

# Janus Henderson Flexible Bond Portfolio

Ticker: JAFLEX Institutional Shares

SUMMARY PROSPECTUS DATED APRIL 28, 2023

Before you invest, you may want to review the Portfolio's Prospectus, which contains more information about the Portfolio and its risks. You can find the Portfolio's Prospectus, reports to shareholders, and other information about the Portfolio online at [janushenderson.com/VII](http://janushenderson.com/VII). You can also get this information at no cost by calling a Janus Henderson representative at 1-877-335-2687 or by sending an email request to [prospectusrequest@janushenderson.com](mailto:prospectusrequest@janushenderson.com).

## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

Janus Henderson Flexible Bond Portfolio ("Flexible Bond Portfolio") seeks to obtain maximum total return, consistent with preservation of capital.

## FEES AND EXPENSES OF THE PORTFOLIO

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell Shares of the Portfolio. Owners of variable insurance contracts that invest in the Shares should refer to the variable insurance contract prospectus for a description of fees and expenses, as the following table and examples do not reflect deductions at the separate account level or contract level for any charges that may be incurred under a contract. Inclusion of these charges would increase the fees and expenses described below.

### ANNUAL FUND OPERATING EXPENSES

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

Management Fees	0.50%
Other Expenses	0.10%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	0.60%
Fee Waiver <sup>(1)</sup>	0.03%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver <sup>(1)</sup>	0.57%

(1) The Adviser has contractually agreed to waive its investment advisory fee and/or reimburse Portfolio expenses to the extent that the Portfolio's total annual fund operating expenses (excluding shareholder servicing fees, such as transfer agency fees, brokerage commissions, interest, dividends, taxes, acquired fund fees and expenses, and extraordinary expenses) exceed 0.52% for at least a one-year period commencing on April 28, 2023. This contractual waiver may be terminated or modified only at the discretion of the Portfolio's Board of Trustees.

### EXAMPLE:

The Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Portfolio with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Portfolio for the time periods indicated, reinvest all dividends and distributions, and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of each period. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Portfolio's operating expenses are equal to the Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver for the first year and the Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses thereafter. 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
Institutional Shares	\$ 58	\$ 189	\$ 332	\$ 747

**Portfolio Turnover:** The Portfolio pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Portfolio's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Portfolio's turnover rate was 182% of the average value of its portfolio.

## PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

The Portfolio pursues its investment objective by primarily investing, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in bonds. Bonds include, but are not limited to, government notes and bonds, corporate bonds, commercial and residential mortgage-backed securities, asset-backed securities, credit risk transfer securities ("CRTs"), and money market instruments. The Portfolio may invest in fixed and floating rate obligations with varying durations. The Portfolio's average portfolio duration typically ranges between three and seven years. As of December 31, 2022, the Portfolio's average portfolio duration was 5.89 years.

The Portfolio will invest at least 65% of its net assets in investment grade debt securities. The Portfolio will limit its investment in high-yield/high-risk bonds (also known as “junk” bonds) to 35% or less of its net assets. The Portfolio generates total return from a combination of current income and capital appreciation, but income is usually the dominant portion. The Portfolio may enter into “to be announced” or “TBA” commitments when purchasing mortgage-backed securities or other securities. The Portfolio also invests in securities that have contractual restrictions that prohibit or limit their public resale (these are known as “restricted securities”), which may include Rule 144A securities. The Portfolio may also invest in foreign securities, which may include investments in emerging market securities. Due to the nature of the securities in which the Portfolio invests, it may have relatively high portfolio turnover compared to other portfolios.

Additionally, the Portfolio may invest its assets in derivatives, which are instruments that have a value derived from, or directly linked to, an underlying asset, such as fixed-income securities, commodities, currencies, interest rates, or market indices. In particular, the Portfolio may use interest rate swaps and futures, including Treasury bond futures, to manage interest rate risk, yield curve positioning, and country exposure. The Portfolio may also use index credit default swaps for hedging purposes (to offset risks associated with an investment exposure, or market conditions), to increase or decrease the Portfolio’s exposure to a particular market, to manage or adjust the risk profile of the Portfolio relative to its benchmark index, and to earn income, enhance returns, or preserve capital. The Portfolio’s exposure to derivatives will vary. For purposes of meeting its 80% investment policy, the Portfolio may include derivatives that have characteristics similar to the securities in which the Portfolio may directly invest. The Portfolio may take short positions on derivatives instruments.

