\$7	\$(36,606)	\$138,636	\$102,037

#### Note 9 — Offsetting of financial and derivative assets and liabilities

The following table summarizes any derivatives, repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements, at the end of the reporting period, that are subject to an enforceable master netting agreement or similar agreement. For securities lending transactions or borrowing transactions associated with securities sold short, if any, see Note 1. For financial reporting purposes, the fund does not offset financial assets and financial liabilities that are subject to the master netting agreements in the Statement of assets and liabilities.

	Bank of America N.A.	Barclays Capital, Inc. (clearing broker)	Goldman Sachs International	Chase Bank	Morgan Stanley & Co. International PLC		UBS AG	Total
Assets:								
Centrally cleared credit default contracts§	\$—	\$—	\$-	\$—	\$-	\$—	\$—	\$—
Forward currency contracts#	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
TotalAssets	\$—	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Liabilities:								
Centrally cleared credit default contracts§	_	1,940	_	_	_	_	_	1,940
Forward currency contracts#	2,213	_	1,994	2,947	8,375	33,607	1,055	50,191
Total Liabilities	\$2,213	\$1,940	\$1,994	\$2,947	\$8,375	\$33,607	\$1,055	\$52,131
Total Financial and Derivative Net Assets	\$(2,213)	\$(1,940)	\$(1,994)	\$(2,947)	\$(8,375)	\$(33,607)	\$(1,055)	\$(52,131)
Total collateral received (pledged)†##	\$—	\$—	\$-	\$—	\$-	\$—	\$—	
Netamount	\$(2,213)	\$(1,940)	\$(1,994)	\$(2,947)	\$(8,375)	\$(33,607)	\$(1,055)	
Controlled collateral received (including								
TBA commitments)**	\$—	\$—	\$-	\$—	\$-	\$—	\$—	\$—
Uncontrolled collateral received	\$-	\$—	\$-	\$—	\$-	\$—	\$-	\$-
Collateral (pledged) (including TBA commitments)**	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$—	\$-

<sup>\*\*</sup>Included with Investments in securities on the Statement of assets and liabilities.

<sup>†</sup>Additional collateral may be required from certain brokers based on individual agreements.

<sup>#</sup>Covered by master netting agreement (Note 1).

<sup>##</sup>Any over-collateralization of total financial and derivative net assets is not shown. Collateral may include amounts related to unsettled agreements.

<sup>§</sup>Includes current day's variation margin only as reported on the Statement of assets and liabilities, which is not collateralized. Cumulative appreciation/(depreciation) for centrally cleared swap contracts is represented in the tables listed after the fund's portfolio. Collateral pledged for initial margin on centrally cleared swap contracts, which is not included in the table above, amounted to \$228,140.

# **Shareholder meeting results** (Unaudited)

# October 20, 2023 special meeting

At the meeting, a new Management Contract for your fund with Putnam Investment Management, LLC was approved, as follows:

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions/Votes withheld
19,909,312	671,312	891,969

At the meeting, a new Sub-Management Contract for your fund between Putnam Investment Management, LLC and Putnam Investments Limited was approved, as follows:

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions/Votes withheld
19,644,721	819,952	1,007,921

All tabulations are rounded to the nearest whole number.

