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# Putnam Global Financials Fund

**Summary prospectus**

**12 | 30 | 18**

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<b>FUND SYMBOLS</b>	<b>CLASS A</b>	<b>CLASS B</b>	<b>CLASS C</b>	<b>CLASS M</b>	<b>CLASS R</b>	<b>CLASS Y</b>
	PGFFX	PGFOX	PGFDX	PGFMX	PGFRX	PGFYX

## Putnam Global Financials Fund

Prospectuses dated December 30, 2018

Putnam Investment Management, LLC (“Putnam Management”), the investment manager of Putnam Global Financials Fund (“Global Financials Fund” or the “fund”), has recommended, and the fund’s Board of Trustees has approved and recommended that shareholders approve, the proposed merger of Global Financials Fund with and into Putnam Global Equity Fund (“Global Equity Fund”). Putnam Management and the fund’s Board of Trustees believe that the proposed merger is in the best interests of Global Financials Fund and its shareholders.

Global Financials Fund and Global Equity Fund have identical investment objectives and pursue similar investment strategies, though Global Financials Fund concentrates its investments in securities of companies in the financial services industries worldwide, while Global Equity Fund invests more broadly in global equity securities and does not concentrate its investments in a particular industry. A full description of Global Equity Fund, the similarities and differences between it and Global Financials Fund and the terms of the proposed merger will be contained in a combined prospectus/proxy statement (that will include details regarding other proposed mergers discussed below)(the “prospectus/proxy statement”), expected to be mailed to shareholders in early April 2019. The prospectus/proxy statement will solicit shareholder votes to approve the proposed merger.

Completion of the proposed merger is subject to a number of conditions, including approval by shareholders of Global Financials Fund. A special meeting of shareholders of Global Financials Fund is currently scheduled for May 22, 2019, although the shareholder meeting may be adjourned to a later date. The proposed merger is expected to be a tax-free reorganization for federal income tax purposes. If shareholders of the fund do not approve the proposed merger, the merger will not proceed.

Putnam Management has also recommended, and the applicable funds’ Boards of Trustees have approved, and recommended that shareholders approve, the merger of each of Putnam Global Consumer Fund, Putnam Global Sector Fund and Putnam Global Utilities Fund with and into Global Equity Fund. Each merger is subject to approval by fund shareholders. None of the proposed mergers into Global Equity Fund are contingent upon one another.

If shareholders approve the proposed Global Financials Fund merger, Putnam Management currently expects that Global Financials Fund will make dispositions of certain portfolio holdings prior to the merger. These sales, which are anticipated to commence in early-June 2019 and will not occur unless and until shareholders approve the proposed merger, would result in brokerage commissions and other transaction costs, and may result in the realization of capital gains that would be distributed to shareholders as taxable distributions.

Global Financials Fund will be closed to new accounts on or about May 20, 2019. At any time prior to the close of the proposed merger, you can sell your shares back to the fund or

exchange them for shares of another Putnam fund any day the New York Stock Exchange is open. Shares may be sold or exchanged by mail, by phone, or online at putnam.com. Some restrictions may apply. Such exchanges will be taxable transactions.

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The foregoing is not an offer to sell, nor a solicitation of an offer to buy, shares of Global Equity Fund, nor is it a solicitation of any proxy. For more information regarding Global Equity Fund, or to receive a free copy of the prospectus/proxy statement relating to the proposed merger (and containing important information about fees, expenses and risk considerations) once a registration statement relating to the merger has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and becomes effective, please call 1-800-225-1581. The prospectus/proxy statement relating to the proposed merger will also be available for free on the Securities and Exchange Commission's web site (<http://www.sec.gov>). Please read the prospectus/proxy statement relating to the proposed merger carefully before making any investment decisions.

