

# Nationwide Variable Insurance Trust

Prospectus April 30, 2021

## **Fund and Class**

### **NVIT Managed American Funds Asset Allocation Fund**

Class II

Class Z

### **NVIT Managed American Funds Growth-Income Fund**

Class II

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved these Funds' shares or determined whether this Prospectus is complete or accurate. To state otherwise is a crime.

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## FUND SUMMARY: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS ASSET ALLOCATION FUND

### Objective

The NVIT Managed American Funds Asset Allocation Fund (the “Asset Allocation Fund” or the “Fund”) seeks to provide a high total return (including income and capital gains) consistent with preservation of capital over the long term.

### Fees and Expenses

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell shares of the Fund. Sales charges and other expenses that may be imposed by variable insurance contracts are not included. If these charges were reflected, the expenses listed below would be higher. See the variable insurance contract prospectus, which may impose sales charges and other additional contract-level expenses.

**Annual Fund Operating Expenses** (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Class II Shares	Class Z Shares
Management Fees	0.15%	0.15%
Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees	0.25%	0.25%
Other Expenses	0.29%	0.23%
Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses	0.29%	0.29%
<b>Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b>	<b>0.98%</b>	<b>0.92%</b>

### Example

This Example is intended to help you to compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Example, however, does not include charges that are imposed by variable insurance contracts. If these charges were reflected, the expenses listed below would be higher.

This Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then sell all of your shares at the end of those time periods. It assumes a 5% return each year and no change in expenses, and any expense limitation or fee waivers that may apply for the periods indicated above under “Fees and Expenses.” 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 II Shares	\$100	\$312	\$542	\$1,201
Class Z Shares	94	293	509	1,131

### 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 rate 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 9.90% of the average value of its portfolio.

### Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund consists of two main components. First, a majority of its portfolio, referred to herein as the “Core Sleeve,” operates as a “fund-of-funds” that invests in the Asset Allocation Fund, a series of American Funds Insurance Series® (the “Underlying Fund”). The Underlying Fund is designed for investors seeking both capital appreciation and income. The remainder of the Fund, referred to herein as the “Volatility Overlay,” invests in short-term fixed-income securities (or mutual funds that themselves invest in such securities) or is held in cash. In an attempt to manage the volatility of the Fund’s portfolio over a full market cycle, the Fund buys and sells stock index futures, which are derivatives. The Fund’s short-term fixed-income securities and cash may be used to meet margin requirements and other obligations on the Fund’s derivative positions. The combination of the Core Sleeve and the Volatility Overlay is intended to result in a single Fund that is designed to offer an asset allocation investment approach blended with a strategy that seeks to mitigate risk and manage the Fund’s volatility over a full market cycle. The Volatility Overlay may not be successful in reducing volatility, in particular, frequent or short-term volatility with little or no sustained market direction, and it is possible that the Volatility Overlay may result in underperformance or losses greater than if the Fund did not implement the Volatility Overlay.

## FUND SUMMARY: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS ASSET ALLOCATION FUND (cont.)

The level of “volatility” of the Fund’s portfolio reflects the degree to which the value of the Fund’s portfolio may be expected to rise or fall within a period of time. A high level of volatility means that the Fund’s value may be expected to increase or decrease significantly over a period of time. A lower level of volatility means that the Fund’s value is not expected to fluctuate so significantly. The Fund is intended to be used primarily in connection with guaranteed benefits available through variable annuity contracts issued by Nationwide Life Insurance Company and Nationwide Life and Annuity Insurance Company (collectively, “Nationwide Life”), and is designed to help reduce a contract owner’s exposure to equity investments when equity markets are more volatile. The purpose of the Volatility Overlay is to minimize the costs and risks to Nationwide Life of supporting these guaranteed benefits. Although the reduction of equity exposure during periods of higher volatility is designed to decrease the risk of loss to your investment, it may prevent you from achieving higher investment returns. Further, the Fund’s use of leverage in its strategies may cause the Fund’s performance to be more volatile than if the Fund had not been leveraged.

The Underlying Fund invests in a diversified portfolio of common stocks and other equity securities, bonds and other intermediate and long-term debt securities, and money market instruments (debt securities maturing in one year or less). Although the Underlying Fund focuses on investments in medium- to larger-capitalization companies, the Underlying Fund’s investments are not limited to a particular capitalization size. The Underlying Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets, at the time of purchase, in common stocks and other equity securities of issuers domiciled outside the United States and up to 5% of its assets, at the time of purchase, in debt securities of issuers domiciled outside the United States. In addition, the Underlying Fund may invest up to 25% of its debt assets in lower-quality debt securities (rated Ba1 or below and BB+ or below by Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations designated by the Underlying Fund’s investment adviser or unrated but determined to be of equivalent quality by the Underlying Fund’s investment adviser). Such securities are sometimes referred to as “junk bonds.”

The Underlying Fund’s investment adviser uses a system of multiple portfolio counselors in managing the Underlying Fund’s assets. Under this approach, the portfolio of the Underlying Fund is divided into segments managed by individual counselors who decide how their respective segments will be invested.

The Underlying Fund relies on the professional judgment of its investment adviser to make decisions about the Underlying Fund’s portfolio investments. The basic investment philosophy of the Underlying Fund’s investment

adviser is to seek to invest in attractively priced securities that, in its opinion, represent good, long-term investment opportunities. The Underlying Fund’s investment adviser believes that an important way to accomplish this is through fundamental analysis, which may include meeting with company executives and employees, suppliers, customers and competitors. Securities may be sold when the Underlying Fund’s investment adviser believes that they no longer represent relatively attractive investment opportunities.

Under normal market conditions, the Underlying Fund’s investment adviser expects (but is not required) to maintain an investment mix falling within the following ranges: 40%-80% in equity securities, 20%-50% in debt securities and 0%-40% in money market instruments (including cash). As of December 31, 2020, the Underlying Fund was approximately 66% invested in equity securities, 30% invested in debt securities and 4% invested in money market instruments and cash. The proportion of equity, debt and money market securities held by the Underlying Fund varies with market conditions and the Underlying Fund’s investment adviser’s assessment of their relative attractiveness as investment opportunities.

Although the amount of the Fund’s assets allocated to the Core Sleeve was approximately 98% as of December 31, 2020, this amount may fluctuate within a general range of 90%-100% of the Fund’s overall portfolio. Similarly, the amount of the Fund’s assets allocated to the Volatility Overlay may fluctuate within a general range of 0%-10% in inverse correlation with the Core Sleeve, although this amount was approximately 2% as of December 31, 2020. The Fund’s investment adviser generally sells shares of the Underlying Fund in order to meet or change the target allocation between the Core Sleeve and the Volatility Overlay or in response to shareholder redemption activity.

The Volatility Overlay is designed to manage the volatility of the Fund’s portfolio over a full market cycle by using stock index futures to hedge against stock market risks and/or to increase or decrease the Fund’s overall exposure to equity markets. The Volatility Overlay also invests in short-term fixed-income securities (or mutual funds that themselves invest in such securities) or holds cash that may be used to meet margin requirements and other obligations of the Fund’s futures positions and/or to reduce the Fund’s overall equity exposure. When volatility is high or stock market values are falling, the Volatility Overlay will typically seek to decrease the Fund’s equity exposure by holding fewer stock index futures or by taking short positions in stock index futures. When volatility is low or stock market values are rising, the Volatility Overlay may use stock index futures with the intention of maximizing stock market gains. These strategies may expose the Fund to leverage. Therefore, even though the Core Sleeve typically has approximately

## FUND SUMMARY: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS ASSET ALLOCATION FUND (cont.)

40%-80% of its assets exposed to equity investments, the Volatility Overlay will be used to increase or decrease the Fund's overall equity exposure within a general range of 0%-80%, depending on market conditions.

Nationwide Fund Advisors ("NFA") is the investment adviser to the Fund and is also responsible for managing the Core Sleeve's investment in the Underlying Fund. Nationwide Asset Management, LLC, the Fund's subadviser, is responsible for managing the Volatility Overlay.

Although the Fund seeks to provide diversification across major asset classes, the Fund invests a significant portion of its assets in a small number of issuers (i.e., one or more Underlying Funds). However, the Underlying Funds in which the Fund invests are diversified.