# **About the Trustees**

Name Year of birth Position held	Principal occupations during past five years	Other directorships	
Independent Truste	ees		
<b>Liaquat Ahamed</b> Born 1952 Trustee since 2012	Author; won Pulitzer Prize for Lords of Finance: The Bankers Who Broke the World.	Chair of the Sun Valley Writers Conference, a literary not-for-profit organization, and a Trustee of the Journal of Philosophy.	
Barbara M. Baumann Born 1955 Trustee since 2010 Vice Chair since 2022	President of Cross Creek Energy Corporation, a strategic consultant to domestic energy firms and direct investor in energy projects.	Director of Devon Energy Corporation, a publicly traded independent natural gas and oil exploration and production company; Director of National Fuel Gas Company, a publicly traded energy company that engages in the production, gathering, transportation, distribution, and marketing of natural gas; Senior Advisor to the energy private equity firm First Reserve; member of the Finance Committee of the Children's Hospital of Colorado; member of the Investment Committee of the Board of The Denver Foundation; and previously a Director of publicly traded companies Buckeye Partners LP, UNS Energy Corporation, CVR Energy Company, and SM Energy Corporation.	
<b>Katinka Domotorffy</b> Born 1975 Trustee since 2012	Voting member of the Investment Committees of the Anne Ray Foundation and Margaret A. Cargill Foundation, part of the Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies.	Director of the Great Lakes Science Center and of College Now Greater Cleveland.	
<b>Catharine Bond Hill</b> Born 1954 Trustee since 2017	Managing Director of Ithaka S+R, a not-for-profit service that helps the academic community navigate economic and technological change. From 2006 to 2016, Dr. Hill served as the 10th president of Vassar College.	Director of Yale-NUS College and Trustee of Yale University.	
Kenneth R. Leibler Born 1949 Trustee since 2006 Vice Chair from 2016 to 2018, Chair since 2018	Vice Chair Emeritus of the Board of Trustees of Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Boston. Member of the Investment Committee of the Boston Arts Academy Foundation.	Director of Eversource Corporation, which operates New England's largest energy delivery system; previously the Chairman of the Boston Options Exchange, an electronic marketplace for the trading of listed derivatives securities; previously the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Boston Stock Exchange; and previously the President and Chief Operating Officer of the American Stock Exchange.	
<b>Jennifer Williams Murphy*</b> Born 1964 Trustee since 2022	Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Runa Digital Assets, LLC, an institutional investment advisory firm specializing in active management of digital assets. Until 2021, Chief Operating Officer of Western Asset Management, LLC, a global investment adviser, and Chief Executive Officer and President of Western Asset Mortgage Capital Corporation, a mortgage finance real estate investment trust.	Previously, a Director of Western Asset Mortgage Capital Corporation.	
Marie Pillai Born 1954 Trustee since 2022	Senior Advisor, Hunter Street Partners, LP, an asset-oriented private investment firm; Specialty Leader and Member of the Curriculum Committee of the Center for Board Certified Fiduciaries, a public benefit corporation providing coursework for developing fiduciaries. Until 2019, Vice President, Chief Investment Officer, and Treasurer of General Mills, Inc., a global food company.	Member of the Investment Committee of the Bush Foundation, a nonprofit organization supporting community problemsolving in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota; Member of the Finance Council and Corporate Board of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis; Director of Choice Bank, a private, community bank based in North Dakota; and previously a Board Member of Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis; former Director of the Catholic Community Foundation of Minnesota; and former Investment Advisory Board Member of the University of Minnesota.	
<b>George Putnam III</b> Born 1951 Trustee since 1984	Chairman of New Generation Research, Inc., a publisher of financial advisory and other research services, and President of New Generation Advisors, LLC, a registered investment adviser to private funds.	Director of The Boston Family Office, LLC, a registered investment adviser; a Director of the Gloucester Marine Genomics Institute; a Trustee of the Lowell Observatory Foundation; and previously a Trustee of the Marine Biological Laboratory.	

Name Year of birth Position held	Principal occupations during past five years	Other directorships	
<b>Manoj P. Singh</b> Born 1952 Trustee since 2017	Until 2015, Chief Operating Officer and Global Managing Director at Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, Ltd., a global professional services organization, serving on the Deloitte U.S. Board of Directors and the boards of Deloitte member firms in China, Mexico, and Southeast Asia.	Director of ReNew Energy Global Plc, a publicly traded renewable energy company; Director of Abt Associates, a global research firm working in the fields of health, social and environmental policy, and international development; Trustee of Carnegie Mellon University; Director of Pratham USA, an organization dedicated to children's education in India; member of the advisory board of Altimetrik, a business transformation and technology solutions firm; and Director of DXC Technology, a global IT services and consulting company.	
<b>Mona K. Sutphen</b> Born 1967 Trustee since 2020	Partner, Investment Strategies, at The Vistria Group, a private investment firm focused on middle-market companies in the health care, education, and financial services industries. From 2014 to 2018, Partner at Macro Advisory Partners, a global consulting firm.	Director of Spotify Technology S.A., a publicly traded audio content streaming service; Director of Unitek Learning, a private nursing and medical services education provider in the United States; Board Member, International Rescue Committee; Co-Chair of the Board of Human Rights First; Trustee of Mount Holyoke College; member of the Advisory Board for the Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs; previously Director of Pattern Energy and Pioneer Natural Resources, publicly traded energy companies; and previously Managing Director of UBS AG.	
Interested Trustees	s		
Robert L. Reynolds† Born 1952	Chair of Great-West Lifeco U.S. LLC. Prior to 2019, also President and Chief Executive Officer of Great-	Director of the Concord Museum; Director of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; Director of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard	

