Dreyfus Variable Investment Fund: International Equity Portfolio

Prospectus
May 1, 2019

As with all mutual funds, the Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.
BNY MELLON FAMILY OF FUNDS

Supplement to Current Summary Prospectus and Prospectus

The following information supplements the information in the sections entitled "Principal Investment Risks" in the summary prospectus and "Fund Summary - Principal Risks" and "Fund Details - Investment Risks" in the prospectus:

Market risk. The value of the securities in which the fund invests may be affected by political, regulatory, economic and social developments, and developments that impact specific economic sectors, industries or segments of the market. In addition, turbulence in financial markets and reduced liquidity in equity, credit and/or fixed income markets may negatively affect many issuers, which could adversely affect the fund. Global economies and financial markets are becoming increasingly interconnected, and conditions and events in one country, region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. These risks may be magnified if certain events or developments adversely interrupt the global supply chain; in these and other circumstances, such risks might affect companies worldwide. Recent examples include pandemic risks related to COVID-19 and aggressive measures taken worldwide in response by governments, including closing borders, restricting international and domestic travel, and the imposition of prolonged quarantines of large populations, and by businesses, including changes to operations and reducing staff. The effects of COVID-19 have contributed to increased volatility in global markets and will likely affect certain countries, companies, industries and market sectors more dramatically than others. The COVID-19 pandemic has had, and any other outbreak of an infectious disease or other serious public health concern could have, a significant negative impact on economic and market conditions and could trigger a prolonged period of global economic slowdown. To the extent the fund may overweight its investments in certain countries, companies, industries or market sectors, such positions will increase the fund's exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those countries, companies, industries or sectors.
BNY MELLON VARIABLE INVESTMENT FUND
–INTERNATIONAL EQUITY PORTFOLIO

Supplement to Current Summary Prospectus, Prospectus and Statement of
Additional Information

The Board of Trustees of BNY Mellon Variable Investment Fund (the "Trust") has approved the liquidation of International Equity Portfolio (the "Fund"), a series of the Trust, effective on or about April 30, 2020 (the "Liquidation Date"). Before the Liquidation Date, and at the discretion of BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc., the Fund's investment adviser, the Fund's portfolio securities will be sold and the Fund will cease to pursue its investment objective and policies.

Accordingly, effective on or about March 31, 2020, the Fund will be closed to any investments for new accounts. The Fund will continue to accept subsequent investments until the Liquidation Date.

Policyowners should contact their insurance company to consider options that may be available for the re-allocation of their assets.
BNY MELLON VARIABLE INVESTMENT FUND
International Equity Portfolio

Supplement to Current Summary Prospectus and Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information

On or about December 31, 2019 (the "Effective Date"), Newton Investment Management (North America) Limited ("NIMNA"), the fund's sub-adviser, will reorganize into Newton Investment Management Limited ("NIM"). Consequently, as of the Effective Date, the sub-investment advisory agreement between BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. ("BNYM Investment Adviser"), the fund's investment adviser, and NIMNA will be terminated and NIM will serve as the fund's sub-adviser pursuant to a sub-investment advisory agreement between BNYM Investment Adviser and NIM. There will be no change to the fund's investment objective, policies or strategies as a result of the reorganization of NIMNA into NIM.

NIMNA and NIM are indirect, wholly-owned subsidiaries of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation and affiliates of BNYM Investment Adviser. NIMNA and NIM are located at the same principal office in London, United Kingdom, and each is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority in the United Kingdom and registered or, in the case of NIM, will be registered as of the Effective Date, in the United States with the SEC as an investment adviser. The fund's current portfolio managers who are responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund's investments will continue to manage the fund's investments as of the Effective Date. The rate of sub-investment advisory fee payable by BNYM Investment Adviser to NIM will be the same as that currently payable by BNYM Investment Adviser to NIMNA and the terms of the sub-investment advisory agreement between BNYM Investment Adviser and NIM are substantially similar to those of the sub-investment advisory agreement between BNYM Investment Adviser and NIMNA. A discussion regarding the basis for the board's approving the sub-investment advisory agreement between BNYM Investment Adviser and NIM will be available in the fund's annual report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019.
Effective on or about June 3, 2019 (the "Effective Date"), The Dreyfus Corporation, the primary mutual fund business of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation and the fund's investment adviser, will change its name to "BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc." As of the Effective Date, all information in the fund's summary prospectus and prospectus relating to "The Dreyfus Corporation" or "Dreyfus" will relate to "BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc."

On the Effective Date, MBSC Securities Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dreyfus and the fund's distributor, will change its name to "BNY Mellon Securities Corporation." As of the Effective Date, all information in the fund's prospectus relating to "MBSC Securities Corporation" or "MBSC" will relate to "BNY Mellon Securities Corporation."

As of the Effective Date, references to the "Dreyfus Family of Funds" and "Dreyfus funds" in the fund's prospectus will refer to the "BNY Mellon Family of Funds" and "funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds," respectively. In addition, as of the Effective Date, references to "1-800-DREYFUS" and "dreyfus.com" in the fund's summary prospectus, as applicable, and prospectus will be replaced with "1-800-373-9387" and "bnymellonim.com/us," respectively. Reference, however, to "Dreyfus money market funds" on the back cover page of the fund's prospectus will be retained.

As of the Effective Date, the address of Dreyfus (BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc.) is 240 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10286.

In addition, on the Effective Date, the funds will change their names as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Fund Name</th>
<th>New Fund Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dreyfus Investment Portfolios</td>
<td>BNY Mellon Investment Portfolios</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(no change to the Portfolios' names)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dreyfus Variable Investment Fund</td>
<td>BNY Mellon Variable Investment Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(no change to the Portfolios' names)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dreyfus Stock Index Fund, Inc.</td>
<td>BNY Mellon Stock Index Fund, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dreyfus Sustainable U.S. Equity Portfolio, Inc.</td>
<td>BNY Mellon Sustainable U.S. Equity Portfolio, Inc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The changes to the names of the funds, as well as the other changes described above, will have no effect on policy owners owning fund shares or their accounts with respect thereto, other than to reflect the new names.
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## For More Information

*See back cover.*
Fund Summary

Investment Objective

The fund seeks capital growth.

Fees and Expenses

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the fund. These figures do not reflect any fees or charges imposed by participating insurance companies under their Variable Annuity contracts (VA contracts) or Variable Life Insurance policies (VLI policies), and if such fees and/or charges were included, the fees and expenses would be higher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total annual fund operating expenses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example

The Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Example assumes that you invest $10,000 in the fund for the time periods indicated and then hold or redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the fund's operating expenses remain the same. The Example does not reflect fees and expenses incurred under VA contracts and VLI policies; if they were reflected, the figures in the Example would be higher. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
| | Initial Shares | $133 | $415 | $718 | $1,579 |
| | Service Shares | $159 | $493 | $850 | $1,856 |

Portfolio Turnover

The fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover may indicate higher transaction costs. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the fund's portfolio turnover rate was 35.83% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategy

To pursue its goal, the fund normally invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus any borrowings for investment purposes, in common stocks or securities convertible into common stocks of foreign companies and depositary receipts evidencing ownership in such securities. At least 75% of the fund's net assets will be invested in countries represented in the Morgan Stanley Capital International Europe, Australasia and Far East (MSCI EAFE®) Index. The fund may invest up to 25% of its net assets in stocks of companies located in countries (other than the United States) not represented in the MSCI EAFE Index, including up to 20% in emerging market countries.