### Principal Risks

The Fund cannot guarantee that it will achieve its investment objective.

As with any fund, the value of the Fund's investments—and therefore, the value of Fund shares—may fluctuate. These changes may occur because of:

**Volatility Overlay risk** – there are certain risks associated with the Volatility Overlay. These risks include that: (1) the Volatility Overlay may not be successful in reducing volatility, in particular, during periods of frequent or short-term volatility with little or no sustained market direction, and may result in losses or underperformance; (2) the Volatility Overlay may cause the Fund to underperform in certain periods of rapidly increasing equity values, especially following sharp declines in equity values; (3) the Volatility Overlay is designed to reduce the market volatility risks of equity securities only, and does not take into account the volatility risks presented by other types of investments, such as debt securities or commodities; (4) the Volatility Overlay's managed volatility strategy may prevent you from achieving higher investment returns that may be available by investing in a comparable mutual fund without a similar volatility reduction strategy, and its use of derivatives will increase the Fund's expenses; (5) the Fund's use of leverage in order to reduce stock market losses or to maximize stock market gains could result in sudden or magnified losses in value. It therefore is possible that the Volatility Overlay could result in losses that are greater than if the Fund did not include the Volatility Overlay; and (6) if the Volatility Overlay does not successfully reduce the Fund's investment risks, or even if the Volatility Overlay is successful, the Fund may lose some or all of the value of its investment.

**Fund-of-funds risk** – there are certain risks associated with a structure whereby the Fund invests primarily in other mutual funds. These risks include that: (1) the Fund will indirectly pay a proportional share of the fees and expenses

of the Underlying Fund; (2) the Fund's investment performance is directly tied to the performance of the Underlying Fund. If the Underlying Fund fails to meet its investment objective, the Fund's performance could be negatively affected; and (3) changes to the Underlying Fund could affect both the level of risk and the potential for gain or loss.

**Management risk** – the Fund is subject to the risk that the methods and analyses employed by the Fund's investment adviser, subadviser, or the Underlying Fund's investment adviser, may not produce the desired results. This could cause the Fund to lose value or its performance to lag those of relevant benchmarks or other funds with similar objectives.

**Equity securities risk** – stock markets are volatile. The price of an equity security fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.

**Investing for growth** – common stocks and other equity-type securities that seek growth may involve larger price swings and greater potential for loss than other types of investments. These risks may be even greater in the case of smaller capitalization stocks.

**Investing for income** – income provided by the Fund may be reduced by changes in the dividend policies of, and the capital resources available for dividend payments at, the companies in which the Underlying Fund invests.

**Interest rate risk** – generally, when interest rates go up, the value of fixed-income securities goes down. Prices of longer-term securities generally change more in response to interest rate changes than prices of shorter-term securities. To the extent the Fund invests a substantial portion of its assets in fixed-income securities with longer-term maturities, rising interest rates are more likely to cause periods of increased volatility and redemptions, and may cause the value of the Fund's investments to decline significantly. Falling interest rates may cause an issuer to redeem, call or refinance a debt security before its stated maturity, which may result in the fund failing to recoup the full amount of its initial investment and having to reinvest the proceeds in lower yielding securities. Currently, interest rates are at or near historic lows. The interest earned on the Fund's investments in fixed-income securities may decline when prevailing interest rates fall. Declines in interest rates increase the likelihood that debt obligations will be pre-paid, which, in turn, increases these risks. Very low or negative interest rates may impact the yield of the Fund's investments in fixed-income securities and may increase the risk that, if followed by rising interest rates, the Fund's performance will be negatively impacted. The Fund is subject to the risk that the income generated by its

## FUND SUMMARY: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS ASSET ALLOCATION FUND (cont.)

investments in fixed-income securities may not keep pace with inflation. Recent and potential future changes in government policy may affect interest rates.

**Credit risk** – a bond issuer may default if it is unable to pay the interest or principal when due. If an issuer defaults, the Fund may lose money. This risk is particularly high for high-yield bonds and other securities rated below investment grade. Changes in a bond issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may also affect the market price of a bond.

**Market risk** – the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund or the Underlying Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. This may be due to numerous factors, including interest rates, the outlook for corporate profits, the health of the national and world economies, national and world social and political events, and the fluctuation of other stock markets around the world.

The global pandemic outbreak of an infectious respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 has resulted in substantial market volatility and global business disruption, affecting the global economy and the financial health of individual companies in significant and unforeseen ways. The duration and future impact of COVID-19 are currently unknown, which may exacerbate the other risks that apply to the Fund and could negatively affect Fund performance and the value of your investment in the Fund.

**High-yield bonds risk** – investing in high-yield bonds and other lower-rated bonds is considered speculative and may subject the Fund to substantial risk of loss due to issuer default, decline in market value due to adverse economic and business developments, or sensitivity to changing interest rates.

**Liquidity risk** – when there is little or no active trading market for specific types of securities or instruments, it can become more difficult to sell the securities or instruments at or near their perceived value. An inability to sell a portfolio position can adversely affect the Fund's or Underlying Fund's value or prevent the Underlying Fund from being able to take advantage of other investment opportunities. Liquidity risk also includes the risk that the Underlying Fund will experience significant net redemptions of its shares at a time when it cannot find willing buyers for its portfolio securities or instruments or can sell its portfolio securities or instruments only at a material loss. To meet redemption requests, the Underlying Fund may be forced to sell other securities or instruments that are more liquid, but at unfavorable times and conditions. Investments in foreign securities and high-yield bonds tend to have more exposure to liquidity risk than domestic securities.

**Prepayment and call risk** – certain bonds will be paid off by the issuer more quickly than anticipated. If this happens, the Fund may be required to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields.

**Cash position risk** – the Fund may hold significant positions in cash or money market instruments. A larger amount of such holdings could cause the Fund to miss investment opportunities presented during periods of rising market prices.

**Money market risk** – the risks that apply to bonds also apply to money market instruments, but to a lesser degree. This is because the money market instruments held by the Underlying Fund are securities with shorter maturities and higher quality than those typically of bonds.

**U.S. government securities risk** – not all obligations of the U.S. government, its agencies and instrumentalities are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. Some obligations are backed only by the credit of the issuing agency or instrumentality, and in some cases there may be some risk of default by the issuer. Even if a security is backed by the U.S. Treasury or the full faith and credit of the United States, such guarantee applies only to the timely payment of interest and principal. Neither the U.S. government nor its agencies guarantees the market value of their securities, and interest rate changes, prepayments and other factors may affect the value of U.S. government securities.

**Foreign securities risk** – foreign securities may be more volatile, harder to price and less liquid than U.S. securities. The prices of foreign securities may be further affected by other factors, such as changes in the exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and the currencies in which the securities are traded.

**Smaller company risk** – smaller companies are usually less stable in price and less liquid than larger, more established companies. Smaller companies are more vulnerable than larger companies to adverse business and economic developments and may have more limited resources. Therefore, they generally involve greater risk.

**Asset allocation risk** – the Underlying Fund's percentage allocation to equity securities, debt securities and money market instruments could cause the Fund to underperform relative to relevant benchmarks and other funds with a similar investment objective.

**Leverage risk** – leverage risk is a direct risk of investing in the Fund. Leverage is investment exposure that exceeds the initial amount invested. Derivatives and other transactions that give rise to leverage may cause the Fund's performance to be more volatile than if the Fund had not been leveraged. Leveraging also may require that the Fund liquidate portfolio securities when it may not be



## FUND SUMMARY: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS ASSET ALLOCATION FUND (cont.)

advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet segregation requirements. Certain derivatives provide the potential for investment gain or loss that may be several times greater than the change in the value of an underlying security, asset, interest rate, index or currency, resulting in the potential for a loss that may be substantially greater than the amount invested. Some leveraged investments have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment.

**Derivatives risk** – futures contracts, which are derivatives, may be volatile and may involve significant risks. The underlying security, measure or other instrument on which a derivative is based, or the derivative itself, may not perform as expected. When used for hedging purposes, changes in the values of futures contracts may not match or fully offset changes in the values of the hedged portfolio securities, thereby failing to achieve the original purpose for using futures. Futures contracts also may involve leverage, which means that their use can significantly magnify the effect of price movements of the underlying securities or reference measures, disproportionately increasing the Fund's losses and reducing the Fund's opportunities for gains. Some of these derivatives have the potential for unlimited loss, including a loss that may be greater than the amount invested. Certain futures contracts held by the Fund may be illiquid, making it difficult to close out an unfavorable position. Derivatives may also be more difficult to purchase, sell or value than other instruments.