Trustee since 2008

West Financial, a financial services company that provides retirement savings plans, life insurance, and annuity and executive benefits products, and of Great-West Lifeco U.S. LLC, a holding company that owns Putnam Investments and Great-West Financial and a member of Great-West Financial's Board of Directors. Until 2023, President and Chief Executive Officer of Putnam Investments. President and Chief Executive Officer of Putnam Management, and member of Putnam Investments' Board of Directors.

Foundation; Chair of the Boston Advisory Board of the American Ireland Fund: Council Co-Chair of the American Enterprise Institute; Member of U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Center for Capital Markets Competitiveness; Chair of Massachusetts High Technology Council; Member of the Chief Executives Club of Boston; Member of the Massachusetts General Hospital President's Council; Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Ron Burton Training Village; Director and former Chair of the Massachusetts Competitive Partnership; former Chair of the West Virginia University Foundation; and former Executive Committee Member of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce.



Jane E. Trust‡ Born 1962 Trustee since 2024

Since 2020, Senior Vice President, Fund Board Management, of Franklin Templeton. Since 2015, Officer and/or Trustee/Director of 127 funds associated with Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC ("LMPFA") or its affiliates, and President and Chief Executive Officer of LMPFA. From 2018 to 2020, Senior Managing Director of Legg Mason & Co., LLC (Legg Mason & Co."). From 2016 to 2018, Managing Director of Legg Mason & Co. In 2015, Senior Vice President of LMPFA.

None.



\*Ms. Murphy is the founder, controlling member, and Chief Executive Officer of Runa Digital Assets, LLC ("RDA"), the investment manager of Runa Digital Partners, LP ("RDP"), a private investment fund. Ms. Murphy also holds a controlling interest in RDP's general partner and is a limited partner in RDP. A subsidiary of Franklin Templeton and certain individuals employed by Franklin Templeton or its affiliates have made passive investments as limited partners in RDP (one of whom serves on the advisory board for RDA, which has no governance or oversight authority over RDA), representing in the aggregate approximately 33% of RDP as of October 31, 2023. In addition, if certain conditions are met, Franklin Templeton will be entitled to receive a portion of any incentive compensation allocable to RDP's general partner. For so long as Franklin Templeton maintains its investment in RDP, Ms. Murphy also has agreed upon request to advise and consult with Franklin Templeton and its affiliates on the market for digital assets. Ms. Murphy provides similar service to other limited partners in RDP that request her advice. Ms. Murphy also is entitled to receive deferred cash compensation in connection with her prior employment by an affiliate of Franklin Templeton, which employment ended at the end of 2021. With regard to Ms. Murphy, the relationships described above may give rise to a potential conflict of interest with respect to the Funds.

 $\dagger Mr. Reynolds is an ``interested person" (as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940) of the fund and Putnam Management. He is President of your fund and each action of the fundament of the fundamental properties of the fundamental prope$ of the other Putnam funds and holds direct beneficial interest in shares of Franklin Templeton, of which Putnam Management is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary.

‡Ms. Trust is an "interested person" (as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940) of the fund and Putnam Management by virtue of her positions with certain affiliates of Putnam Management.

The address of each Trustee is 100 Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110.