The core of the investment philosophy of the fund's sub-adviser, Newton Investment Management (North America) Limited (Newton), an affiliate of The Dreyfus Corporation (Dreyfus), is the belief that no company, market or economy can be considered in isolation; each must be understood within a global context. Newton believes that a global comparison of companies is the most effective method of stock analysis, and Newton's global analysts research investment opportunities by global sector rather than by region. The process begins by identifying a core list of investment themes that Newton believes will positively or negatively affect certain sectors or industries and cause stocks
within these sectors or industries to outperform or underperform others. Newton then identifies specific companies using these investment themes to help focus on areas where thematic and strategic research indicates superior returns are likely to be achieved.

Sell decisions for individual stocks will typically be a result of one or more of the following:

- a change in investment theme or strategy
- profit-taking
- a significant change in the prospects of the company
- price movement and market activity have created an extreme valuation
- the valuation of a company has become expensive against its peers

The fund may, but is not required to, use derivatives, such as options, futures and options on futures, forward contracts and swap agreements as a substitute for investing directly in an underlying asset or currency, to increase returns, to manage currency risk, or as part of a hedging strategy. When the fund enters into derivatives transactions, it may be required to segregate liquid assets or enter into offsetting positions, in accordance with applicable regulations.

**Principal Risks**

An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit. It is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or any other government agency. It is not a complete investment program. The fund's share price fluctuates, sometimes dramatically, which means you could lose money.

- **Risks of stock investing.** Stocks generally fluctuate more in value than bonds and may decline significantly over short time periods. There is the chance that stock prices overall will decline because stock markets tend to move in cycles, with periods of rising prices and falling prices. The market value of a stock may decline due to general market conditions or because of factors that affect the particular company or the company's industry.

- **Foreign investment risk.** To the extent the fund invests in foreign securities, the fund's performance will be influenced by political, social and economic factors affecting investments in foreign issuers. Special risks associated with investments in foreign issuers include exposure to currency fluctuations, less liquidity, less developed or less efficient trading markets, lack of comprehensive company information, political and economic instability and differing auditing and legal standards. Investments denominated in foreign currencies are subject to the risk that such currencies will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar and affect the value of these investments held by the fund.

- **Emerging market risk.** The securities of issuers located or doing substantial business in emerging market countries tend to be more volatile and less liquid than the securities of issuers located in countries with more mature economies. Emerging markets generally have less diverse and less mature economic structures and less stable political systems than those of developed countries. Investments in these countries may be subject to political, economic, legal, market and currency risks. The risks may include less protection of property rights and uncertain political and economic policies, the imposition of capital controls and/or foreign investment limitations by a country, nationalization of businesses and the imposition of sanctions by other countries, such as the United States.

- **Foreign currency risk.** Investments in foreign currencies are subject to the risk that those currencies will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar or, in the case of hedged positions, that the U.S. dollar will decline relative to the currency being hedged. Foreign currencies, particularly the currencies of emerging market countries, are also subject to risks caused by inflation, interest rates, budget deficits and low savings rates, political factors and government intervention and controls.

- **Derivatives risk.** A small investment in derivatives could have a potentially large impact on the fund's performance. The use of derivatives involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in the underlying assets, and the fund's use of derivatives may result in losses to the fund. Derivatives in which the fund may invest can be highly volatile, illiquid and difficult to value, and there is the risk that changes in the value of a derivative held by the fund will not correlate with the underlying assets or the fund's other investments in the manner intended. Certain derivatives have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment, and involve greater risks than the underlying assets because, in addition to general market risks, they are subject to liquidity risk, credit and counterparty risk (failure of the counterparty to the derivatives transaction to honor its obligation) and pricing risk (risk that the derivative cannot or will not be accurately valued). Future rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) may require the fund to alter, perhaps materially, its use of derivatives.

- **Liquidity risk.** When there is little or no active trading market for specific types of securities, it can become more difficult to sell the securities in a timely manner at or near their perceived value. In such a market, the value of such
securities and the fund's share price may fall dramatically. Investments that are illiquid or that trade in lower volumes may be more difficult to value. Investments in foreign securities, particularly those of issuers located in emerging markets, tend to have greater exposure to liquidity risk than domestic securities. Liquidity risk also may refer to the risk that the fund will not be able to pay redemption proceeds within the allowable time period stated in this prospectus because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. To meet redemption requests, the fund may be forced to sell securities at an unfavorable time and/or under unfavorable conditions, which may adversely affect the fund's share price.

- **Depositary receipts risk.** Depositary receipts may be subject to certain of the risks associated with direct investments in the securities of foreign companies, such as currency risk, political and economic risk and market risk, because their values depend on the performance of the non-dollar denominated underlying foreign securities. Certain countries may limit the ability to convert depositary receipts into the underlying foreign securities and vice versa, which may cause the securities of the foreign company to trade at a discount or premium to the market price of the related depositary receipt.

- **Non-diversification risk.** The fund is non-diversified, which means that the fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a limited number of issuers. Therefore, the fund's performance may be more vulnerable to changes in the market value of a single issuer or group of issuers and more susceptible to risks associated with a single economic, political or regulatory occurrence than a diversified fund.

- **Management risk.** The investment process used by the fund's portfolio managers could fail to achieve the fund's investment goal and cause your fund investment to lose value.

**Performance**

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the fund. The bar chart shows changes in the performance of the fund's Initial shares from year to year. The table compares the average annual total returns of the fund's shares to those of a broad measure of market performance. The fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the fund will perform in the future. More recent performance information may be available at www.dreyfus.com.

Performance information reflects the fund's expenses only and does not reflect the fees and charges imposed by participating insurance companies under their VA contracts or VLI policies. Because these fees and charges will reduce total return, policyowners should consider them when evaluating and comparing the fund's performance. Policyowners should consult the prospectus for their contract or policy for more information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year-by-Year Total Returns as of 12/31 each year (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Shares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="chart.png" alt="Year-by-Year Total Returns" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Best Quarter](Q2, 2009: 19.63%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Worst Quarter](Q3, 2011: -18.03%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Average Annual Total Returns](as of 12/31/18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial Shares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="chart.png" alt="Average Annual Total Returns" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Shares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCI EAFE® Index</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Portfolio Management**

The fund's investment adviser is Dreyfus. Dreyfus has engaged its affiliate, Newton, to serve as the fund's sub-adviser. Paul Markham, Jeff Munroe and Yuko Takano are the fund's primary portfolio managers, positions they have held since January 2012, June 2012 and September 2016, respectively. Mr. Markham, the fund's lead portfolio manager, is an
investment manager for global equities, and is a member of the global investment group, as well as the global equity ex-U.S. model and equity strategy groups, at Newton. Mr. Munroe is an investment leader of the global equities team at Newton. Ms. Takano is a member of the global equities team at Newton.