**Short position risk** – the Fund will incur a loss from a short position if the value of the stock index to which a futures contract relates increases after the Fund has entered into the short position. Short positions generally involve a form of leverage, which can exaggerate the Fund's losses. The Fund may lose more money than the actual cost of the short position and its potential losses may be unlimited. Any gain from a short position will be offset in whole or in part by the transaction costs associated with the short position.

**Securities lending risk** – is the risk that the borrower may fail to return the loaned securities in a timely manner or not at all. The value of your investment may be affected if there is a delay in recovering the loaned securities, if the Underlying Fund does not recover the loaned securities, or if the value of the collateral, in the form of cash or securities, held by the Underlying Fund for the loaned securities, declines.

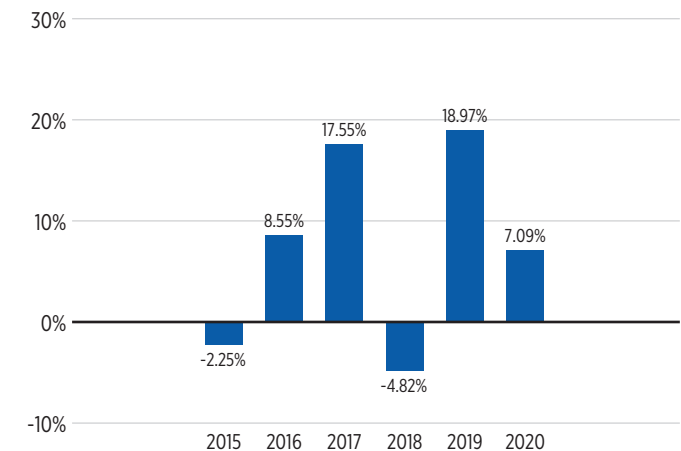
**Limited portfolio holdings risk** – because the Fund may hold large positions in an Underlying Fund, an increase or decrease in the value of such securities may have a greater impact on the Fund's value and total return. Funds that invest in a relatively small number of securities may be subject to greater volatility than a more diversified investment.

*Loss of money is a risk of investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.*

### Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The bar chart shows the volatility or variability of the Fund's annual total returns over time and shows that Fund performance can change from year to year. The table shows the Fund's average annual total returns for certain time periods compared to the returns of a comparable broad-based securities index. The table also compares the Fund's average annual total returns to a hypothetical blended index, which is a representation of the performance of each of the Fund's asset classes according to their respective weightings. Remember, however, that past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. The returns shown in the bar chart and table do not include charges that will be imposed by variable insurance contracts. If these amounts were reflected, returns would be less than those shown.

#### Annual Total Returns – Class II (Years Ended December 31,)



**Highest Quarter: 7.81% – 1Q 2019**

**Lowest Quarter: -9.15% – 1Q 2020**

Class Z shares have not commenced operations as of the date of this Prospectus. Therefore, pre-inception historical performance for Class Z shares is based on the previous performance of Class II shares. Performance for Class Z shares has not been adjusted to reflect this share class's lower expenses than those of the Fund's Class II shares.



## FUND SUMMARY: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS ASSET ALLOCATION FUND (cont.)

### Average Annual Total Returns (For the Periods Ended December 31, 2020)

	1 Year	5 Years	Since Fund Inception	Fund Inception Date
Class II Shares	7.09%	9.12%	6.65%	7/8/2014
Class Z Shares	7.09%	9.12%	6.65%	7/8/2014
S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees or expenses)	18.40%	15.22%	12.59%	
60%/40% S&P 500® Index/Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index (reflects no deduction for fees or expenses)	15.37%	11.23%	9.38%	

### Portfolio Management

#### Investment Adviser

Nationwide Fund Advisors (“NFA”)

#### Subadviser

Nationwide Asset Management, LLC (“NWAM”)

#### Portfolio Managers

Portfolio Manager	Title	Length of Service with Fund
<b>Core Sleeve</b>		
Christopher C. Graham	Chief Investment Officer, NFA	Since 2016
Keith P. Robinette, CFA	Senior Director of Asset Strategies, NFA	Since 2017
Andrew Urban, CFA	Senior Director of Asset Strategies, NFA	Since 2017
<b>Volatility Overlay</b>		
Frederick N. Gwin, CFA	Senior Investment Professional, NWAM	Since 2014
Chad W. Finefrock, CFA	Senior Investment Professional, NWAM	Since 2014

### Tax Information

The dividends and distributions paid by the Fund to the insurance company separate accounts will consist of ordinary income, capital gains, or some combination of both. Because shares of the Fund must be purchased through separate accounts used to fund variable insurance contracts, such dividends and distributions will be exempt from current taxation by contract holders if left to accumulate within a separate account. Consult the variable insurance contract prospectus for additional tax information.

### Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

This Fund is only offered as an underlying investment option for variable insurance contracts. The Fund and its related companies may make payments to the sponsoring insurance companies (or their affiliates) for distribution and/or other services, and to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries that distribute the variable insurance contracts. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the insurance companies to include the Fund as an underlying investment option in the variable insurance contracts, and by influencing the broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries to distribute variable insurance contracts that include the Fund as an underlying investment option over other variable insurance contracts or to otherwise recommend the selection of the Fund as an underlying investment option by contract owners instead of other funds that also may be available investment options. The prospectus (or other offering document) for your variable insurance contract may contain additional information about these payments.

FUND SUMMARY: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS GROWTH-INCOME FUND

Objective

The NVIT Managed American Funds Growth-Income Fund (“Growth-Income Fund” or the “Fund”) seeks to achieve long-term growth of capital and income.

Fees and Expenses

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell shares of the Fund. Sales charges and other expenses that may be imposed by variable insurance contracts are not included. If these charges were reflected, the expenses listed below would be higher. See the variable insurance contract prospectus, which may impose sales charges and other additional contract-level expenses.

**Annual Fund Operating Expenses** (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Class II Shares
Management Fees	0.15%
Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees	0.25%
Other Expenses	0.30%
Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses	0.27%
<b>Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b>	<b>0.97%</b>

Example

This Example is intended to help you to compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Example, however, does not include charges that are imposed by variable insurance contracts. If these charges were reflected, the expenses listed below would be higher.

This Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then sell all of your shares at the end of those time periods. It assumes a 5% return each year and no change in expenses, and any expense limitation or fee waivers that may apply for the periods indicated above under “Fees and Expenses.” 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 II Shares	\$99	\$309	\$536	\$1,190

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 rate 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 20.20% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund consists of two main components. First, a majority of its portfolio, referred to herein as the “Core Sleeve,” operates as a “fund-of-funds” that invests in the Growth-Income Fund, a series of American Funds Insurance Series® (the “Underlying Fund”). The Underlying Fund is designed for investors seeking both capital appreciation and income. The remainder of the Fund, referred to herein as the “Volatility Overlay,” invests in short-term fixed-income securities (or mutual funds that themselves invest in such securities) or is held in cash. In an attempt to manage the volatility of the Fund’s portfolio over a full market cycle, the Fund buys and sells stock index futures, which are derivatives. The Fund’s short-term fixed-income securities and cash may be used to meet margin requirements and other obligations on the Fund’s derivative positions. The combination of the Core Sleeve and the Volatility Overlay is intended to result in a single Fund that is designed to offer exposure to equity investments blended with a strategy that seeks to mitigate risk and manage the Fund’s volatility over a full market cycle. The Volatility Overlay may not be successful in reducing volatility, in particular, frequent or short-term volatility with little or no sustained market direction, and it is possible that the Volatility Overlay may result in underperformance or losses greater than if the Fund did not implement the Volatility Overlay.