*Shareholders should retain this Supplement for future reference.*

# Putnam Global Financials Fund

Before you invest, you may wish to review the fund's prospectus, which contains more information about the fund and its risks. You may obtain the prospectus and other information about the fund, including the statement of additional information (SAI) and most recent reports to shareholders, at no cost by visiting [putnam.com/funddocuments](http://putnam.com/funddocuments), calling 1-800-225-1581, or e-mailing Putnam at [funddocuments@putnam.com](mailto:funddocuments@putnam.com).

The fund's prospectus and SAI, both dated 12/30/18, are incorporated by reference into this summary prospectus.

## Goal

Putnam Global Financials Fund seeks capital appreciation.

## Fees and expenses

The following table describes the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the fund. You may qualify for sales charge discounts if you and your family invest, or agree to invest in the future, at least \$50,000 in Putnam funds. More information about these and other discounts is available from your financial advisor and in *How do I buy fund shares?* beginning on page 49 of the fund's prospectus, in the Appendix to the fund's prospectus, and in *How to buy shares* beginning on page II-1 of the fund's statement of additional information (SAI).

### Shareholder fees *(fees paid directly from your investment)*

Share class	Maximum sales charge (load) imposed on purchases (as a percentage of offering price)	Maximum deferred sales charge (load) (as a percentage of original purchase price or redemption proceeds, whichever is lower)
Class A	5.75%	1.00%*
Class B	NONE	5.00%**
Class C	NONE	1.00%***
Class M	3.50%	NONE
Class R	NONE	NONE
Class Y	NONE	NONE

## Annual fund operating expenses

(expenses you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

Share class	Management fees	Distribution and service (12b-1) fees	Other expenses	Total annual fund operating expenses	Expense reimbursement <sup>#</sup>	Total annual fund operating expenses after expense reimbursement
Class A	0.62%	0.25%	0.79%	1.66%	(0.38)%	1.28%
Class B	0.62%	1.00%	0.79%	2.41%	(0.38)%	2.03%
Class C	0.62%	1.00%	0.79%	2.41%	(0.38)%	2.03%
Class M	0.62%	0.75%	0.79%	2.16%	(0.38)%	1.78%
Class R	0.62%	0.50%	0.79%	1.91%	(0.38)%	1.53%
Class Y	0.62%	N/A	0.79%	1.41%	(0.38)%	1.03%

\* Applies only to certain redemptions of shares bought with no initial sales charge.

\*\* This charge is phased out over six years.

\*\*\* This charge is eliminated after one year.

# Reflects Putnam Investment Management, LLC's contractual obligation to limit certain fund expenses through 12/30/2019. This obligation may be modified or discontinued only with approval of the Board of Trustees.

## Example

The following hypothetical example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the fund with the cost of investing in other funds. It assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the fund for the time periods indicated and then, except as indicated, redeem all your shares at the end of those periods. It assumes a 5% return on your investment each year and that the fund's operating expenses remain the same. Only the first year of each period in the example takes into account the expense reimbursement described above. Your actual costs may be higher or lower.

Share class	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
Class A	\$698	\$1,033	\$1,392	\$2,397
Class B	\$706	\$1,015	\$1,451	\$2,531
Class B (no redemption)	\$206	\$715	\$1,251	\$2,531
Class C	\$306	\$715	\$1,251	\$2,717
Class C (no redemption)	\$206	\$715	\$1,251	\$2,717
Class M	\$525	\$967	\$1,435	\$2,727
Class R	\$156	\$563	\$996	\$2,202
Class Y	\$105	\$409	\$735	\$1,658

## Portfolio turnover

The fund pays transaction-related costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when the fund's shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating

expenses or the above example, affect fund performance. The fund's turnover rate in the most recent fiscal year was 51%.