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Fund shares are offered only to separate accounts established by insurance companies to fund VA contracts and VLI policies. Individuals may not purchase shares directly from, or place sell orders directly with, the fund. The VA contracts and the VLI policies are described in the separate prospectuses issued by the participating insurance companies, over which the fund assumes no responsibility. Policyowners should consult the prospectus of the separate account of the participating insurance company for more information about buying, selling (redeeming), or exchanging fund shares.

Tax Information

The fund's distributions are taxable as ordinary income or capital gains. Since the fund's shareholders are the participating insurance companies and their separate accounts, the tax treatment of dividends and distributions will depend on the tax status of the participating insurance company. Accordingly, no discussion is included as to the federal personal income tax consequences to policyowners. For this information, policyowners should consult the prospectus of the separate account of the participating insurance company or their tax advisers.

Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

If you purchase shares through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as an insurance company), the fund and its related companies may pay the intermediary for the sale of fund shares and related services. To the extent that the intermediary may receive lesser or no payments in connection with the sale of other investments, the payments from the fund and its related companies may create a potential conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your financial representative to recommend the fund over the other investments. This potential conflict of interest may be addressed by policies, procedures or practices adopted by the financial intermediary. As there may be many different policies, procedures or practices adopted by different intermediaries to address the manner in which compensation is earned through the sale of investments or the provision of related services, the compensation rates and other payment arrangements that may apply to a financial intermediary and its representatives may vary by intermediary. Ask your financial representative or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.
Fund Details

**Introduction**

Fund shares are offered only to separate accounts established by insurance companies to fund VA contracts and VLI policies. Individuals may not purchase shares directly from, or place sell orders directly with, the fund. The VA contracts and the VLI policies are described in the separate prospectuses issued by the participating insurance companies, over which the fund assumes no responsibility. Conflicts may arise between the interests of VA contract holders and VLI policyholders (collectively, policyowners). The board will monitor events to identify any material conflicts and, if such conflicts arise, determine what action, if any, should be taken.

The fund currently offers two classes of shares: Initial shares and Service shares. Policyowners should consult the applicable prospectus of the separate account of the participating insurance company to determine which class of fund shares may be purchased by the separate account.

While the fund's investment objective and policies may be similar to those of other funds managed by the investment adviser(s), the fund's investment results may be higher or lower than, and may not be comparable to, those of the other funds.

**Goal and Approach**

The fund seeks capital growth. To pursue its goal, the fund normally invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus any borrowings for investment purposes, in common stocks or securities convertible into common stocks (such as convertible preferred stocks, warrants and convertible bonds) of foreign companies (i.e., organized under the laws of countries other than the U.S.) and depositary receipts evidencing ownership in such securities. At least 75% of the fund's net assets will be invested in countries represented in the MSCI EAFE Index, the fund's benchmark. The fund may invest up to 25% of its net assets in stocks of companies located in countries (other than the U.S.) not represented in the MSCI EAFE Index, including up to 20% in emerging market countries. The MSCI EAFE Index, a free-float adjusted market capitalization index, measures the equity market performance of developed markets, excluding the U.S. and Canada. As of March 31, 2019, the MSCI EAFE Index consisted of the following developed market country indices: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Newton is the fund's sub-investment adviser. Newton is an active investment manager that selects stocks within a global framework. The core of Newton's investment philosophy is the belief that no company, market or economy can be considered in isolation; each must be understood within a global context. Newton believes that a global comparison of companies is the most effective method of stock analysis, and Newton's global analysts research investment opportunities by global sector rather than by region.

**Idea generation**

The process of identifying investment ideas begins by identifying a core list of investment themes. These themes are based primarily on observable economic, industrial or social trends, typically though not exclusively global, that Newton believes will positively or negatively affect certain sectors or industries and cause stocks within these sectors or industries to outperform or underperform others. Such themes may include:

- key trends in economic variables, such as a country's gross domestic product, inflation and interest rates;
- demographic or social trends and their effects on companies, countries, markets and industries;
- investment themes, such as the expected impact of technology and globalization on industries and brands;
- governmental policy;
- relative valuations of equities, bonds and cash investments; and
- long-term trends in currency movements.
Newton then identifies specific companies, through fundamental global sector and stock research, using investment
themes to help focus the search on areas where the thematic and strategic research indicates superior returns are likely to
be achieved.

Research-led

Newton conducts fundamental analysis of investment opportunities on a global basis and uses cross comparisons of
companies all over the world to identify securities Newton believes will outperform globally. In conducting its
fundamental analysis, Newton's analysts search for attractively priced companies with good products and strong
management that they perceive to possess a sustainable competitive advantage. Newton conducts an initial screening of
the universe of stocks by reviewing, among other factors, a company's price-to-earnings ratios, positive earnings
momentum, earnings per share growth expectations and earnings stability. Newton also utilizes a variety of valuation
techniques, which include earnings, asset value, cash flow and cost of capital measurements, in conducting its
fundamental analysis. Integrated into the investment process, Newton has a well-established approach to responsible
investment. This process includes identifying and considering the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) risks,
opportunities and issues throughout the research process via Newton's proprietary quality reviews, in an effort to ensure
that any material ESG issues are considered.

Sell decisions for individual stocks will typically be a result of one or more of the following:

• a change in investment theme or strategy
• profit-taking
• a significant change in the prospects of a company
• price movement and market activity have created an extreme valuation
• the valuation of a company has become expensive against its peers

Team-based

Newton's culture encourages all investment professionals to contribute to the data as they observe trends they believe
will have an influence on global markets. The close interaction among Newton's global sector analysts, regional
specialists and global portfolio managers is designed to capture their best ideas and to reflect them effectively and
consistently for the fund's portfolio.