## **FUND SUMMARY:** NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS GROWTH-INCOME FUND (cont.)

The level of “volatility” of the Fund’s portfolio reflects the degree to which the value of the Fund’s portfolio may be expected to rise or fall within a period of time. A high level of volatility means that the Fund’s value may be expected to increase or decrease significantly over a period of time. A lower level of volatility means that the Fund’s value is not expected to fluctuate so significantly. The Fund is intended to be used primarily in connection with guaranteed benefits available through variable annuity contracts issued by Nationwide Life Insurance Company and Nationwide Life and Annuity Insurance Company (collectively, “Nationwide Life”), and is designed to help reduce a contract owner’s exposure to equity investments when equity markets are more volatile. The purpose of the Volatility Overlay is to minimize the costs and risks to Nationwide Life of supporting these guaranteed benefits. Although the reduction of equity exposure during periods of higher volatility is designed to decrease the risk of loss to your investment, it may prevent you from achieving higher investment returns. Further, the Fund’s use of leverage in its strategies may cause the Fund’s performance to be more volatile than if the Fund had not been leveraged.

The Underlying Fund invests primarily in common stocks or other equity-type securities, such as preferred stocks, convertible preferred stocks and convertible bonds, that the Underlying Fund’s investment adviser believes demonstrate the potential for appreciation and/or dividends. Although the Underlying Fund focuses on investments in medium- to larger-capitalization companies, the Underlying Fund’s investments are not limited to a particular capitalization size. The Underlying Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets, at the time of purchase, in securities of issuers domiciled outside the United States, including, to a more limited extent, in emerging markets. The Underlying Fund may have significant investments in particular sectors.

The Underlying Fund’s investment adviser uses a system of multiple portfolio counselors in managing the Underlying Fund’s assets. Under this approach, the portfolio of the Underlying Fund is divided into segments managed by individual counselors who decide how their respective segments will be invested.

The Underlying Fund relies on the professional judgment of its investment adviser to make decisions about the Underlying Fund’s portfolio investments. The basic investment philosophy of the Underlying Fund’s investment adviser is to seek to invest in attractively valued companies that, in its opinion, represent good, long-term investment opportunities. The Underlying Fund’s investment adviser believes that an important way to accomplish this is through fundamental analysis, which may include meeting with company executives and employees, suppliers, customers and competitors. Securities may be sold when the Underlying Fund’s investment adviser believes that they

no longer represent relatively attractive investment opportunities.

Although the amount of the Fund’s assets allocated to the Core Sleeve was approximately 96% as of December 31, 2020, this amount may fluctuate within a general range of 90%-100% of the Fund’s overall portfolio. Similarly, the amount of the Fund’s assets allocated to the Volatility Overlay may fluctuate within a general range of 0%-10% in inverse correlation with the Core Sleeve, although this amount was approximately 4% as of December 31, 2020. The Fund’s investment adviser generally buys or sells shares of the Underlying Fund in order to meet or change the target allocation between the Core Sleeve and the Volatility Overlay or in response to shareholder redemption activity.

The Volatility Overlay is designed to manage the volatility of the Fund’s portfolio over a full market cycle by using stock index futures to hedge against stock market risks and/or to increase or decrease the Fund’s overall exposure to equity markets. The Volatility Overlay also invests in short-term fixed-income securities (or mutual funds that themselves invest in such securities) or holds cash that may be used to meet margin requirements and other obligations of the Fund’s futures positions and/or to reduce the Fund’s overall equity exposure. When volatility is high or stock market values are falling, the Volatility Overlay will typically seek to decrease the Fund’s equity exposure by holding fewer stock index futures or by taking short positions in stock index futures. When volatility is low or stock market values are rising, the Volatility Overlay may use stock index futures with the intention of maximizing stock market gains. These strategies may expose the Fund to leverage. Therefore, even though the Core Sleeve typically has over 90% of its assets exposed to equity investments, the Volatility Overlay will be used to increase or decrease the Fund’s overall equity exposure within general range of 0% - 100%, depending on market conditions.

Nationwide Fund Advisors (“NFA”) is the investment adviser to the Fund and is also responsible for managing the Core Sleeve’s investment in the Underlying Fund. Nationwide Asset Management, LLC, the Fund’s subadviser, is responsible for managing the Volatility Overlay.

Although the Fund seeks to provide diversification across major asset classes, the Fund invests a significant portion of its assets in a small number of issuers (i.e., one or more Underlying Funds). However, the Underlying Funds in which the Fund invests are diversified.

### **Principal Risks**

The Fund cannot guarantee that it will achieve its investment objective.

## FUND SUMMARY: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS GROWTH-INCOME FUND (cont.)

As with any fund, the value of the Fund's investments—and therefore, the value of Fund shares—may fluctuate. These changes may occur because of:

**Volatility Overlay risk** – there are certain risks associated with the Volatility Overlay. These risks include that: (1) the Volatility Overlay may not be successful in reducing volatility, in particular, during periods of frequent or short-term volatility with little or no sustained market direction, and may result in losses or underperformance; (2) the Volatility Overlay may cause the Fund to underperform in certain periods of rapidly increasing equity values, especially following sharp declines in equity values; (3) the Volatility Overlay is designed to reduce the market volatility risks of equity securities only, and does not take into account the volatility risks presented by other types of investments, such as debt securities or commodities; (4) the Volatility Overlay's managed volatility strategy may prevent you from achieving higher investment returns that may be available by investing in a comparable mutual fund without a similar volatility reduction strategy, and its use of derivatives will increase the Fund's expenses; (5) the Fund's use of leverage in order to reduce stock market losses or to maximize stock market gains could result in sudden or magnified losses in value. It therefore is possible that the Volatility Overlay could result in losses that are greater than if the Fund did not include the Volatility Overlay; and (6) if the Volatility Overlay does not successfully reduce the Fund's investment risks, or even if the Volatility Overlay is successful, the Fund may lose some or all of the value of its investment.

**Fund-of-funds risk** – there are certain risks associated with a structure whereby the Fund invests primarily in other mutual funds. These risks include that: (1) the Fund will indirectly pay a proportional share of the fees and expenses of the Underlying Fund; (2) the Fund's investment performance is directly tied to the performance of the Underlying Fund. If the Underlying Fund fails to meet its investment objective, the Fund's performance could be negatively affected; and (3) changes to the Underlying Fund could affect both the level of risk and the potential for gain or loss.

**Management risk** – the Fund is subject to the risk that the methods and analyses employed by the Fund's investment adviser, subadviser, or the Underlying Fund's investment adviser, may not produce the desired results. This could cause the Fund to lose value or its performance to lag those of relevant benchmarks or other funds with similar objectives.

**Equity securities risk** – stock markets are volatile. The price of an equity security fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions.

**Investing for growth** – common stocks and other equity-type securities that seek growth may involve larger price swings and greater potential for loss than other types of investments. These risks may be even greater in the case of smaller capitalization stocks.

**Investing for income** – income provided by the Fund may be reduced by changes in the dividend policies of, and the capital resources available for dividend payments at, the companies in which the Underlying Fund invests.

**Fixed-income securities risk** – investments in fixed-income securities, such as bonds, subject the Fund to interest rate risk, credit risk and prepayment and call risk, which may affect the value of your investment. Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of fixed-income securities will decline when interest rates rise. Prices of longer-term securities generally change more in response to interest rate changes than prices of shorter-term securities. To the extent an Underlying Fund invests a substantial portion of its assets in debt securities with longer-term maturities, rising interest rates are more likely to cause periods of increased volatility and redemptions, and may cause the value of the Fund's investments to decline significantly. Falling interest rates may cause an issuer to redeem, call or refinance a debt security before its stated maturity, which may result in the fund failing to recoup the full amount of its initial investment and having to reinvest the proceeds in lower yielding securities. Currently, interest rates are at or near historic lows. The interest earned on an Underlying Fund's investments in fixed-income securities may decline when prevailing interest rates fall. Declines in interest rates increase the likelihood that debt obligations will be pre-paid, which, in turn, increases these risks. Very low or negative interest rates may impact the yield of an Underlying Fund's investments in fixed-income securities and may increase the risk that, if followed by rising interest rates, the Fund's performance will be negatively impacted. The Fund is subject to the risk that the income generated by its investments in fixed-income securities may not keep pace with inflation. Recent and potential future changes in government policy may affect interest rates.

Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a bond may default if it is unable to pay interest or principal when due. If an issuer defaults, the Underlying Fund, and therefore the Fund, may lose money. Changes in a bond issuer's credit rating or the market's perceptions of an issuer's creditworthiness also may affect the value of a bond. Prepayment and call risk is the risk that certain debt securities will be paid off by the issuer more quickly than anticipated. If this occurs, an Underlying Fund may be required to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields.

**Market risk** – the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund or the Underlying Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down

## FUND SUMMARY: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS GROWTH-INCOME FUND (cont.)

sharply and unpredictably. This may be due to numerous factors, including interest rates, the outlook for corporate profits, the health of the national and world economies, national and world social and political events, and the fluctuation of other stock markets around the world.

The global pandemic outbreak of an infectious respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 has resulted in substantial market volatility and global business disruption, affecting the global economy and the financial health of individual companies in significant and unforeseen ways. The duration and future impact of COVID-19 are currently unknown, which may exacerbate the other risks that apply to the Fund and could negatively affect Fund performance and the value of your investment in the Fund.

**Cash position risk** – the Fund may hold significant positions in cash or money market instruments. A larger amount of such holdings could cause the Fund to miss investment opportunities presented during periods of rising market prices.

**Foreign securities risk** – foreign securities may be more volatile, harder to price and less liquid than U.S. securities. The prices of foreign securities may be further affected by other factors, such as changes in the exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and the currencies in which the securities are traded.

**Emerging markets risk** – emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging securities markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets. Since these markets are smaller than developed markets, they may be more likely to suffer sharp and frequent price changes or long-term price depression because of adverse publicity, investor perceptions or the actions of a few large investors. Practices in relation to settlement of securities transactions in emerging markets involve higher risks than those in developed markets, in part because the Fund will need to use brokers and counterparties that are less well capitalized, and custody and registration of assets in some countries may be unreliable compared to developed markets. Companies in emerging market countries generally may be subject to less stringent financial reporting, accounting and auditing standards than companies in more developed countries. In addition, information about such companies may be less available and reliable. Many emerging markets also have histories of political instability and abrupt changes in policies, and the ability to bring and enforce actions may be limited. Certain emerging markets may also face other

significant internal or external risks, including the risk of war, nationalization of assets, unexpected market closures and ethnic, religious and racial conflicts.

**Smaller company risk** – smaller companies are usually less stable in price and less liquid than larger, more established companies. Smaller companies are more vulnerable than larger companies to adverse business and economic developments and may have more limited resources. Therefore, they generally involve greater risk.

**Sector risk** – investments in particular industries or sectors may be more volatile than the overall stock market. Therefore, if the Fund emphasizes one or more industries or economic sectors, it may be more susceptible to financial, market or economic events affecting the particular issuers and industries participating in such sectors than funds that do not emphasize particular industries or sectors.

**Preferred stock risk** – a preferred stock may decline in price, or fail to pay dividends when expected, because the issuer experiences a decline in its financial status. Preferred stocks often behave like debt securities, but have a lower payment priority than the issuer's bonds or other debt securities. Therefore, they may be subject to greater credit risk than those of debt securities. Preferred stocks also may be significantly less liquid than many other securities, such as corporate debt or common stock.

**Convertible securities risk** – the value of convertible securities may fall when interest rates rise and increase when interest rates fall. The prices of convertible securities with longer maturities tend to be more volatile than those with shorter maturities. Value also tends to change whenever the market value of the underlying common or preferred stock fluctuates. The Fund could lose money if the issuer of a convertible security is unable to meet its financial obligations.

**Leverage risk** – leverage risk is a direct risk of investing in the Fund. Leverage is investment exposure that exceeds the initial amount invested. Derivatives and other transactions that give rise to leverage may cause the Fund's performance to be more volatile than if the Fund had not been leveraged. Leveraging also may require that the Fund liquidate portfolio securities when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet segregation requirements. Certain derivatives provide the potential for investment gain or loss that may be several times greater than the change in the value of an underlying security, asset, interest rate, index or currency, resulting in the potential for a loss that may be substantially greater than the amount invested. Some leveraged investments have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment.



## FUND SUMMARY: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS GROWTH-INCOME FUND (cont.)

**Derivatives risk** – futures contracts, which are derivatives, may be volatile and may involve significant risks. The underlying security, measure or other instrument on which a derivative is based, or the derivative itself, may not perform as expected. When used for hedging purposes, changes in the values of futures contracts may not match or fully offset changes in the values of the hedged portfolio securities, thereby failing to achieve the original purpose for using futures. Futures contracts also may involve leverage, which means that their use can significantly magnify the effect of price movements of the underlying securities or reference measures, disproportionately increasing the Fund's losses and reducing the Fund's opportunities for gains. Some of these derivatives have the potential for unlimited loss, including a loss that may be greater than the amount invested. Certain futures contracts held by the Fund may be illiquid, making it difficult to close out an unfavorable position. Derivatives may also be more difficult to purchase, sell or value than other instruments.

**Short position risk** – the Fund will incur a loss from a short position if the value of the stock index to which a futures contract relates increases after the Fund has entered into the short position. Short positions generally involve a form of leverage, which can exaggerate the Fund's losses. The Fund may lose more money than the actual cost of the short position and its potential losses may be unlimited. Any gain from a short position will be offset in whole or in part by the transaction costs associated with the short position.

**Securities lending risk** – is the risk that the borrower may fail to return the loaned securities in a timely manner or not at all. The value of your investment may be affected if there is a delay in recovering the loaned securities, if the Underlying Fund does not recover the loaned securities, or if the value of the collateral, in the form of cash or securities, held by the Underlying Fund for the loaned securities, declines.

**Limited portfolio holdings risk** – because the Fund may hold large positions in an Underlying Fund, an increase or decrease in the value of such securities may have a greater impact on the Fund's value and total return. Funds that invest in a relatively small number of securities may be subject to greater volatility than a more diversified investment.

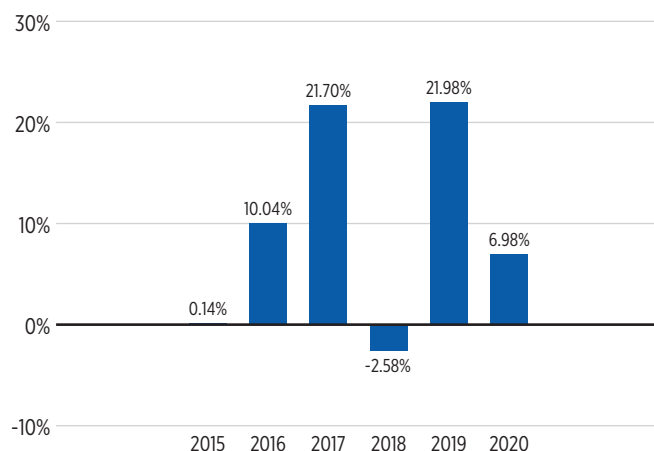
*Loss of money is a risk of investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.*

### Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The bar chart shows the volatility or variability of the Fund's annual total returns

over time and shows that Fund performance can change from year to year. The table shows the Fund's average annual total returns for certain time periods compared to the returns of a comparable broad-based securities index. Remember, however, that past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. The returns shown in the bar chart and table do not include charges that will be imposed by variable insurance contracts. If these amounts were reflected, returns would be less than those shown.

### Annual Total Returns – Class II (Years Ended December 31,)



**Highest Quarter:** 9.81% – 1Q 2019

**Lowest Quarter:** -12.72% – 1Q 2020

### Average Annual Total Returns (For the Periods Ended December 31, 2020)

	1 Year	5 Years	Since Fund Inception	Fund Inception Date
Class II Shares	6.98%	11.23%	9.03%	7/8/2014
S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees or expenses)	18.40%	15.22%	12.59%	

### Portfolio Management

#### Investment Adviser

Nationwide Fund Advisors ("NFA")

#### Subadviser

Nationwide Asset Management, LLC ("NWAM")

## FUND SUMMARY: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS GROWTH-INCOME FUND (cont.)

### Portfolio Managers

Portfolio Manager	Title	Length of Service with Fund
<b>Core Sleeve</b>		
Christopher C. Graham	Chief Investment Officer, NFA	Since 2016
Keith P. Robinette, CFA	Senior Director of Asset Strategies, NFA	Since 2017
Andrew Urban, CFA	Senior Director of Asset Strategies, NFA	Since 2017
<b>Volatility Overlay</b>		
Frederick N. Gwin, CFA	Senior Investment Professional, NWAM	Since 2014
Chad W. Finefrock, CFA	Senior Investment Professional, NWAM	Since 2014

### Tax Information

The dividends and distributions paid by the Fund to the insurance company separate accounts will consist of ordinary income, capital gains, or some combination of both. Because shares of the Fund must be purchased through separate accounts used to fund variable insurance contracts, such dividends and distributions will be exempt from current taxation by contract holders if left to accumulate within a separate account. Consult the variable insurance contract prospectus for additional tax information.

### Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

This Fund is only offered as an underlying investment option for variable insurance contracts. The Fund and its related companies may make payments to the sponsoring insurance companies (or their affiliates) for distribution and/or other services, and to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries that distribute the variable insurance contracts. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the insurance companies to include the Fund as an underlying investment option in the variable insurance contracts, and by influencing the broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries to distribute variable insurance contracts that include the Fund as an underlying investment option over other variable insurance contracts or to otherwise recommend the selection of the Fund as an underlying investment option by contract owners instead of other funds that also may be available investment options. The prospectus (or other offering document) for your variable insurance contract may contain additional information about these payments.



## HOW THE FUNDS INVEST: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS

### Objectives

The NVIT Managed American Funds Asset Allocation Fund (“Asset Allocation Fund”) seeks to provide a high total return (including income and capital gains) consistent with preservation of capital over the long term.

The NVIT Managed American Funds Growth-Income Fund (“Growth-Income Fund”) seeks to achieve long-term growth of capital and income.

These objectives may be changed without shareholder approval by Nationwide Variable Insurance Trust’s Board of Trustees upon 60 days’ written notice to shareholders.

### Principal Investment Strategies

Each Fund aims to provide a different investment option while seeking to maintain within acceptable levels the risks that may result from equity market volatility. Each Fund consists of two main components. The Core Sleeve constitutes the majority of a Fund’s portfolio, and operates as a “fund-of-funds” by investing in an Underlying Fund offered by American Funds Insurance Series®. Each Underlying Fund in turn invests directly in equity or fixed-income securities, as appropriate to its investment objective and strategies. The remainder of each Fund consists of the Volatility Overlay, which is a separate portion of assets that invests in short-term fixed-income securities (or mutual funds that themselves invest in such securities) or is held in cash. In an attempt to manage the volatility of a Fund’s portfolio, a Fund buys and sells stock index futures, which are derivatives. A Fund’s short-term fixed-income securities and cash may be used to meet margin requirements and other obligations on the Fund’s derivative positions. The combination of the Core Sleeve and the Volatility Overlay is intended to result in a single Fund that is designed to provide the investment option featured by the Underlying Fund blended with a strategy that seeks to mitigate risk and manage a Fund’s volatility over a full market cycle. The Volatility Overlay may not be successful in reducing volatility, in particular, frequent or short-term volatility with little or no sustained market direction, and it is possible that the Volatility Overlay may result in underperformance or losses greater than if a Fund did not implement the Volatility Overlay.

**Volatility** – the degree to which the value of the Fund’s portfolio may be expected to rise or fall within a period of time. A high level of volatility means that the Fund’s value may be expected to increase or decrease significantly over a period of time. A lower level of volatility means that the Fund’s value is not expected to fluctuate so significantly.

Each Fund is intended to be used primarily in connection with certain guaranteed benefits available through variable

annuity contracts issued by Nationwide Life Insurance Company and Nationwide Life and Annuity Insurance Company (collectively, “Nationwide Life”), and is designed to help reduce a contract owner’s exposure to equity investments when equity markets are declining. The Volatility Overlay is intended to minimize the costs and risks to Nationwide Life of supporting these guaranteed benefits.

***Although the reduction of equity exposure during periods of higher volatility is designed to decrease the risk of loss to your investment, it may prevent you from achieving higher investment returns. Further, a Fund’s use of leverage in its strategies may cause a Fund’s performance to be more volatile than if a Fund had not been leveraged.***

In selecting a Fund, investors should consider their personal objectives, investment time horizons, risk tolerances and financial circumstances.

Although the Funds seek to provide diversification across major asset classes, each Fund invests a significant portion of its assets in a small number of issuers (i.e., one or more Underlying Funds). However, the Underlying Funds in which each Fund invests are diversified.

### Core Sleeves

Each Fund’s Core Sleeve consists of approximately 95% of its net assets under normal circumstances Prospectus, although the Adviser reserves the right to increase or decrease the size of a Fund’s Core Sleeve at its discretion. The Core Sleeves of the Asset Allocation Fund and the Growth-Income Fund invest in Underlying Funds that generally pursue an “active” style of management, meaning that their portfolio managers actively make investment decisions and initiate buying and selling of securities with the goal of maximizing investment return.

Each Underlying Fund’s daily cash balance may be invested in one or more money market or similar funds managed by the Underlying Funds’ investment adviser or its affiliates (“Central Funds”). Shares of Central Funds are not offered to the public and are only purchased by the Underlying Funds’ investment adviser and its affiliates and other funds, investment vehicles and accounts managed by the Underlying Funds’ investment adviser and its affiliates. When investing in Central Funds, the Underlying Fund bears its proportionate share of the expenses of the Central Funds in which it invests but does not bear additional management fees through its investment in such Central Funds. The investment results of the portions of the Underlying Funds’ assets invested in the Central Funds will be based upon the investment results of the Central Funds.

The Adviser has selected the Underlying Fund for each Fund that it believes is most appropriate to represent the investment option featured. In selecting the Underlying Fund, the Adviser considers a variety of factors in the context of current economic and market conditions, including the Underlying Fund’s investment strategies, risk

## HOW THE FUNDS INVEST: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS (*cont.*)

profile and historical performance. The Adviser also determines the amount of each Fund's assets to allocate between the Core Sleeve and the Volatility Overlay.

### Volatility Overlays

Each Fund's Volatility Overlay consists of approximately 5% of its net assets under normal circumstances Prospectus, although the Adviser reserves the right to increase or decrease the size of any Fund's Volatility Overlay at its discretion. The Volatility Overlay is designed to manage the volatility of each Fund's portfolio over a full market cycle by using stock index futures dynamically to hedge against stock market risks and/or to increase or decrease the Fund's overall exposure to equity markets. Each Fund's Volatility Overlay also invests in short-term fixed-income securities (or mutual funds that themselves invest in such securities) or holds cash that may be used to meet margin requirements and other obligations of the Fund's futures positions and/or to reduce the Fund's overall equity exposure. When volatility is high or stock market values are falling, a Volatility Overlay will typically seek to decrease its Fund's equity exposure by holding fewer stock index futures or by taking short positions in stock index futures. A short sale strategy involves the sale by a Fund of securities it does not own with the expectation of purchasing the same securities at a later date at a lower price. When volatility is low or stock market values are rising, a Volatility Overlay may use stock index futures with the intention of maximizing stock market gains. These strategies may expose the Funds to leverage.

The amount of each Fund's assets allocated to the Core Sleeve may fluctuate within a general range of 90%-100% of the Fund's overall portfolio. Similarly, the amount of each Fund's assets allocated to the Volatility Overlay may fluctuate within a general range of 0%-10% in inverse correlation with the Core Sleeve. The investment adviser generally sells shares of Underlying Funds in order to meet or change the allocation between the Core Sleeve and the Volatility Overlay or in response to shareholder redemption activity.

Each Fund's volatility management strategy may be adjusted periodically. Any adjustment will likely reflect, among other factors, Nationwide Life's exposure related to the guaranteed benefits available through its variable annuity contracts and the volatility of a Fund, provided, however, that any such adjustment will be made in the sole judgment of NFA.