## **Investments, risks, and performance**

### **Investments**

For this fund concentrating in the financial industries, we invest mainly in common stocks (growth or value stocks or both) of large and midsize companies worldwide that we believe have favorable investment potential. Under normal circumstances, we invest at least 80% of the fund's net assets in securities of companies in the financial services industries. This policy may be changed only after 60 days' notice to shareholders. Potential investments include commercial and investment banks, savings and loan organizations, brokerage and asset management firms, insurance companies and real estate investment trusts and real estate investment and development companies. We may purchase stocks of companies with stock prices that reflect a value lower than that which we place on the company. We may also consider other factors that we believe will cause the stock price to rise. We may consider, among other factors, a company's valuation, financial strength, growth potential, competitive position in its industry, projected future earnings, cash flows and dividends when deciding whether to buy or sell investments. We may also use derivatives, such as futures, options, certain foreign currency transactions, warrants and swap contracts, for both hedging and non-hedging purposes, and may engage in short sales of securities.

The use of the term "global" in the fund's name is meant to emphasize that we look for investment opportunities on a worldwide basis and that our investment strategies are not constrained by the countries or regions in which companies are located. Under normal market conditions, the fund intends to invest in at least five different countries and at least 40% of its net assets in securities of foreign companies (or, if less, at least the percentage of net assets that is 10% less than the percentage of the fund's benchmark represented by foreign companies, as determined by the providers of the benchmark).

### **Risks**

It is important to understand that you can lose money by investing in the fund.

The value of stocks in the fund's portfolio may fall or fail to rise over extended periods of time for a variety of reasons, including general financial market conditions, changing market perceptions, changes in government intervention in the financial markets, and factors related to a specific issuer or industry. These and other factors may also lead to increased volatility and reduced liquidity in the fund's portfolio holdings. Growth stocks may be more susceptible to earnings disappointments, and value stocks may fail to rebound. These risks are generally greater for small and midsize companies. Financial services companies may be affected by the availability and cost of capital; changes in interest rates, insurance claims activity, industry

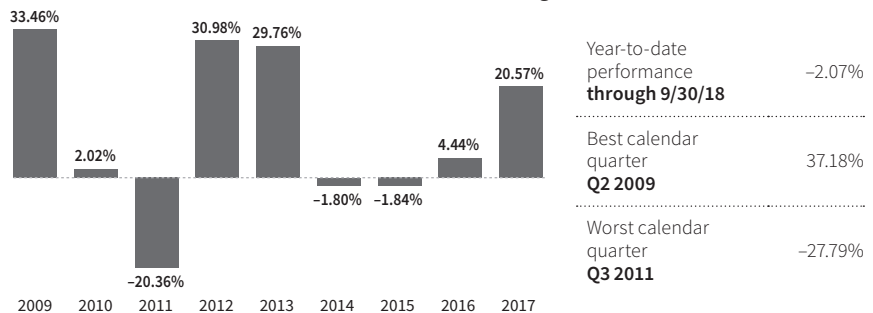
consolidation and general economic conditions; and reduced profitability from limitations on loans, proprietary trading and interest rates and fees charged as a result of extensive government regulations. Our policy of concentrating on a limited group of industries can increase the fund's vulnerability to adverse developments affecting a single industry or issuer, which may result in greater losses and volatility for the fund. The value of international investments traded in foreign currencies may be adversely impacted by fluctuations in exchange rates. International investments, particularly investments in emerging markets, may carry risks associated with potentially less stable economies or governments (such as the risk of seizure by a foreign government, the imposition of currency or other restrictions, or high levels of inflation), and may be illiquid. Our use of derivatives may increase the risks of investing in the fund by increasing investment exposure (which may be considered leverage) or, in the case of many over-the-counter instruments, because of the potential inability to terminate or sell derivatives positions and the potential failure of the other party to the instrument to meet its obligations. Our use of short selling may result in losses if the securities appreciate in value.

The fund may not achieve its goal, and it is not intended to be a complete investment program. An investment in the fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.

### Performance

The performance information below gives some indication of the risks associated with an investment in the fund by showing the fund's performance year to year and over time. The bar chart does not reflect the impact of sales charges. If it did, performance would be lower. Please remember that past performance is not necessarily an indication of future results. Monthly performance figures for the fund are available at [putnam.com](http://putnam.com).