The fund may, but is not required to, use derivative instruments as a substitute for investing directly in an underlying
asset or currency, to increase returns, to manage currency risk or as part of a hedging strategy. The derivative
instruments in which the fund may invest include principally options, futures and options on futures (including those
relating to securities, indexes, foreign currencies and interest rates), forward contracts and swap agreements. To the
extent such derivative instruments have similar economic characteristics to equity securities as described in the fund's
policy with respect to the investment of at least 80% of its net assets, the market value of such instruments will be
included in the 80% policy. Derivatives may be entered into on established exchanges or through privately negotiated
transactions referred to as over-the-counter derivatives. A derivatives contract will obligate or entitle the fund to deliver
or receive an asset or cash payment based on the change in value of the underlying asset. When the fund enters into
derivatives transactions, it may be required to segregate liquid assets or enter into offsetting positions or otherwise cover
its obligations, in accordance with applicable regulations while the positions are open. In the case of futures contracts,
options, forward contracts and other derivative instruments that provide for full payment of the value of the underlying
asset, in cash or by physical delivery, at the settlement date, for example, the fund may be required to set aside liquid
assets equal to the full notional amount of the instrument (generally, the total numerical value of the asset underlying the
derivatives contract) while the positions are open, to the extent there is not an offsetting position. However, with
respect to certain futures contracts, options, forward contracts and other derivative instruments that require periodic
cash settlement during the term of the transaction or cash payment of the gain or loss under the transaction at the
settlement date, the fund may segregate liquid assets in an amount equal to the fund's daily marked-to-market net
obligations (i.e., the fund's daily net liability) under the instrument, if any, rather than its full notional amount. By setting
aside assets equal to only the fund's net obligations under the instrument, the fund will have the ability to employ
leverage to a greater extent than if the fund were required to segregate liquid assets equal to the full notional value of
such instruments.

The fund also may invest in pooled investment vehicles, such as exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

The fund may lend its portfolio securities to brokers, dealers and other financial institutions needing to borrow securities
to complete certain transactions. Loans of portfolio securities may not exceed 33-1/3% of the value of the fund's total
assets.

The fund is non-diversified.
Investment Risks

An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit. It is not insured or guaranteed by the FDIC or any other government agency. It is not a complete investment program. The value of your investment in the fund will fluctuate, sometimes dramatically, which means you could lose money.

- **Risks of stock investing.** Stocks generally fluctuate more in value than bonds and may decline significantly over short time periods. There is the chance that stock prices overall will decline because stock markets tend to move in cycles, with periods of rising prices and falling prices. The market value of a stock may decline due to general market conditions that are not related to the particular company, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in interest or currency rates or adverse investor sentiment generally. A security's market value also may decline because of factors that affect the particular company, such as management performance, financial leverage and reduced demand for the company's products or services, or factors that affect the company's industry, such as labor shortages or increased production costs and competitive conditions within an industry.

- **Foreign investment risk.** To the extent the fund invests in foreign securities, the fund's performance will be influenced by political, social and economic factors affecting investments in foreign issuers. Special risks associated with investments in foreign issuers include exposure to currency fluctuations, less liquidity, less developed or less efficient trading markets, lack of comprehensive company information, political and economic instability and differing auditing and legal standards. Investments denominated in foreign currencies are subject to the risk that such currencies will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar and affect the value of these investments held by the fund. To the extent the fund's investments are focused in a limited number of foreign countries, the fund's performance could be more volatile than that of more geographically diversified funds.

- **Emerging market risk.** The securities of issuers located or doing substantial business in emerging market countries tend to be more volatile and less liquid than the securities of issuers located in countries with more mature economies, potentially making prompt liquidation at an attractive price difficult. The economies of countries with emerging markets may be based predominantly on only a few industries, may be highly vulnerable to changes in local or global trade conditions, and may suffer from extreme debt burdens or volatile inflation rates. Transaction settlement and dividend collection procedures also may be less reliable in emerging markets than in developed markets. Emerging markets generally have less diverse and less mature economic structures and less stable political systems than those of developed countries. Investments in these countries may be subject to political, economic, legal, market and currency risks. The risks may include less protection of property rights and uncertain political and economic policies, the imposition of capital controls and/or foreign investment limitations by a country, nationalization of businesses and the imposition of sanctions by other countries, such as the United States.

- **Foreign currency risk.** Investments in foreign currencies are subject to the risk that those currencies will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar or, in the case of hedged positions, that the U.S. dollar will decline relative to the currency being hedged. Currency exchange rates may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time. Foreign currencies, particularly those of emerging market countries, are also subject to risks caused by inflation, interest rates, budget deficits and low savings rates, political factors and government intervention and controls. The fund's investments could be adversely affected by delays in, or a refusal to grant, repatriation of funds or conversion of emerging market currencies.

- **Derivatives risk.** A small investment in derivatives could have a potentially large impact on the fund's performance. The use of derivatives involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in the underlying assets, and the fund's use of derivatives may result in losses to the fund and increased portfolio volatility. Derivatives in which the fund may invest can be highly volatile, illiquid and difficult to value, and there is the risk that changes in the value of a derivative held by the fund will not correlate with the underlying assets or the fund's other investments in the manner intended. Derivative instruments, such as over-the-counter swap agreements, forward contracts and other over-the-counter transactions, also involve the risk that a loss may be sustained as a result of the failure of the counterparty to the derivative instruments to make required payments or otherwise comply with the derivative instruments’ terms. Many of the regulatory protections afforded participants on organized exchanges for futures contracts and exchange-traded options, such as the performance guarantee of an exchange clearing house, are not available in connection with over-the-counter derivatives transactions. Certain derivatives, such as written call options, have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment, and involve greater risks than the underlying assets because, in addition to general market risks, they are subject to liquidity risk, credit and counterparty risk (failure of the counterparty to the derivatives transaction to honor its obligation) and pricing risk (risk that the derivative cannot or will not be accurately valued). If a derivative transaction is particularly large or if the relevant market is illiquid (as is the case with many privately-negotiated derivatives, including swap agreements), it may not be possible to initiate a transaction or liquidate a position at an advantageous time or price. Future rules and
regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) may require the fund to alter, perhaps materially, its use of derivatives.

- **Liquidity risk.** When there is little or no active trading market for specific types of securities, it can become more difficult to sell the securities in a timely manner at or near their perceived value. In such a market, the value of such securities and the fund's share price may fall dramatically. Investments that are illiquid or that trade in lower volumes may be more difficult to value. Investments in foreign securities, particularly those of issuers located in emerging markets, tend to have greater exposure to liquidity risk than domestic securities. Liquidity risk also may refer to the risk that the fund will not be able to pay redemption proceeds within the allowable time period stated in this prospectus because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. To meet redemption requests, the fund may be forced to sell securities at an unfavorable time and/or under unfavorable conditions, which may adversely affect the fund's share price.

- **Depository receipts risk.** Depository receipts may be subject to certain of the risks associated with direct investments in the securities of foreign companies, such as currency risk, political and economic risk and market risk, because their values depend on the performance of the non-dollar denominated underlying foreign securities. Certain countries may limit the ability to convert depository receipts into the underlying foreign securities and vice versa, which may cause the securities of the foreign company to trade at a discount or premium to the market price of the related depositary receipt. The fund may invest in depository receipts through an unsponsored facility where the depository issues the depository receipts without an agreement with the company that issues the underlying securities. Holders of unsponsored depository receipts generally bear all the costs of such facilities, and the depository of an unsponsored facility frequently is under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications received from the issuer of the deposited security or to pass through voting rights to the holders of the depositary receipts with respect to the deposited securities. As a result, available information concerning the issuer may not be as current as for sponsored depository receipts, and the prices of unsponsored depository receipts may be more volatile than if such instruments were sponsored by the issuer.