Portfolio management’s investment process is research-driven, incorporating “top-down” and “bottom-up” factors to identify and manage exposure to risks across sectors, industries, and individual investments. Portfolio management evaluates expected risk-adjusted returns on a portfolio and position level by analyzing fundamentals, valuations, and market technical indicators.

The Portfolio may seek to earn additional income through lending its securities to certain qualified broker-dealers and institutions on a short-term or long-term basis, in an amount equal to up to one-third of its total assets as determined at the time of the loan origination.

## PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT RISKS

The biggest risk is that the Portfolio’s returns and yields will vary, and you could lose money. The principal risks associated with investing in the Portfolio are set forth below.

**Market Risk.** The value of the Portfolio’s holdings may decrease due to short-term market movements and over more prolonged market downturns. As a result, the Portfolio’s net asset value may fluctuate and it may be more difficult to value or sell the Portfolio’s holdings. Market risk may affect a single issuer, industry, economic sector, or the market as a whole. Market risk may be magnified if certain social, political, economic, and other conditions and events (such as terrorism, conflicts, including related sanctions, social unrest, natural disasters, epidemics and pandemics, including COVID-19) adversely interrupt the global economy and financial markets. It is important to understand that the value of your investment may fall, sometimes sharply, in response to changes in the market, and you could lose money.

**Fixed-Income Securities Risk.** Fixed-income securities are generally subject to the following risks:

- Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise. A rising interest rate environment may increase the Portfolio’s exposure to risks associated with rising interest rates. Rising interest rates have unpredictable effects on the markets and may expose fixed-income and related markets to heightened volatility.
- Credit risk is the risk that the credit strength of an issuer of a fixed-income security will weaken and/or that the issuer will be unable to make timely principal and interest payments and that the security may go into default.
- Prepayment risk is the risk that, during periods of falling interest rates, certain debt obligations may be paid off quicker than originally anticipated, which may cause the Portfolio to reinvest its assets in securities with lower yields, resulting in a decline in the Portfolio’s income or return potential.
- Extension risk is the risk that, during periods of rising interest rates, certain debt obligations may be paid off substantially slower than originally anticipated, and as a result, the value of those obligations may fall.
- Valuation risk is the risk that one or more of the fixed-income securities in which the Portfolio invests are priced differently than the value realized upon such security’s sale. In times of market instability, valuation may be more difficult. Valuation may also be affected by changes in the issuer’s financial strength, the market’s perception of such strength, or in the credit rating of the issuer or the security.

- Liquidity risk is the risk that fixed-income securities may be difficult or impossible to sell at the time that portfolio management would like or at the price portfolio management believes the security is currently worth. Consequently, the Portfolio may have to accept a lower price to sell a security, sell other securities to raise cash, or give up an investment opportunity, any of which could have a negative effect on the Portfolio's performance. In unusual market conditions, even normally liquid securities may be affected by a degree of liquidity risk (i.e., if the number and capacity of traditional market participants is reduced).

**High-Yield/High-Risk Bond Risk.** High-yield/high-risk bonds (also known as “junk” bonds) are considered speculative and may be more sensitive than other types of bonds to economic changes, political changes, or adverse developments specific to the company that issued the bond, which may adversely affect their value.

**Mortgage- and Asset-Backed Securities Risk.** Mortgage- and asset-backed securities represent interests in “pools” of commercial or residential mortgages or other assets, including consumer loans or receivables. The value of mortgage- and asset-backed securities will be influenced by factors affecting the real estate market and the assets underlying these securities. Investments in mortgage- and asset-backed securities may be subject to credit risk, valuation risk, liquidity risk, extension risk, and prepayment risk. These securities also are subject to risk of default on the underlying mortgage or asset, particularly during periods of economic downturn.