As of December 31, 2023, there were 105 funds in the Putnam family of funds, including 89 mutual funds, 4 closed-end funds, and 12 exchange-traded funds. Each Trustee serves as Trustee of the 105 funds in the Putnam family of funds. Ms. Trust also serves as Trustee of 127 other funds that are advised by one or more affiliates of Putnam Management.

Each Trustee serves for an indefinite term, until his or her resignation, retirement at age 75, removal, or death.

# **Officers**

In addition to Robert L. Reynolds, the other officers of the fund are shown below:

Kevin R. Blatchford (Born 1967)

Vice President and Assistant Treasurer Since 2023

Director, Financial Reporting, Putnam Holdings

James F. Clark (Born 1974)

Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer Since 2016

Chief Compliance Officer, Putnam Management and Putnam Holdings

Michael J. Higgins (Born 1976)

Vice President, Treasurer, and Clerk Since 2010

Jonathan S. Horwitz (Born 1955)

Executive Vice President, Principal Executive Officer, and Compliance Liaison

Since 2004

Kelley Hunt (Born 1984)

AML Compliance Officer

Since 2023

Manager, U.S. Financial Crime Compliance, Franklin Templeton

Martin Lemaire (Born 1984)

Vice President and Derivatives Risk Manager

Since 2022

Risk Manager and Risk Analyst, Putnam Management

Alan G. McCormack (Born 1964)

Vice President and Derivatives Risk Manager

Since 2022

Head of Quantitative Equities and Risk,

Putnam Management

Denere P. Poulack (Born 1968)

Assistant Vice President, Assistant Clerk, and Assistant Treasurer

Since 2004

Janet C. Smith (Born 1965)

Vice President, Principal Financial Officer, Principal Accounting Officer,

and Assistant Treasurer

Since 2007

Head of Fund Administration Services, Putnam

Holdings and Putnam Management

Stephen J. Tate (Born 1974)

Vice President and Chief Legal Officer

Since 2021

General Counsel, Putnam Holdings, Putnam Management, and Putnam Retail Management

The principal occupations of the officers for the past five years have been with the employers as shown above, although in some cases they have held different positions with such employers. The address of each officer, other than Ms. Hunt, is 100 Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110. Ms. Hunt's address is 100 Fountain Parkway, St. Petersburg, FL 33716.

# Other important information

# **Proxy voting**

The Putnam funds' proxy voting guidelines and procedures, as well as information regarding how your fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the 12-month period ended June 30, 2023, are available in the Individual Investors section of putnam.com and on the Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) website at www.sec.gov. If you have questions about finding forms on the SEC's website, you may call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. You may also obtain the Putnam funds' proxy voting guidelines and procedures at no charge by calling 1-800-225-1581.

# Fund portfolio holdings

The fund will file a complete schedule of its portfolio holdings with the SEC for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-PORT within 60 days of the end of such fiscal quarter. Shareholders may obtain the fund's Form N-PORT from the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

# **Fund information**

#### Investment Manager

Putnam Investment Management, LLC 100 Federal Street Boston, MA 02110

#### Investment Sub-Advisor

Putnam Investments Limited 16 St James's Street London, England SW1A 1ER

# **Marketing Services**

Putnam Retail Management Limited Partnership 100 Federal Street Boston, MA 02110

#### **Investor Servicing Agent**

Putnam Investments Mailing address: P.O. Box 219697 Kansas City, MO 64121-9697 1-800-225-1581

# Custodian

State Street Bank and Trust Company

# Legal Counsel

Ropes & Gray LLP

# Independent Registered **Public Accounting Firm**

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

#### Trustees

Kenneth R. Leibler, Chair Barbara M. Baumann, Vice Chair Liaquat Ahamed Katinka Domotorffy Catharine Bond Hill Jennifer Williams Murphy Marie Pillai George Putnam III Robert L. Reynolds Manoj P. Singh Mona K. Sutphen Jane E. Trust

The fund's Statement of Additional Information contains additional information about the fund's Trustees and is available without charge upon request by calling 1-800-225-1581.