- **Non-diversification risk.** The fund is non-diversified, which means that the fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a limited number of issuers. Therefore, the fund's performance may be more vulnerable to changes in the market value of a single issuer or group of issuers and more susceptible to risks associated with a single economic, political or regulatory occurrence than a diversified fund.

- **Management risk.** The investment process and techniques used by the fund's portfolio managers could fail to achieve the fund's investment goal, may cause your fund investment to lose value or may cause the fund to underperform other funds with similar investment goals.

In addition to the principal risks described above, the fund is subject to the following additional risks that are not anticipated to be principal risks of investing in the fund:

- **Leverage risk.** The use of leverage, such as entering into futures contracts and forward currency contracts and lending portfolio securities, may magnify the fund's gains or losses. Because many derivatives have a leverage component, adverse changes in the value or level of the underlying asset or reference rate can result in a loss substantially greater than the amount invested in the derivative itself.

- **Preferred stock risk.** Preferred stock is a class of a capital stock that typically pays dividends at a specified rate. Preferred stock is generally senior to common stock, but subordinate to debt securities, with respect to the payment of dividends and on liquidation of the issuer. The market value of preferred stock generally decreases when interest rates rise and is also affected by the issuer's ability to make payments on the preferred stock.

- **Growth and value stock risk.** By investing in a mix of growth and value companies, the fund assumes the risks of both. Investors often expect growth companies to increase their earnings at a certain rate. If these expectations are not met, investors can punish the stocks inordinately, even if earnings do increase. In addition, growth stocks may lack the dividend yield that may cushion stock prices in market downturns. Value stocks involve the risk that they may never reach their expected full market value, either because the market fails to recognize the stock's intrinsic worth or the expected value was misgauged. They also may decline in price even though in theory they are already undervalued.

- **Country, industry and market sector risk.** The fund may be overweighted or underweighted, relative to the MSCI EAFE Index, in certain countries, companies, industries or market sectors, which may cause the fund's performance to be more or less sensitive to positive or negative developments affecting those countries, companies, industries or sectors. In addition, the fund may, from time to time, invest a significant portion (more than 25%) of its total assets in securities of companies located in particular countries, such as the United Kingdom and Japan, depending on such country's representation within the MSCI EAFE Index.

- **Convertible securities risk.** Convertible securities may be converted at either a stated price or stated rate into underlying shares of common stock. Convertible securities generally are subordinated to other similar but non-convertible
securities of the same issuer. Although to a lesser extent than with fixed-income securities, the market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase. In addition, because of the conversion feature, the market value of convertible securities tends to vary with fluctuations in the market value of the underlying common stock. Although convertible securities provide for a stable stream of income, they are subject to the risk that their issuers may default on their obligations. Convertible securities also offer the potential for capital appreciation through the conversion feature, although there can be no assurance of capital appreciation because securities prices fluctuate. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality because of the potential for capital appreciation.

- **ETF and other investment company risk.** To the extent the fund invests in pooled investment vehicles, such as ETFs and other investment companies, the fund will be affected by the investment policies, practices and performance of such entities in direct proportion to the amount of assets the fund has invested therein. The risks of investing in other investment companies, including ETFs, typically reflect the risks associated with the types of instruments in which the investment companies invest. When the fund invests in an ETF or other investment company, shareholders of the fund will bear indirectly their proportionate share of the expenses of the ETF or other investment company (including management fees) in addition to the expenses of the fund. ETFs are exchange-traded investment companies that are, in many cases, designed to provide investment results corresponding to an index. The value of the underlying securities can fluctuate in response to activities of individual companies or in response to general market and/or economic conditions. Additional risks of investments in ETFs include: (i) the market price of an ETF’s shares may trade at a discount to its net asset value; (ii) an active trading market for an ETF’s shares may not develop or be maintained; or (iii) trading may be halted if the listing exchanges’ officials deem such action appropriate, the shares are delisted from the exchange, or the activation of market-wide “circuit breakers” (which are tied to large decreases in stock prices) halts trading generally. The fund will incur brokerage costs when purchasing and selling shares of ETFs.

- **Securities lending risk.** The fund may lend its portfolio securities to brokers, dealers and other financial institutions. In connection with such loans, the fund will receive collateral from the borrower equal to at least 100% of the value of the loaned securities. If the borrower of the securities fails financially, there could be delays in recovering the loaned securities or exercising rights to the collateral.

- **Temporary investment risk.** Under adverse market conditions, the fund may invest more than 20% of its assets in securities of U.S. issuers and could invest some or all of its assets in U.S. Treasury securities and money market securities. Although the fund would do this for temporary defensive purposes, it could reduce the benefit from any upswing in the market. During such periods, the fund’s investments may not be consistent with its principal investment strategies, and the fund may not achieve its investment objective.

- **Large shareholder risk.** The participating insurance companies and their separate accounts are the shareholders of the fund. From time to time, a shareholder may own a substantial number of fund shares. The sale of a large number of shares could impact the fund’s net asset value and adversely affect remaining fund shareholders.

### Management

The investment adviser for the fund is The Dreyfus Corporation, 200 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10166. Founded in 1947, Dreyfus manages approximately $236 billion in 147 mutual fund portfolios. For the past fiscal year, the fund paid Dreyfus an investment advisory fee at the annual rate of .75% of the fund’s average daily net assets. A discussion regarding the basis for the board’s approving the fund’s investment advisory agreement with Dreyfus is available in the fund’s semiannual report for the six-month period ended June 30, 2018. Dreyfus is the primary mutual fund business of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation (BNY Mellon), a global investments company dedicated to helping its clients manage and service their financial assets throughout the investment lifecycle. Whether providing financial services for institutions, corporations or individual investors, BNY Mellon delivers informed investment management and investment services in 35 countries. BNY Mellon has $33.1 trillion in assets under custody and administration and $1.7 trillion in assets under management. BNY Mellon is the corporate brand of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation. BNY Mellon Investment Management is one of the world’s leading investment management organizations, and one of the top U.S. wealth managers, encompassing BNY Mellon’s affiliated investment management firms, wealth management services and global distribution companies. Additional information is available at www.bnymellon.com.

The Dreyfus asset management philosophy is based on the belief that discipline and consistency are important to investment success. For each fund, Dreyfus seeks to establish clear guidelines for portfolio management and to be systematic in making decisions. This approach is designed to provide each fund with a distinct, stable identity.