**Credit Risk Transfer Securities Risk.** CRTs are unguaranteed and unsecured debt securities that are commonly issued by a government sponsored entity. CRTs are not directly linked to or backed by the underlying mortgage loans, so investors such as the Portfolio have no direct recourse to the underlying mortgage loans in the event of a default. The risks associated with CRTs are different from the risks associated with investments in mortgage-backed securities issued by government sponsored entities or private issuers because some or all of the mortgage default or credit risk associated with the underlying mortgage loans is transferred to investors. Additional risks associated with investments in CRTs may include valuation risk, mortgage credit risk, liquidity risk, and prepayment risk.

**Foreign Exposure Risk.** Foreign markets, including emerging markets, can be more volatile than the U.S. market. As a result, the Portfolio's returns and net asset value may be affected by fluctuations in currency exchange rates or political or economic conditions in a particular country. In some foreign markets, there may not be protection against failure by other parties to complete transactions. It may not be possible for the Portfolio to repatriate capital, dividends, interest, and other income from a particular country or governmental entity. In addition, a market swing in one or more countries or regions where the Portfolio has invested a significant amount of its assets may have a greater effect on the Portfolio's performance than it would in a more geographically diversified portfolio. The Portfolio's investments in emerging market countries, if any, may involve risks greater than, or in addition to, the risks of investing in more developed countries.

**Sovereign Debt Risk.** Investments in U.S. and non-U.S. government debt securities (“sovereign debt”), especially the debt of certain emerging market countries, can involve a high degree of risk, including the risk that the governmental entity that controls the repayment of sovereign debt may not be willing or able to repay the principal and/or to pay the interest on its sovereign debt in a timely manner. A sovereign debtor's willingness or ability to satisfy its debt obligation may be affected by various factors including, but not limited to, its cash flow situation, the extent of its foreign currency reserves, the availability of foreign exchange when a payment is due, and the relative size of its debt position in relation to its economy as a whole. In the event of default, there may be limited or no legal remedies for collecting sovereign debt and there may be no bankruptcy proceedings through which the Portfolio may collect all or part of the sovereign debt that a governmental entity has not repaid. In addition, to the extent the Portfolio invests in non-U.S. sovereign debt, it may be subject to currency risk.

**Floating Rate Obligations Risk.** The Portfolio may invest in floating rate obligations with interest rates that reset regularly, maintaining a fixed spread over a stated reference rate. The interest rates on floating rate obligations typically reset quarterly, although rates on some obligations may adjust at other intervals. Unexpected changes in the interest rates on floating rate obligations could result in lower income to the Portfolio. In addition, the secondary market on which floating rate obligations are traded may be less liquid than the market for investment grade securities or other types of income-producing securities, which may have an adverse impact on their market price. There is also a potential that there is no active market to trade floating rate obligations, that there may be restrictions on their transfer, or that the issuer may default. As a result, the Portfolio may be unable to sell floating rate obligations at the desired time or may be able to sell only at a price less than fair market value.

**Portfolio Turnover Risk.** Increased portfolio turnover may result in higher costs, which may have a negative effect on the Portfolio's performance.

**TBA Commitments Risk.** Although TBA securities must meet industry-accepted “good delivery” standards, there can be no assurance that a security purchased on a forward commitment basis will ultimately be issued or delivered by the counterparty. If the counterparty to a transaction fails to deliver the securities, the Portfolio could suffer a loss. Because TBA commitments do not require the delivery of a specific security, the characteristics of a security delivered to the Portfolio may be less favorable than expected. There is a risk that the security that the Portfolio buys will lose value between the purchase and settlement dates. TBA purchase and sales commitments may significantly increase the portfolio turnover rate and are not included in the portfolio turnover rate calculation.