### NVIT Managed American Funds Asset Allocation Fund

Substantially all of the assets of the Core Sleeve of the NVIT Managed American Funds Asset Allocation Fund will invest in Class 1 shares of the Asset Allocation Fund, a series of the American Funds Insurance Series® (the "Underlying Fund"),

which is a registered open-end investment company, and the remainder of the Fund will consist of the Volatility Overlay. The Underlying Fund invests in a diversified portfolio of common stocks and other equity securities, bonds and other intermediate and long-term debt securities, and money market instruments (debt securities maturing in one year or less). Although the Underlying Fund focuses on investments in medium- to larger-capitalization companies, the Underlying Fund's investments are not limited to a particular capitalization size. The Underlying Fund may invest up to 15% of its assets, at the time of purchase, in common stocks and other equity securities of issuers domiciled outside the United States and up to 5% of its assets, at the time of purchase, in debt securities of issuers domiciled outside the United States. In addition, the Underlying Fund may invest up to 25% of its debt assets in lower-quality debt securities (rated Ba1 or below and BB+ or below by Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations designated by the Underlying Fund's investment adviser or unrated but determined to be of equivalent quality by the Underlying Fund's investment adviser). Such securities are sometimes referred to as "junk bonds." The Underlying Fund varies its mix of equity securities, debt securities and money market instruments. Under normal market conditions, the Underlying Fund's investment adviser expects (but is not required) to maintain an investment mix falling within the following ranges: 40%-80% in equity securities, 20%-50% in debt securities and 0%-40% in money market instruments and cash. The proportion of equity, debt and money market securities held by the Underlying Fund varies with market conditions and the Underlying Fund's investment adviser's assessment of their relative attractiveness as investment opportunities. The basic investment philosophy of the Underlying Fund's investment adviser is to seek to invest in attractively priced securities that, in its opinion, represent good, long-term investment opportunities. The Underlying Fund's investment adviser believes that an important way to accomplish this is through fundamental analysis, which may include meeting with company executives and employees, suppliers, customers and competitors.

### NVIT Managed American Funds Growth-Income Fund

Substantially all of the assets of the Core Sleeve of the NVIT Managed American Funds Growth-Income Fund will invest in Class 1 shares of the Growth-Income Fund, a series of the American Funds Insurance Series® (the "Underlying Fund"), which is a registered open-end investment company, and the remainder of the Fund will consist of the Volatility Overlay. The Growth-Income Fund invests primarily in common stocks or other equity-type securities, such as preferred stocks, convertible preferred stocks and convertible bonds, that its investment adviser believes demonstrate the potential for appreciation and/or dividends. Although the Underlying Fund focuses on

## HOW THE FUNDS INVEST: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS (*cont.*)

investments in medium- to larger-capitalization companies, the Underlying Fund's investments are not limited to a particular capitalization size. The Underlying Fund may invest up to 15% of its assets, at the time of purchase, in securities of issuers domiciled outside the United States, including, to a more limited extent, in emerging markets. The Underlying Fund may have significant investments in particular sectors. The basic investment philosophy of the Underlying Fund's investment adviser is to seek to invest in attractively priced securities that, in its opinion, represent good, long-term investment opportunities. The Underlying Fund's investment adviser believes that an important way to accomplish this is through fundamental analysis, which may include meeting with company executives and employees, suppliers, customers and competitors. The Growth-Income Fund is designed for investors seeking both capital appreciation and income.

The foregoing summaries of the Underlying Funds are based solely on information provided in the prospectus of each Underlying Fund, as filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") from time to time. The summaries of the Underlying Funds are qualified in their entirety by reference to the Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") of each Underlying Fund. The investment adviser of the Underlying Funds may change the investment policies and/or programs of the Underlying Funds at any time without notice to shareholders of the Funds.

\* \* \* \* \*

Because an investor is investing indirectly in the Underlying Fund through a Fund's Core Sleeve, he or she will pay a proportionate share of the applicable expenses of the Underlying Fund (including applicable management, administration and custodian fees), as well as the Fund's direct expenses. Each Underlying Fund will not charge any front-end sales loads, contingent deferred sales charges or Rule 12b-1 fees.

## RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUNDS

As with all mutual funds, investing in Nationwide Funds involves certain risks. There is no guarantee that a Fund will meet its investment objective or that a Fund will perform as it has in the past. Loss of money is a risk of investing in the Funds.

The following information relates to the principal risks of investing in the Funds, as identified in the “Fund Summary” and “How the Funds Invest” sections for each Fund. A Fund or an Underlying Fund may invest in or use other types of investments or strategies not shown below that do not represent principal strategies or raise principal risks. More information about these non-principal investments, strategies and risks is available in the Funds’ Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”).

**Volatility Overlay risk** – there are certain risks associated with the Volatility Overlay. These risks include that: (1) the Volatility Overlay may not be successful in reducing volatility, in particular, during periods of frequent or short-term volatility with little or no sustained market direction, and may result in losses or underperformance; (2) the Volatility Overlay may cause the Fund to underperform in certain periods of rapidly increasing equity values, especially following sharp declines in equity values; (3) the Volatility Overlay is designed to reduce the market volatility risks of equity securities only, and does not take into account the volatility risks presented by other types of investments, such as debt securities or commodities; (4) the Volatility Overlay’s managed volatility strategy may prevent you from achieving higher investment returns that may be available by investing in a comparable mutual fund without a similar volatility reduction strategy, and its use of derivatives will increase the Fund’s expenses; (5) the Fund’s use of leverage in order to reduce stock market losses or to maximize stock market gains could result in sudden or magnified losses in value. It therefore is possible that the Volatility Overlay could result in losses that are greater than if the Fund did not include the Volatility Overlay; and (6) if the Volatility Overlay does not successfully reduce the Fund’s investment risks, or even if the Volatility Overlay is successful, the Fund may lose some or all of the value of its investment.

### Risks Associated with a Fund-of-Funds Structure

**Fund-of-funds risk** – there are certain risks associated with a structure whereby a Fund, via its Core Sleeve, invests primarily in other mutual funds. These risks include the following:

- **Underlying Fund Expenses:** because each Fund owns shares of an Underlying Fund, shareholders of a Fund will indirectly pay a proportional share of the fees and expenses, including applicable management, administration and custodian fees, of the Underlying Fund in which a Fund invests.

- **Performance:** each Fund’s investment performance is directly tied to the performance of the Underlying Fund in which its Core Sleeve invests. If the Underlying Fund fails to meet its investment objective, a Fund’s performance could be negatively affected. There can be no assurance that any Fund or Underlying Fund will achieve its investment objective.
- **Strategy:** there is the risk that the Adviser’s evaluation of an Underlying Fund, as well as the allocation between a Fund’s Core Sleeve and its Volatility Overlay, may be incorrect. Further, the Adviser may add or delete Underlying Funds, or alter the allocation between a Fund’s Core Sleeve and its Volatility Overlay, at its discretion. A material change in the Underlying Funds selected could affect both the level of risk and the potential for gain or loss.

**Limited portfolio holdings risk** – because a Fund may hold large positions in a single Underlying Fund, an increase or decrease in the value of such securities may have a greater impact on a Fund’s value and total return. Funds that invest in a relatively small number of securities may be subject to greater volatility than a more diversified investment.

**Asset allocation risk** – a Fund is subject to different levels and combinations of risk based on the Underlying Fund’s actual allocation among the various asset classes. A Fund will be affected by stock and bond market risks, among others. The potential impact of the risks related to an asset class depends on the size of the Underlying Fund’s investment allocation to it.

**Management risk** – the investment adviser to each Underlying Fund actively manages such Underlying Fund’s investments. Consequently, each Fund is subject to the risk that the methods and analyses employed by the Underlying Fund’s investment adviser may not produce the desired results. This could cause a Fund to lose value or its performance to lag those of relevant benchmarks or other funds with similar objectives.

**Market risk** – market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which a Fund or an Underlying Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. In particular, market risk, including political, regulatory, market, economic and social developments, and developments that impact specific economic sectors, industries or segments of the market, can affect the value of a Fund’s or an Underlying Fund’s investments. In addition, turbulence in financial markets and reduced liquidity in the markets may negatively affect many issuers, which could adversely affect a Fund or an Underlying Fund. These risks may be magnified if certain social, political, economic and other conditions and events (such as natural disasters, epidemics and pandemics, terrorism, conflicts and social unrest) adversely interrupt the global economy. In addition, any spread of an infectious illness, public health threat or similar issue could reduce



## RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUNDS (cont.)

consumer demand or economic output, result in market closures, travel restrictions or quarantines, and generally have a significant impact on the economies of the affected country and other countries with which it does business, which in turn could adversely affect a Fund's or an Underlying Fund's investments in that country and other affected countries. In these and other circumstances, such events or developments might affect companies worldwide and therefore can affect the value of a Fund's or an Underlying Fund's investments.