Dreyfus has engaged its affiliate, Newton Investment Management (North America) Limited, to serve as the fund’s sub-investment adviser. Newton, subject to Dreyfus’ supervision and approval, provides investment advisory assistance and research and the day-to-day management of the fund’s investments. Newton is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of
BNY Mellon founded in 1978 and is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority in the United Kingdom and registered in the United States with the SEC as an investment adviser. Newton's principal office is located at 160 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V, 4LA, United Kingdom. As of February 28, 2019, Newton, together with its affiliates that comprise the Newton group of companies, managed approximately $61.5 billion in discretionary separate accounts and other investment accounts. A discussion regarding the basis for the board's approving the sub-investment advisory agreement between Dreyfus and Newton is available in the fund's semiannual report for the six-month period ended June 30, 2018.

Paul Markham, Jeff Munroe and Yuko Takano are the fund's primary portfolio managers, positions they have held since January 2012, June 2012 and September 2016, respectively. Mr. Markham, the fund's lead portfolio manager, is an investment manager for global equities, and is a member of the global investment group as well as the global equity ex-U.S. model and equity strategy groups, at Newton, where he has been employed since 1998. Mr. Munroe is an investment leader of the global equities team at Newton, where he has been employed since 1993. Ms. Takano is a member of the global equities team at Newton, where she has been employed since 2011.

The fund's Statement of Additional Information (SAI) provides additional portfolio manager information, including compensation, other accounts managed and ownership of fund shares.

MBSC Securities Corporation (MBSC), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dreyfus, serves as distributor of the fund and of the other funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds. Any Rule 12b-1 fees and shareholder services fees, as applicable, are paid to MBSC for financing the sale and distribution of fund shares and for providing shareholder account service and maintenance, respectively. Dreyfus or MBSC may provide cash payments out of its own resources to financial intermediaries that sell shares of funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds or provide other services. Such payments are separate from any sales charges, 12b-1 fees and/or shareholder services fees or other expenses that may be paid by a fund to those financial intermediaries. Because those payments are not made by fund shareholders or the fund, the fund's total expense ratio will not be affected by any such payments. These payments may be made to financial intermediaries, including affiliates, that provide shareholder servicing, sub-administration, recordkeeping and/or sub-transfer agency services, marketing support and/or access to sales meetings, sales representatives and management representatives of the financial intermediary. Cash compensation also may be paid from Dreyfus' or MBSC's own resources to financial intermediaries for inclusion of a fund on a sales list, including a preferred or select sales list or in other sales programs. These payments sometimes are referred to as "revenue sharing." From time to time, Dreyfus or MBSC also may provide cash or non-cash compensation to financial intermediaries or their representatives in the form of occasional gifts; occasional meals, tickets or other entertainment; support for due diligence trips; educational conference sponsorships; support for recognition programs; technology or infrastructure support; and other forms of cash or non-cash compensation permissible under broker-dealer regulations. In some cases, these payments or compensation may create an incentive for a financial intermediary or its employees to recommend or sell shares of the fund to you. This potential conflict of interest may be addressed by policies, procedures or practices that are adopted by the financial intermediary. As there may be many different policies, procedures or practices adopted by different intermediaries to address the manner in which compensation is earned through the sale of investments or the provision of related services, the compensation rates and other payment arrangements that may apply to a financial intermediary and its representatives may vary by intermediary. Please contact your financial representative for details about any payments they or their firm may receive in connection with the sale of fund shares or the provision of services to the fund.

The fund, Dreyfus, Newton and MBSC have each adopted a code of ethics that permits its personnel, subject to such code, to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the fund. Each code of ethics restricts the personal securities transactions of employees, and requires portfolio managers and other investment personnel to comply with the code's preclearance and disclosure procedures. The primary purpose of the respective codes is to ensure that personal trading by employees is done in a manner that does not disadvantage the fund or other client accounts.
Shareholder Guide

Your Investment

Fund shares may be purchased or sold (redeemed) by separate accounts of participating insurance companies. Policyowners should consult the prospectus of the separate account of the participating insurance company for more information about buying or selling fund shares.

Service shares are subject to an annual Rule 12b-1 fee of 0.25% paid to the fund's distributor for distribution, advertising and marketing, and servicing and/or maintaining accounts of holders of Service shares. Because the Rule 12b-1 fee is paid out of the fund's assets on an ongoing basis, over time it will increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges.

Dreyfus calculates fund net asset values (NAVs) as of the scheduled close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) (usually 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) on days the NYSE is scheduled to be open for regular business. Your order will be priced at the next NAV calculated after your order is received in proper form by the fund's transfer agent or other authorized entity. "Proper form" refers to completion of an account application (if applicable), satisfaction of requirements in this section (subject to "Shareholder Guide—General Policies") and any applicable conditions in "Additional Information About How to Redeem Shares" in the SAI. Authorized entities other than the fund's transfer agent may apply different conditions for the satisfaction of "proper form" requirements. For more information, consult a representative of your financial intermediary. When calculating NAVs, Dreyfus values equity investments on the basis of market quotations or official closing prices. Dreyfus generally values fixed-income investments based on values supplied by an independent pricing service approved by the fund's board. The pricing service's procedures are reviewed under the general supervision of the board. If market quotations or official closing prices or valuations from a pricing service are not readily available, or are determined not to reflect accurately fair value, the fund may value those investments at fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the fund's board. Fair value of investments may be determined by the fund's board, its pricing committee or its valuation committee in good faith using such information as it deems appropriate under the circumstances. Under certain circumstances, the fair value of foreign equity securities will be provided by an independent pricing service. Using fair value to price investments may result in a value that is different from a security's most recent closing price and from the prices used by other mutual funds to calculate their NAVs. Over-the-counter derivative instruments generally will be valued based on values supplied by an independent pricing service approved by the fund's board. Futures contracts will be valued at the most recent settlement price. Forward currency contracts will be valued using the forward rate obtained from an independent pricing service approved by the fund's board. ETFs will be valued using their market price. Foreign securities held by the fund may trade on days when the fund does not calculate its NAV and thus may affect the fund's NAV on days when investors will not be able to purchase or sell (redeem) fund shares.

Investments in certain types of thinly traded securities may provide short-term traders arbitrage opportunities with respect to the fund's shares. For example, arbitrage opportunities may exist when trading in a portfolio security or securities is halted and does not resume, or the market on which such securities are traded closes before the fund calculates its NAV. If short-term investors in the fund were able to take advantage of these arbitrage opportunities, they could dilute the NAV of fund shares held by long-term investors. Portfolio valuation policies can serve to reduce arbitrage opportunities available to short-term traders, but there is no assurance that such valuation policies will prevent dilution of the fund's NAV by short-term traders. While the fund has a policy regarding frequent trading, it too may not be completely effective to prevent short-term NAV arbitrage trading, particularly in regard to omnibus accounts. Please see "Shareholder Guide — General Policies" for further information about the fund's frequent trading policy.

Redemption proceeds normally will be wired to the participating insurance company within one business day after the request is received in proper form. Payment of redemption proceeds may take longer and may take up to seven days after the order is received in proper form, particularly during periods of stressed market conditions or very large redemptions or excessive trading.

