

January 2, 2019

SUPPLEMENT TO CURRENT SUMMARY PROSPECTUS AND PROSPECTUS

(funds with BNY Mellon Asset Management North America Corporation as an adviser, subadviser or employer in a dual employment arrangement with Dreyfus, and funds that invest in underlying funds with BNY Mellon Asset Management North America Corporation as an adviser, subadviser or employer in a dual employment arrangement with Dreyfus)

Effective January 2, 2019, BNY Mellon Asset Management North America Corporation changed its name to "Mellon Investments Corporation". All information in the fund's summary prospectus, if applicable, and prospectus relating to "BNY Mellon Asset Management North America Corporation" or "BNY Mellon AMNA" now relates to Mellon Investments Corporation.



Opportunistic Small Cap Portfolio

A Series of Dreyfus Variable Investment Fund

Summary Prospectus
May 1, 2018

Initial Shares
Service Shares

Before you invest, you may want to review the fund's prospectus, which contains more information about the fund and its risks. You can find the fund's prospectus and other information about the fund, including the statement of additional information and most recent reports to shareholders, online at www.im.bnymellon.com/variable. You can also get this information at no cost by calling 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only) or by sending an e-mail request to info@dreyfus.com. The fund's prospectus and statement of additional information, dated May 1, 2018 (each as revised or supplemented), are incorporated by reference into this summary prospectus.

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.

Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)		
	Initial Shares	Service Shares
Management fees	.75	.75
Distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees	none	.25
Other expenses	.10	.10
Total annual fund operating expenses	.85	1.10

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	\$87	\$271	\$471	\$1,049
Service Shares	\$112	\$350	\$606	\$1,340

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 70.11% 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 the stocks of small cap companies. The fund currently considers small cap companies to be those companies with market capitalizations that fall within the range of companies in the Russell 2000® Index, the fund's benchmark index. As of February 28, 2018, the market capitalization of the largest company in the index was approximately \$13.4 billion, and the weighted average and median market capitalizations of the index were approximately \$2.5 billion and \$847 million, respectively. Stocks are selected for the fund's portfolio based primarily on bottom-up fundamental analysis. The fund's portfolio managers use a disciplined investment process that relies, in general, on proprietary fundamental research and valuation. Generally, elements of the process include analysis of a company's business prospects, estimation of the company's value and the identification of events that could cause the estimated value of the company to change. In general, the fund seeks exposure to securities and sectors that the fund's portfolio managers perceive to be attractive from a valuation and fundamental standpoint.

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.
- *Small and midsize company risk.* Small and midsize companies carry additional risks because the operating histories of these companies tend to be more limited, their earnings and revenues less predictable (and some companies may be experiencing significant losses), and their share prices more volatile than those of larger, more established companies. The shares of smaller companies tend to trade less frequently than those of larger, more established companies, which can adversely affect the pricing of these securities and the fund's ability to sell these securities.
- *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.
- *Market sector risk.* The fund may significantly overweight or underweight certain companies, industries or market sectors, which may cause the fund's performance to be more or less sensitive to developments affecting those companies, industries or sectors.
- *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.

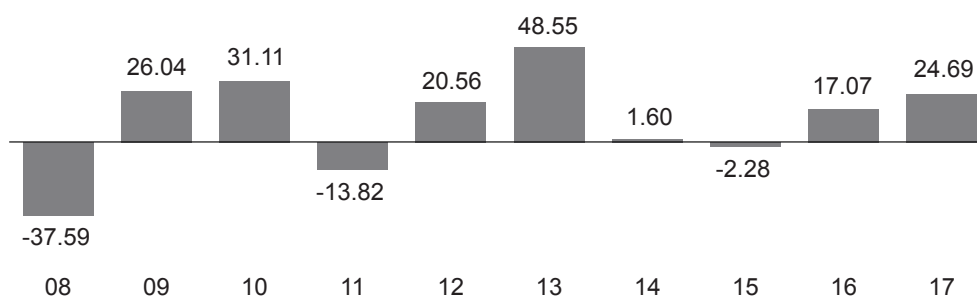
Performance

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.

Year-by-Year Total Returns as of 12/31 each year (%)

Initial Shares



Best Quarter

Q4, 2010: 21.59%

Worst Quarter

Q3, 2011: -30.07%

Average Annual Total Returns (as of 12/31/17)

	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
Initial Shares	24.69%	16.57%	8.72%
Service Shares	24.37%	16.29%	8.45%
Russell 2000® Index reflects no deductions for fees, expenses or taxes	14.65%	14.12%	8.71%

Portfolio Management

The fund's investment adviser is The Dreyfus Corporation (Dreyfus).

The fund is managed since June 2011 by a team of portfolio managers employed by Dreyfus and BNY Mellon Asset Management North America Corporation (BNY Mellon AMNA), an affiliate of Dreyfus. The team consists of David Daglio, the lead portfolio manager, James Boyd, Brian Duncan and Dale Dutile. Mr. Daglio, a senior managing director at BNY Mellon AMNA, has been the fund's primary or lead portfolio manager since February 2010. Messrs. Boyd and Dutile are each managing directors, equity research analysts and portfolio managers at BNY Mellon AMNA and have been portfolio managers of the fund since February 2010. Mr. Duncan is a director at BNY Mellon AMNA and has been a portfolio manager of the fund since November 2017.

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.

This prospectus does not constitute an offer or solicitation in any state or jurisdiction in which, or to any person to whom, such offering or solicitation may not lawfully be made.