**Derivatives Risk.** Derivatives can be volatile and involve risks in addition to the risks of the underlying referenced securities or asset. Gains or losses from a derivative investment can be substantially greater than the derivative’s original cost and can therefore involve leverage. Leverage may cause the Portfolio to be more volatile than if it had not used leverage. Derivatives entail the risk that the counterparty will default on its payment obligations. Derivatives used for hedging purposes may reduce or eliminate gains or cause losses if the market moves in a manner different from that anticipated by portfolio management or if the cost of the derivative outweighs the benefit of the hedge.

**Short Exposure Risk.** The Portfolio may enter into a derivatives transaction to obtain short investment exposure to the underlying reference asset. If the value of the underlying reference asset on which the Portfolio has obtained a short investment exposure increases, the Portfolio will incur a loss. This potential loss is theoretically unlimited. A short exposure through a derivative also exposes the Portfolio to credit risk, counterparty risk, and leverage risk.

**Restricted Securities Risk.** Investments in restricted securities, including securities issued under Regulation S and Rule 144A, could have the effect of decreasing the Portfolio’s liquidity profile or preventing the Portfolio from disposing of them promptly at advantageous prices. Restricted securities may be less liquid than other investments because such securities may not always be readily sold in broad public markets and may have no active trading market. As a result, they may be difficult to value because market quotations may not be readily available.

**LIBOR Replacement Risk.** Certain debt securities, derivatives, or other financial instruments utilize the London InterBank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) as a reference rate for various rate calculations. The U.K. Financial Conduct Authority has ceased to publish or maintain as representative many LIBOR settings and will phase out certain other commonly-used U.S. dollar LIBOR settings as of June 30, 2023. The elimination of LIBOR or other reference rates and the transition process away from LIBOR could adversely impact (i) volatility and liquidity in markets that are tied to those reference rates, (ii) the market for, or value of, specific securities or payments linked to those reference rates, (iii) the availability or terms of borrowing or refinancing, or (iv) the effectiveness of hedging strategies. For these and other reasons, the elimination of LIBOR or other reference rates may adversely affect the Portfolio’s performance and/or net asset value. Alternatives to LIBOR are established or in development in most major currencies including the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (“SOFR”) that is intended to replace the U.S. dollar LIBOR.

The effect of the discontinuation of LIBOR or other reference rates on the Portfolio will vary depending on, among other things (i) existing fallback or termination provisions in individual contracts and (ii) whether, how, and when industry participants develop and adopt new reference rates and fallbacks for both legacy and new products and instruments. Accordingly, it is difficult to predict the full impact of the transition away from LIBOR or other reference rates on the Portfolio until new reference rates and fallbacks for both legacy and new products, instruments, and contracts are commercially accepted.

**Securities Lending Risk.** There is the risk that when portfolio securities are lent, the securities may not be returned on a timely basis, and the Portfolio may experience delays and costs in recovering the security or gaining access to the collateral provided to the Portfolio to collateralize the loan. If the Portfolio is unable to recover a security on loan, the Portfolio may use the collateral to purchase replacement securities in the market. There is a risk that the value of the collateral could decrease below the cost of the replacement security by the time the replacement investment is made, resulting in a loss to the Portfolio.

**Portfolio Management Risk.** The Portfolio is an actively managed investment portfolio and is therefore subject to the risk that the investment strategies and research process employed for the Portfolio may fail to produce the intended results. The Portfolio may underperform its benchmark index or other mutual funds with similar investment objectives.