The processing of redemptions may be suspended, and the delivery of redemption proceeds may be delayed beyond seven days, depending on the circumstances, for any period: (i) during which the NYSE is closed (other than on holidays or weekends), or during which trading on the NYSE is restricted, (ii) when an emergency exists that makes the disposal of securities owned by the fund or the determination of the fair value of the fund's net assets not reasonably...
practicable, or (iii) as permitted by order of the Securities and Exchange Commission for the protection of fund shareholders. For these purposes, the Securities and Exchange Commission determines the conditions under which trading shall be deemed to be restricted and an emergency shall be deemed to exist.

Under normal circumstances, the fund expects to meet redemption requests by using cash it holds in its portfolio or selling portfolio securities to generate cash. In addition, the fund, and certain other funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds, may draw upon an unsecured credit facility for temporary or emergency purposes to meet redemption requests. The fund also reserves the right to pay redemption proceeds in securities rather than cash (i.e., "redeem in kind"), to the extent the composition of the fund’s investment portfolio enables it to do so. Generally, a redemption in-kind may be made under the following circumstances: (1) Dreyfus determines that a redemption in-kind (i) is more advantageous to the fund (e.g., due to advantageous tax consequences or lower transaction costs) than selling/purchasing portfolio securities, (ii) will not favor the redeeming shareholder to the detriment of any other shareholder or the fund and (iii) is in the best interests of the fund; (2) to manage liquidity risk (i.e., the risk that the fund could not meet redemption requests without significant dilution of remaining investors' interests in the fund); (3) in stressed market conditions; or (4) subject to the approval of the fund's board in other circumstances identified by Dreyfus. Securities distributed in connection with any such redemption in-kind are expected to generally represent a pro rata portion of assets held by the fund immediately prior to the redemption in an amount equal to the value of the shares redeemed, with adjustments as may be necessary in connection with, for example, certain derivatives, restricted securities, odd lots or fractional shares. Any securities distributed in-kind will remain exposed to market risk until sold, and transaction costs may be incurred when selling the securities.

Participating insurance companies will provide pass-through voting privileges to all policyowners so long as the SEC continues to interpret the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, as requiring pass-through voting privileges for policyowners. Participating insurance companies will vote by proxy, in the same proportions as the voting instructions received from policyowners: (1) fund shares as to which no timely instructions are received; (2) fund shares owned exclusively by the relevant participating insurance company or its affiliates; and (3) fund shares held in a separate account representing charges imposed by the relevant participating insurance company. As a result of this proportionate voting policy, the voting of a small number of policyowners may determine whether a proposal is approved, depending on the number of shares attributable to policyowners that provide instructions and to policyowners that do not. Additional information regarding voting instruction rights is provided in the prospectus or statement of additional information for the VA contracts or VLI policies.

**General Policies**

**The fund is designed for long-term investors.** Frequent purchases, redemptions and exchanges may disrupt portfolio management strategies and harm fund performance by diluting the value of fund shares and increasing brokerage and administrative costs. As a result, Dreyfus and the fund’s board have adopted a policy of discouraging excessive trading, short-term market timing and other abusive trading practices (frequent trading) that could adversely affect the fund or its operations. Dreyfus and the fund will not enter into arrangements with any person or group to permit frequent trading. The fund also reserves the right to refuse any purchase or exchange request, including those from any participating insurance company, individual or group who, in Dreyfus' view, is likely to engage in frequent trading.

Transactions in fund shares are processed by the participating insurance companies using omnibus accounts that aggregate the trades of multiple policyowners. Dreyfus’ ability to monitor the trading activity of these policyowners is limited because their individual transactions in fund shares are not disclosed to the fund. Accordingly, Dreyfus relies to a significant degree on the participating insurance company to detect and deter frequent trading. The agreement with the participating insurance company includes obligations to comply with all applicable federal and state laws. All participating insurance companies have been sent written reminders of their obligations under the agreements, specifically highlighting rules relating to trading fund shares. Further, all participating insurance companies have been requested in writing to notify Dreyfus immediately if, for any reason, they cannot meet their commitment to make fund shares available in accordance with the terms of the prospectus and relevant rules and regulations.

Dreyfus supplements the surveillance processes in place at participating insurance companies by monitoring total purchases and redemptions of fund shares on a periodic basis. If Dreyfus identifies patterns that may be indicative of frequent trading of large amounts, Dreyfus contacts the participating insurance company for assistance in disaggregating selected omnibus trades into their component parts. When this process identifies multiple roundtrips (i.e., an investment that is substantially liquidated within 60 days), Dreyfus instructs the participating insurance company to temporarily or permanently bar such policyowner's future purchases of fund shares if Dreyfus concludes the policyowner is likely to engage in frequent trading. Dreyfus also may instruct the participating insurance company to apply these restrictions across all accounts under common ownership, control or perceived affiliation. In all instances,
Dreyfus seeks to make these determinations to the best of its abilities in a manner that it believes is consistent with shareholder interests.

In addition to applying restrictions on future purchases or exchanges, Dreyfus or the participating insurance company may cancel or reverse the purchase or exchange on the business day following the transaction if the participating insurance company's surveillance system identifies the account as one that is likely to engage in frequent trading. Dreyfus may also instruct the participating insurance company to cancel or reverse the purchase or exchange on the following business day if the trade represents a significant amount of the fund's assets and Dreyfus has concluded that the account is likely to engage in frequent trading.

To the extent the fund significantly invests in foreign securities traded on markets that close before the fund calculates its NAV, events that influence the value of these foreign securities may occur after the close of these foreign markets and before the fund calculates its NAV. As a result, certain policyowners may seek to trade fund shares in an effort to benefit from their understanding of the value of these foreign securities at the time the fund calculates its NAV (referred to as price arbitrage). This type of frequent trading may dilute the value of fund shares held by other policyowners. The fund has adopted procedures designed to adjust closing market prices of foreign equity securities under certain circumstances to reflect what it believes to be their fair value.

To the extent the fund significantly invests in thinly traded securities, certain policyowners may seek to trade fund shares in an effort to benefit from their understanding of the value of these securities (referred to as price arbitrage). Any such frequent trading strategies may interfere with efficient management of the fund's portfolio to a greater degree than funds that invest in highly liquid securities, in part because the fund may have difficulty selling these portfolio securities at advantageous times or prices to satisfy large and/or frequent redemption requests. Any successful price arbitrage may also cause dilution in the value of fund shares held by other policyowners.

Although the fund's frequent trading and fair valuation policies and procedures are designed to discourage market timing and excessive trading, none of these tools alone, nor all of them together, completely eliminates the potential for frequent trading.

