

## Virtus Newfleet Multi-Sector Intermediate Bond Series – Class A Shares



This Summary Prospectus is intended for use in connection with a variable life insurance policy or a variable annuity contract and is not intended for use by other investors.

Before you invest, you may want to review the series' prospectus, which contains more information about the series and its risks. You can find the series' prospectus, statement of additional information (SAI), annual report and other information about the series online at [virtus.com/our-products/vit](http://virtus.com/our-products/vit).

You can also get this information at no cost by calling 800-367-5877 or by sending an e-mail to: [virtus.investment.partners@virtus.com](mailto:virtus.investment.partners@virtus.com).

The series' prospectus and SAI, both dated April 30, 2018, are incorporated by reference into this Summary Prospectus.

## Investment Objective

The Series has an investment objective of long-term total return.

## Fees and Expenses

The following table describes the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Virtus Newfleet Multi-Sector Fixed Income Series. The table does not include any fees or sales charges imposed under the variable contracts for which the Series is an investment option. If they were included, your costs would be higher.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)	Class A
Shareholder Fees	None

Annual Series Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)	Class A
Management Fees	0.50%
Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees	0.25%
Other Expenses	0.21%
Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses	0.03%
Total Annual Series Operating Expenses <sup>(a)</sup>	0.99%
Less: Expense Reimbursement <sup>(b)</sup>	(0.02)%
Total Annual Series Operating Expenses After Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)(b)</sup>	0.97%

- (a) The Total Annual Series Operating Expenses do not correlate to the ratio of expenses to average net assets appearing in the Financial Highlights tables, which tables reflect only the operating expenses of the Series and do not include acquired fund fees and expenses.
- (b) The Series' investment adviser has contractually agreed to limit the Series' total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses, such as front-end or contingent deferred sales charges, taxes, leverage expenses, interest, brokerage commissions, expenses incurred in connection with any merger or reorganization, unusual or infrequently occurring expenses (such as litigation), acquired fund fees and expenses, and dividend expenses, if any) so that such expenses do not exceed 0.94% for Class A Shares through April 30, 2019. Following the contractual period, the adviser may discontinue these expense reimbursement arrangements at any time. Under certain conditions, the adviser may recapture operating expenses reimbursed under these arrangements for a period of three years after the date on which it was incurred or waived by Virtus.

## Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Series with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Series for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year, that the Series' total operating expenses remain the same and that the expense reimbursement arrangement remains in place for the contractual period. The example does not reflect variable contract fees and charges, and if it did, the costs shown 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
Class A	\$99	\$313	\$545	\$1,211

## Portfolio Turnover

The Series 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 Series Operating Expenses or in the Example, affect the Series' performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Series' portfolio turnover rate was 62% of the average value of its portfolio.

## Principal Investment Strategies

The Series seeks to generate high current income and total return by applying extensive credit research and a time-tested approach to capitalize on opportunities across undervalued sectors of the bond market. The Series seeks diversification among 14 sectors in order to increase return potential and reduce risk.

Under normal circumstances, the Series invests at least 80% of its assets in fixed income securities. The subadviser intends to invest the Series' assets in the following sectors of fixed income securities:

- Securities issued or guaranteed as to principal and interest by the U.S. Government, its agencies, authorities or instrumentalities;

- Collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”), real estate mortgage investment conduits (“REMICs”) and other pass-through securities, including those issued or guaranteed as to principal and interest by the U.S. Government, its agencies, authorities or instrumentalities;
- Debt securities issued by foreign issuers, including foreign governments and their political subdivisions and issuers located in emerging markets;
- Investment grade securities (primarily of U.S. issuers, secondarily of non-U.S. issuers), which are securities with credit ratings within the four highest rating categories of a nationally recognized statistical rating organization, including short-term securities; and
- High-yield/high-risk debt instruments (so-called “junk bonds”), including bank loans (which are generally floating-rate).

The Series may invest in all or some of these sectors.

### Principal Risks

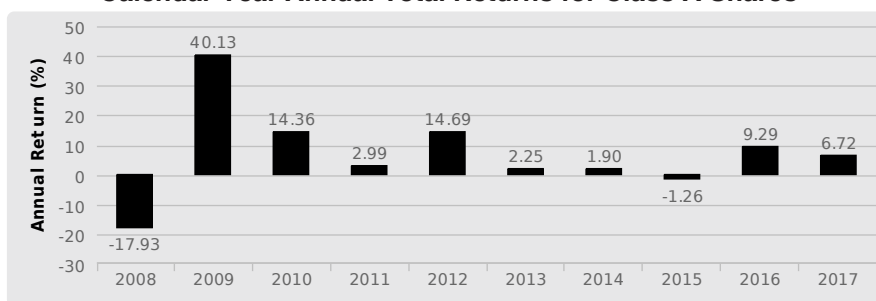
The Series may not achieve its objective(s), and it is not intended to be a complete investment program. The value of the Series’ investments that supports your share value may decrease. If between the time you purchase shares and the time you sell shares the value of the Series’ investments decreases, you will lose money. Investment values can decrease for a number of reasons. Conditions affecting the overall economy, specific industries or companies in which the Series invests can be worse than expected, and investments may fail to perform as the subadviser expects. As a result, the value of your shares may decrease. Purchase and redemption activities by variable contract owners may impact the management of the Series and its ability to achieve its investment objective(s). The redemption by one or more large variable contract owners or groups of variable contract owners of their holdings in the Series could have an adverse impact on the remaining variable contract owners in the Series including by accelerating the realization of capital gains and increasing the Series’ transaction costs. The principal risks of investing in the Series are:

- > **Call Risk.** The risk that issuers will prepay fixed rate obligations when interest rates fall, forcing the Series to reinvest in obligations with lower interest rates than the original obligations and otherwise not benefit fully from the increase in value that other fixed income securities experience when interest rates decline.
- > **Credit Risk.** The risk that the issuer of a security will fail to pay interest or principal in a timely manner, or that negative perceptions of the issuer’s ability to make such payments will cause the price of the security to decline.
- > **Emerging Market Investing Risk.** The risk that prices of emerging markets securities will be more volatile, or will be more greatly affected by negative conditions, than those of their counterparts in more established foreign markets.
- > **Foreign Investing Risk.** The risk that the prices of foreign securities in the Series’ portfolio will be more volatile than those of domestic securities, or will be negatively affected by currency fluctuations, less regulated or liquid securities markets, or economic, political or other developments.
- > **High-Yield/High-Risk Fixed Income Securities (Junk Bonds) Risk.** The risk that the issuers of high-yield/high-risk securities in the Series’ portfolio will default, that the prices of such securities will be volatile, and that the securities will not be liquid.
- > **Income Risk.** The risk that income received from the Series will vary widely over the short- and/or long-term and/or be less than anticipated if the proceeds from maturing securities in the Series are reinvested in lower-yielding securities.
- > **Interest Rate Risk.** The risk that when interest rates rise, the values of the Series’ debt securities, especially those with longer maturities, will fall.
- > **Loan Risk.** The risks that, in addition to the risks typically associated with high-yield/high-risk fixed income securities, loans in which the Series invests may be unsecured or not fully collateralized, may be subject to restrictions on resale, and/or some loans may trade infrequently on the secondary market. Loans settle on a delayed basis, potentially leading to the sale proceeds of loans not being available to meet redemptions for a substantial period of time after the sale of the loans.
- > **Long-Term Maturities/Durations Risk.** The risk of greater price fluctuations than would be associated with securities having shorter maturities or durations.
- > **Market Volatility Risk.** The risk that the value of the securities in which the Series invests may go up or down in response to the prospects of individual issuers and/or general economic conditions. Price changes may be temporary or may last for extended periods.
- > **Mortgage-Backed and Asset-Backed Securities Risk.** The risk that changes in interest rates will cause both extension and prepayment risks for mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities in which the Series invests, or that an impairment of the value of collateral underlying such securities, will cause the value of the securities to decrease.
- > **U.S. Government Securities Risk.** The risk that U.S. Government securities in the Series’ portfolio will be subject to price fluctuations, or that an agency or instrumentality will default on an obligation not backed by the full faith and credit of the United States.

### Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Series. The bar chart shows changes in the Series’ performance from year to year over a 10-year period. The table shows how the Series’ average annual returns compare to those of a broad-based market index. The Series’ past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Series will perform in the future. The Series’ returns in the chart and table do not reflect the deduction of any separate account or variable contract charges. The returns would have been less than those shown if such charges were deducted.

## Calendar Year Annual Total Returns for Class A Shares



Best Quarter: 2Q/2009: 15.10% Worst Quarter: 4Q/2008: -11.35% Year to date (3/31/18): -0.54%

Average Annual Total Returns (for the periods ended 12/31/17)	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
Class A	6.72%	3.71%	6.43%
Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index (does not reflect fees or expenses)	3.54%	2.10%	4.01%

The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index measures the U.S. investment grade fixed rate bond market. The index is calculated on a total return basis. The index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

Updated performance information is available at [virtus.com](http://virtus.com) or by calling 800-367-5877.

## Management

### The Adviser and Subadviser

Virtus Investment Advisers, Inc. ("VIA") is the investment adviser to the Series.

Newfleet Asset Management, LLC ("Newfleet"), an affiliate of VIA, is the subadviser to the Series (since June 2011).

### Portfolio Manager

- > **David L. Albrycht, CFA**, President and Chief Investment Officer at Newfleet. Mr. Albrycht has served as Portfolio Manager of the Series since 1998.

## Purchase and Sale of Series Shares

The Series does not offer its shares to the general public. The Series currently offers shares only to the separate accounts of participating insurance companies. Virtus Variable Insurance Trust (the "Trust"), of which the Series is a separate investment portfolio, has entered into an agreement with the insurance company sponsor of each separate account (participation agreement) setting forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which the insurance company will purchase and redeem shares of the Series. For information concerning the purchase of units of the separate accounts, see the variable contract prospectus.

## Tax Information

Since the separate accounts are the only shareholders of the Series, no discussion is included herein as to the federal income tax consequences at the shareholder level. For information concerning the federal income tax consequences to the purchasers of variable contracts, see the variable contract prospectus which describes the particular separate account and variable contract.

## Payments to Insurance Companies and Other Financial Intermediaries

Series shares are generally available only through intermediaries, i.e., the separate accounts. The Series (and/or its related companies) may pay the insurance companies (and/or their related companies) for distribution and/or other services; some of the payments may, in turn, go to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries. For example, the Series may make payments for sub-transfer agency services to one or more of the insurance companies. Such payments may create a conflict of interest for an intermediary by influencing the intermediary's investment recommendations, or be a factor in the insurance company's decision to include the Series as an underlying investment option in a variable contract. Ask your salesperson or review your variable contract prospectus for more information.

# VIRTUS

VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST

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