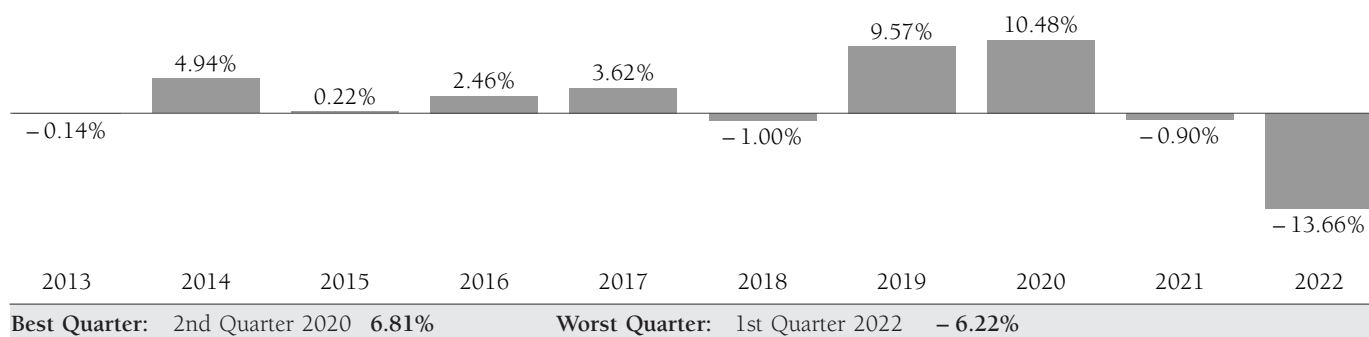
*An investment in the Portfolio is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.*

## PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The following information provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Portfolio by showing how the Portfolio's performance has varied over time. The bar chart depicts the change in performance from year to year during the periods indicated, but does not include charges or expenses attributable to any insurance product, which would lower the performance illustrated. Total return figures include the effect of the Portfolio's expenses. The table compares the average annual returns for the Institutional Shares of the Portfolio for the periods indicated to a broad-based securities market index. All figures assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. For certain periods, the Portfolio's performance reflects the effect of expense waivers. Without the effect of these expense waivers, the performance shown would have been lower.

*The Portfolio's past performance does not necessarily indicate how it will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available at [janushenderson.com/VITperformance](http://janushenderson.com/VITperformance) or by calling 1-877-335-2687.*

### Annual Total Returns for Institutional Shares (calendar year-end)



### Average Annual Total Returns (periods ended 12/31/22)

	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception (9/13/93)
<b>Flexible Bond Portfolio</b>				
<b>Institutional Shares</b>	-13.66%	0.50%	1.35%	5.32%
Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes)	-13.01%	0.02%	1.06%	4.31%

The Portfolio's primary benchmark index is the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index. The index is described below.

- The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index is made up of U.S. dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bonds, including securities that are of investment grade quality or better.

## MANAGEMENT

**Investment Adviser:** Janus Henderson Investors US LLC

**Portfolio Management:** **Michael Keough** is Executive Vice President and Co-Portfolio Manager of the Portfolio, which he has co-managed since December 2015. **Greg Wilensky**, CFA, is Executive Vice President and Co-Portfolio Manager of the Portfolio, which he has co-managed since February 2020.

## PURCHASE AND SALE OF PORTFOLIO SHARES

Purchases of Shares may be made only by the separate accounts of insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable insurance contracts or by certain qualified retirement plans. Redemptions, like purchases, may be effected only through the separate accounts of participating insurance companies or through qualified retirement plans. Requests are duly processed at the NAV next calculated after your order is received in good order by the Portfolio or its agents. Refer to the appropriate separate account prospectus or plan documents for details.

## **TAX INFORMATION**

Because Shares of the Portfolio may be purchased only through variable insurance contracts and certain qualified retirement plans, it is anticipated that any income dividends or net capital gains distributions made by the Portfolio will be exempt from current federal income taxation if left to accumulate within the variable insurance contract or qualified retirement plan. The federal income tax status of your investment depends on the features of your qualified retirement plan or variable insurance contract.

## **PAYMENTS TO INSURERS, BROKER-DEALERS, AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

Portfolio shares are generally available only through an insurer's variable contracts, or through certain employer or other retirement plans (Retirement Products). Retirement Products are generally purchased through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary. The Portfolio or its distributor (or its affiliates) may make payments to the insurer and/or its related companies for distribution and/or other services; some of the payments may go to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries. These payments may create a conflict of interest for an intermediary, or be a factor in the insurer's decision to include the Portfolio as an underlying investment option in a variable contract. Ask your financial advisor, visit your intermediary's website, or consult your insurance contract prospectus for more information.

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