### Distributions and Taxes

Each share class will generate a different dividend because each has different expenses. The fund earns dividends, interest and other income from its investments, and distributes this income (less expenses) to shareholders as dividends. The fund also realizes capital gains from its investments, and distributes these gains (less any losses) to shareholders as capital gain distributions. The fund normally pays dividends and capital gain distributions, if any, annually. Fund dividends and capital gain distributions will be reinvested in the fund unless the participating insurance company instructs otherwise.

Since the fund's shareholders are the participating insurance companies and their separate accounts, the tax treatment of dividends and distributions will depend on the tax status of the participating insurance company. Accordingly, no discussion is included as to the federal personal income tax consequences to policyowners. For this information, policyowners should consult the prospectus of the separate account of the participating insurance company or their tax advisers.

Participating insurance companies should consult their tax advisers about federal, state and local tax consequences.

### Exchange Privilege

Policyowners may exchange shares of a class for shares of other funds offered by the VA contracts or VLI policies through the insurance company separate accounts subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the prospectuses of such VA contracts or VLI policies. Policyowners should refer to the applicable insurance company prospectus for more information on exchanging fund shares.
Financial Highlights

These financial highlights describe the performance of the fund's shares for the fiscal periods indicated. "Total return" shows how much your investment in the fund would have increased (or decreased) during each period, assuming you had reinvested all dividends and distributions. These financial highlights have been derived from the fund's financial statements, which have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with the fund's financial statements, is included in the annual report, which is available upon request. Keep in mind that fees and charges imposed by participating insurance companies, which are not reflected in the tables, would reduce the investment returns that are shown.

### Initial Shares

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<tr>
<td>Per Share Data ($)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net asset value, beginning of period</td>
<td>21.21</td>
<td>16.85</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>18.35</td>
<td>19.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Operations:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income--net&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>.24</td>
<td>.19</td>
<td>.22</td>
<td>.21</td>
<td>.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments</td>
<td>(3.52)</td>
<td>4.37</td>
<td>(1.23)</td>
<td>.07</td>
<td>(.96)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total from Investment Operations</td>
<td>(3.28)</td>
<td>4.56</td>
<td>(1.01)</td>
<td>.28</td>
<td>(.50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distributions:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends from investment income--net</td>
<td>(.26)</td>
<td>(.20)</td>
<td>(.16)</td>
<td>(.63)</td>
<td>(.43)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net asset value, end of period</td>
<td>17.67</td>
<td>21.21</td>
<td>16.85</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>18.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Return (%)</td>
<td>(15.72)</td>
<td>27.32&lt;sup&gt;c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>(5.54)&lt;sup&gt;c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>1.38</td>
<td>(2.65)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of total expenses to average net assets</td>
<td>1.31</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>1.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of net expenses to average net assets</td>
<td>1.31</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>1.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of net investment income to average net assets</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>.97</td>
<td>1.28</td>
<td>1.13</td>
<td>2.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio Turnover Rate</td>
<td>35.83</td>
<td>28.36</td>
<td>36.91</td>
<td>32.28</td>
<td>44.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets, end of period ($ x 1,000)</td>
<td>22,896</td>
<td>29,037</td>
<td>24,574</td>
<td>28,330</td>
<td>29,731</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>b</sup> Amount represents less than $.01 per share.

<sup>c</sup> In 2018, 2017 and 2016, the fund received proceeds from a class action settlement from The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation. In 2018 and 2017, this payment had no impact on total return. In 2016, the total return would have been (5.65%) had payment not been made by The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation.

### Service Shares

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per Share Data ($)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net asset value, beginning of period</td>
<td>21.19</td>
<td>16.82</td>
<td>17.97</td>
<td>18.31</td>
<td>19.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Operations:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income--net&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>.19</td>
<td>.14</td>
<td>.18</td>
<td>.17</td>
<td>.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments</td>
<td>(3.53)</td>
<td>4.38</td>
<td>(1.24)</td>
<td>.07</td>
<td>(.97)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total from Investment Operations</td>
<td>(3.34)</td>
<td>4.52</td>
<td>(1.06)</td>
<td>.24</td>
<td>(.55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distributions:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends from investment income--net</td>
<td>(.20)</td>
<td>(.15)</td>
<td>(.11)</td>
<td>(.58)</td>
<td>(.38)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net asset value, end of period</td>
<td>17.65</td>
<td>21.19</td>
<td>16.82</td>
<td>17.97</td>
<td>18.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Return (%)</td>
<td>(15.91)</td>
<td>27.02&lt;sup&gt;c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>(5.83)&lt;sup&gt;c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>(2.90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of total expenses to average net assets</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>1.42</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of net expenses to average net assets</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>1.42</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of net investment income to average net assets</td>
<td>.94</td>
<td>.73</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>.90</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio Turnover Rate</td>
<td>35.83</td>
<td>28.36</td>
<td>36.91</td>
<td>32.28</td>
<td>44.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets, end of period ($ x 1,000)</td>
<td>5,558</td>
<td>7,760</td>
<td>7,454</td>
<td>9,389</td>
<td>10,022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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For More Information

International Equity Portfolio

A series of Dreyfus Variable Investment Fund

More information on this fund is available free upon request, including the following:

Annual/Semiannual Report

The fund’s annual and semiannual reports describe the fund’s performance, list portfolio holdings and contain a letter from the fund’s manager discussing recent market conditions, economic trends and fund strategies that significantly affected the fund's performance during the period covered by the report. The fund's most recent annual and semiannual reports are available at www.dreyfus.com.

Statement of Additional Information (SAI)

The SAI provides more details about the fund and its policies. A current SAI is available at www.dreyfus.com and is on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The SAI is incorporated by reference (and is legally considered part of this prospectus).

Portfolio Holdings

Dreyfus funds generally disclose, at www.dreyfus.com under Products, (1) complete portfolio holdings as of each month-end with a one month lag and as of each calendar quarter end with a 15-day lag; (2) top 10 holdings as of each month-end with a 10-day lag and (3) from time to time, certain security-specific performance attribution data as of a month end, with a 10-day lag. From time to time a fund may make available certain portfolio characteristics, such as allocations, performance- and risk-related statistics, portfolio-level statistics and non-security specific attribution analyses, on request. Dreyfus money market funds generally disclose, also at www.dreyfus.com under Products, their complete schedule of holdings daily. A fund’s portfolio holdings and any security-specific performance attribution data will remain on the website at least until the fund files its Form N-Q or Form N-CSR for the period that includes the dates of the posted holdings.

A complete description of the fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the fund's portfolio securities is available in the fund's SAI and at www.dreyfus.com.

To Obtain Information

By telephone. Call 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only)

By mail. The Dreyfus Family of Funds
144 Glenn Curtiss Boulevard
Uniondale, NY 11556-0144
Attn: Institutional Services Department

On the Internet. Certain fund documents can be viewed online or downloaded from:

SEC: http://www.sec.gov

Dreyfus: http://www.dreyfus.com

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SEC file number: 811-05125