#### Annual total returns for class A shares before sales charges



## Average annual total returns after sales charges (for periods ended 12/31/17)

Share class	1 year	5 years	Since inception (12/18/08)
Class A before taxes	13.64%	8.22%	8.88%
Class A after taxes on distributions	13.24%	6.55%	7.49%
Class A after taxes on distributions and sale of fund shares	8.04%	6.28%	6.97%
Class B before taxes	14.60%	8.39%	8.88%
Class C before taxes	18.57%	8.68%	8.77%
Class M before taxes	15.67%	8.19%	8.62%
Class R before taxes	20.23%	9.23%	9.32%
Class Y before taxes	20.77%	9.77%	9.87%
MSCI World Financials and Real Estate Index (ND) (no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	21.48%	10.95%	10.36%

After-tax returns reflect the historical highest individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect state and local taxes. Actual after-tax returns depend on an investor's tax situation and may differ from those shown. After-tax returns are shown for class A shares only and will vary for other classes. These after-tax returns do not apply if you hold your fund shares through a 401(k) plan, an IRA, or another tax-advantaged arrangement.

Class B share performance reflects conversion to class A shares after eight years.

## Your fund's management

### Investment advisor

Putnam Investment Management, LLC

### Portfolio manager

#### Jacquelyne Cavanaugh

Portfolio Manager, Analyst, portfolio manager of the fund since 2011.

### Sub-advisors

Putnam Investments Limited\*

The Putnam Advisory Company, LLC\*

\* Though the investment advisor has retained the services of both Putnam Investments Limited (PIL) and The Putnam Advisory Company, LLC (PAC), PIL and PAC do not currently manage any assets of the fund.

## Purchase and sale of fund shares

You can open an account, purchase and/or sell fund shares, or exchange them for shares of another Putnam fund by contacting your financial advisor or by calling Putnam Investor Services at 1-800-225-1581. Purchases of class B shares are closed to new and existing investors except by exchange from class B shares of another Putnam fund or through dividend and/or capital gains reinvestment.



When opening an account, you must complete and mail a Putnam account application, along with a check made payable to the fund, to: Putnam Investments, P.O. Box 219697, Kansas City, MO 64121-9697. The minimum initial investment of \$500 is currently waived, although Putnam reserves the right to reject initial investments under \$500 at its discretion. There is no minimum for subsequent investments.

You can sell your shares back to the fund or exchange them for shares of another Putnam fund any day the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) is open. Shares may be sold or exchanged by mail, by phone, or online at [putnam.com](http://putnam.com). Some restrictions may apply.

### **Tax information**

The fund's distributions will be taxed as ordinary income or capital gains unless you hold the shares through a tax-advantaged arrangement, in which case you will generally be taxed only upon withdrawal of monies from the arrangement.

### **Financial intermediary compensation**

If you purchase the fund through a broker/dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank or financial advisor), the fund and its related companies may pay that intermediary for the sale of fund shares and related services. Please bear in mind that these payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker/dealer or other intermediary to recommend the fund over another investment. Ask your advisor or visit your advisor's website for more information.

### **Information about the Summary Prospectus, Prospectus, and SAI**

The summary prospectus, prospectus, and SAI for a fund provide information concerning the fund. The summary prospectus, prospectus, and SAI are updated at least annually and any information provided in a summary prospectus, prospectus, or SAI can be changed without a shareholder vote unless specifically stated otherwise. The summary prospectus, prospectus, and the SAI are not contracts between the fund and its shareholders and do not give rise to any contractual rights or obligations or any shareholder rights other than any rights conferred explicitly by federal or state securities laws that may not be waived.

**Additional information, including current performance, is available at [putnam.com/funddocuments](http://putnam.com/funddocuments), by calling 1-800-225-1581, or by e-mailing Putnam at [funddocuments@putnam.com](mailto:funddocuments@putnam.com).**

