

Putnam VT Government Money Market Fund

The fund's portfolio

9/30/20 (Unaudited)

REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS (55.0%)(a)

	Principal amount	Value
Interest in \$340,726,000 joint tri-party repurchase agreement dated 9/30/20 with BofA Securities, Inc. due 10/1/20 - maturity value of \$16,379,036 for an effective yield of 0.080% (collateralized by various mortgage backed securities with coupon rates ranging from 1.500% to 5.000% and due dates ranging from 8/1/35 to 1/1/59, valued at \$347,540,520)	\$16,379,000	\$16,379,000
Interest in \$345,000,000 joint tri-party repurchase agreement dated 9/30/20 with Royal Bank of Canada due 10/1/20 - maturity value of \$16,100,036 for an effective yield of 0.080% (collateralized by various mortgage backed securities with coupon rates ranging from 2.000% to 6.000% and due dates ranging from 3/1/40 to 9/20/50, valued at \$351,900,782)	16,100,000	16,100,000
Interest in \$444,842,000 joint tri-party repurchase agreement dated 9/30/20 with Citigroup Global Markets, Inc. due 10/1/20 - maturity value of \$16,100,036 for an effective yield of 0.080% (collateralized by various mortgage backed securities with coupon rates ranging from 2.586% to 5.000% and due dates ranging from 9/1/44 to 8/1/49, valued at \$453,738,840)	16,100,000	16,100,000
Total repurchase agreements (cost \$48,579,000)		\$48,579,000

U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCY OBLIGATIONS (29.3%)(a)

	Yield (%)	Maturity date	Principal amount	Value
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation unsec. bonds	0.134	8/16/21	\$850,000	\$860,507
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation unsec. bonds	0.124	8/27/21	1,000,000	1,023,260
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation unsec. FRB	0.195	2/1/21	850,000	849,990
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation unsec. FRB	0.176	10/19/20	850,000	850,002
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation unsec. FRB	0.161	12/11/20	850,000	849,987
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation unsec. FRB	0.111	10/9/20	1,150,000	1,149,987

Federal Home Loan Banks discount notes	0.604	3/1/21	1,000,000	997,483
Federal Home Loan Banks discount notes	0.120	12/2/20	725,000	724,850
Federal Home Loan Banks discount notes	0.110	12/11/20	835,000	834,819
Federal Home Loan Banks FRB	0.164	1/4/21	850,000	849,919
Federal Home Loan Banks unsec. bonds	1.627	10/23/20	800,000	799,993
Federal Home Loan Banks unsec. bonds	0.140	9/10/21	850,000	849,864
Federal Home Loan Banks unsec. bonds	0.125	7/14/21	1,000,000	1,007,829
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation unsec. FRN	0.400	9/30/21	1,000,000	1,000,000
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation unsec. FRN	0.340	5/5/22	1,000,000	1,000,000
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation unsec. FRN	0.230	3/4/22	1,000,000	1,000,000
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation unsec. FRN	0.110	2/19/21	850,000	850,000
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation unsec. notes	0.126	8/12/21	1,000,000	1,008,604
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. discount notes	0.135	10/7/20	1,000,000	999,977
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. FRN	0.430	4/7/22	1,000,000	1,000,000
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. FRN	0.250	3/9/22	1,000,000	1,000,000
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. FRN	0.180	12/3/21	575,000	575,000
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. FRN	0.155	10/30/20	850,000	850,033
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. notes	1.646	11/30/20	1,000,000	999,740
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. notes	1.529	12/28/20	850,000	850,669
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. notes	0.527	2/26/21	1,000,000	1,003,390
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. notes	0.134	8/17/21	850,000	858,305
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. notes	0.122	5/6/21	700,000	704,703
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. notes	0.121	4/13/21	505,000	511,386
Total U.S. government agency obligations (cost \$25,860,297)				\$25,860,297

U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS (14.1%)(a)

	Yield (%)	Maturity date	Principal amount	Value
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.156	10/29/20	\$1,000,000	\$999,881

U.S. Treasury Bills	0.147	10/20/20	1,000,000	999,924
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.138	10/13/20	1,000,000	999,955
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.135	10/6/20	1,000,000	999,982
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.132	1/21/21	1,000,000	999,596
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.112	12/10/20	1,000,000	999,786
U.S. Treasury Cash Management Bills	0.123	12/22/20	1,000,000	999,724
U.S. Treasury Cash Management Bills	0.123	2/9/21	1,000,000	999,560
U.S. Treasury FRN	0.320	7/31/21	1,750,000	1,749,886
U.S. Treasury FRN	0.239	4/30/21	900,000	900,020
U.S. Treasury FRN	0.215	1/31/21	900,000	900,012
U.S. Treasury FRN	0.145	10/31/20	900,000	899,965

Total U.S. treasury obligations (cost \$12,448,291)

\$12,448,291

TOTAL INVESTMENTS

Total investments (cost \$86,887,588)

\$86,887,588

Key to holding's abbreviations

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.

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, 2020 through September 30, 2020 (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 wholly-owned subsidiary of Putnam Investments, LLC, references to "ASC 820" represent Accounting Standards Codification 820 *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* and references to "OTC", if any, represent over-the-counter.

(a) Percentages indicated are based on net assets of \$88,349,425.

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

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.

The valuation of the fund's portfolio instruments is determined by means of the amortized cost method (which approximates fair value) as set forth in Rule 2a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The amortized cost of an instrument is determined by valuing it at its original cost and thereafter amortizing any discount or premium from its face value at a constant rate until maturity and is generally categorized as a Level 2 security.

Repurchase agreements: The fund, or any joint trading account, through its custodian, receives delivery of the underlying securities, the fair value of which at the time of purchase is required to be in an amount at least equal to the resale price, including accrued interest. Collateral for certain tri-party repurchase agreements, which totaled \$49,550,617 at the end of the reporting period, is held at the counterparty's custodian in a segregated account for the benefit of the fund and the counterparty. Putnam Management is responsible for determining that the value of these underlying securities is at all times at least equal to the resale price, including accrued interest. In the event of default or bankruptcy by the other party to the agreement, retention of the collateral may be subject to legal proceedings.

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:

Investments in securities:	Valuation inputs		
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Repurchase agreements	\$—	\$48,579,000	\$—
U.S. government agency obligations	—	25,860,297	—
U.S. treasury obligations	—	12,448,291	—
Totals by level	\$—	\$86,887,588	\$—

For additional information regarding the fund please see the fund's most recent annual or semiannual shareholder report filed on the Securities and Exchange Commission's Web site, www.sec.gov, or visit Putnam's Individual Investor Web site at www.putnaminvestments.com