The global pandemic outbreak of an infectious respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 has resulted in substantial market volatility and global business disruption, affecting the global economy and the financial health of individual companies in significant and unforeseen ways. COVID-19 has resulted in, among other things, travel restrictions, closed international borders, enhanced health screenings at ports of entry and elsewhere, disruption of and delays in healthcare service preparation and delivery, prolonged quarantines, significant disruptions to business operations, market closures, cancellations and restrictions, supply chain disruptions, lower consumer demand, and significant volatility and declines in global financial markets, as well as general concern and uncertainty. Instability in the United States, European and other credit markets has made it more difficult for borrowers to obtain financing or refinancing on attractive terms or at all. In particular, because of the current conditions in the credit markets, borrowers may be subject to increased interest expenses for borrowed money and tightening underwriting standards. In addition, stock prices as well as yield could be negatively impacted to the extent that issuers of equity securities cancel or announce the suspension of dividends or share buybacks. The COVID-19 pandemic could continue to inhibit global, national and local economic activity, and constrain access to capital and other sources of funding. Various recent government interventions have been aimed at curtailing the distress to financial markets caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. There can be no guarantee that these or other economic stimulus plans (within the United States or other affected countries throughout the world) will be sufficient or will have their intended effect. In addition, an unexpected or quick reversal of such policies could increase market volatility, which could adversely affect a Fund's investments. The duration and future impact of COVID-19 are currently unknown, which may exacerbate the other risks that apply to a Fund and could negatively affect Fund performance and the value of your investment in a Fund.

### Risks Associated with U.S. and International Stocks

**Equity securities risk** – refers to the possibility that a Fund could lose value if the individual equity securities in which the Fund or an Underlying Fund has invested, the overall

stock markets in which those stocks trade and/or stock index futures held long by the Fund decline in price. The Fund also could lose value if the Fund holds short positions in stock index futures in anticipation that such stock markets will decline, but instead such stock markets increase in value. Individual stocks and overall stock markets may experience short-term volatility (price fluctuation) as well as extended periods of decline or little growth. Individual stocks are affected by many factors, including:

- corporate earnings;
- production;
- management and
- sales and market trends, including investor demand for a particular type of stock, such as growth or value stocks, small- or large-cap stocks, or stocks within a particular industry.

*Investing for growth* – common stocks and other equity-type securities that seek growth may involve larger price swings and greater potential for loss than other types of investments. These risks may be even greater in the case of smaller capitalization stocks.

*Investing for income* – income provided by a Fund may be reduced by changes in the dividend policies of, and the capital resources available for dividend payments at, the companies in which a Fund or an Underlying Fund invests.

**Smaller company risk** – in general, stocks of smaller and medium-sized companies (including micro- and mid-cap companies) trade in lower volumes, may be less liquid, and are subject to greater or more unpredictable price changes than stocks of larger companies or the market overall. Smaller companies may have limited product lines or markets, be less financially secure than larger companies or depend on a smaller number of key personnel. If adverse developments occur, such as due to management changes or product failures, the Underlying Fund's investment in a smaller company may lose substantial value. Investing in smaller and medium-sized companies (including micro- and mid-cap companies) requires a longer-term investment view and may not be appropriate for all investors.

**Preferred stock risk** – a preferred stock may decline in price, or fail to pay dividends when expected, because the issuer experiences a decline in its financial status. In addition to this credit risk, investment in preferred stocks involves certain other risks, including skipping or deferring distributions, and redemption in the event of certain legal or tax changes or at the issuer's call. Preferred stocks also are subordinated to bonds and other debt instruments in a company's capital structure in terms of priority to corporate income and liquidation payments, and therefore will be subject to greater credit risk than those debt instruments. Preferred stocks may be significantly less liquid than many other securities, such as U.S. government securities, corporate debt or common stock.

## RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUNDS (cont.)

**Sector risk** – investments in particular industries or sectors may be more volatile than the overall stock market. Consequently, if the Fund emphasizes one or more industries or economic sectors, it may be more susceptible to the financial, market, political or economic events affecting the particular issuers and industries participating in such sectors than funds that do not emphasize particular industries or sectors.

### Risks Associated with Fixed-Income Securities (Bonds and Money Market Instruments)

**Interest rate risk** – prices of fixed-income securities generally increase when interest rates decline and decrease when interest rates increase. Prices of longer-term securities generally change more in response to interest rate changes than prices of shorter term securities. To the extent a Fund or an Underlying Fund invests a substantial portion of its assets in fixed-income securities with longer-term maturities, rising interest rates are more likely to cause periods of increased volatility and redemptions and may cause the value of a Fund's or an Underlying Fund's investments to decline significantly. Currently, interest rates are at or near historic lows. The interest earned on an Underlying Fund's investments in fixed-income securities may decline when prevailing interest rates fall. Declines in interest rates increase the likelihood that debt obligations will be pre-paid, which, in turn, increases these risks. Very low or negative interest rates may impact the yield of an Underlying Fund's investments in fixed-income securities and may increase the risk that, if followed by rising interest rates, a Fund's performance will be negatively impacted. A Fund is subject to the risk that the income generated by its investments in fixed-income securities may not keep pace with inflation. Recent and potential future changes in government policy may affect interest rates.

**Credit risk** – the risk that the issuer of a debt security may default if it is unable to make required interest payments and/or principal repayments when they are due. If an issuer defaults, a Fund may lose money. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's credit risk can adversely affect the prices of the securities a Fund or an Underlying Fund owns. A corporate event such as a restructuring, merger, leveraged buyout, takeover, or similar action may cause a decline in market value of an issuer's securities or credit quality of its bonds due to factors including an unfavorable market response or a resulting increase in the company's debt. Added debt may reduce significantly the credit quality and market value of a company's bonds, and may thereby affect the value of its equity securities as well. High-yield bonds, which are rated below investment grade, are generally more exposed to credit risk than investment grade securities.

**Credit ratings** – “investment grade” securities are those rated in one of the top four rating categories by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations, such as Moody's or Standard & Poor's, or unrated securities judged by a Fund's or Underlying Fund's investment adviser to be of comparable quality. Obligations rated in the fourth-highest rating category by any rating agency are considered medium-grade securities. Medium-grade securities, although considered investment grade, have speculative characteristics and may be subject to greater fluctuations in value than higher-rated securities. In addition, the issuers of medium-grade securities may be more vulnerable to adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances than issuers of higher-rated securities. High-yield bonds (i.e., “junk bonds”) are those that are rated below the fourth highest rating category, and therefore are not considered to be investment grade. Ratings of securities purchased by a Fund or an Underlying Fund generally are determined at the time of their purchase. Any subsequent rating downgrade of a debt obligation will be monitored generally by a Fund's or Underlying Fund's investment adviser to consider what action, if any, it should take consistent with its investment objective. There is no requirement that any such securities must be sold if downgraded.

Credit ratings evaluate the expectation that scheduled interest and principal payments will be made in a timely manner. They do not reflect any judgment of market risk. Credit ratings do not provide assurance against default or loss of money. For example, rating agencies might not always change their credit rating of an issuer in a timely manner to reflect events that could affect the issuer's ability to make scheduled payments on its obligations. If a security has not received a rating, a Fund or an Underlying Fund must rely entirely on the credit assessment of a Fund's or Underlying Fund's investment adviser.

**U.S. government and U.S. government agency securities** – neither the U.S. government nor its agencies guarantee the market value of their securities, and interest rate changes, prepayments and other factors may affect the value of government securities. Some of the securities purchased by a Fund or an Underlying Fund are issued by the U.S. government, such as Treasury notes, bills and bonds, and Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA) pass-through certificates, and are backed by the “full faith and credit” of the U.S. government (the U.S. government has the power to tax its citizens to pay these debts) and may be subject to less credit risk. Securities issued by U.S. government agencies, authorities or instrumentalities, such as the Federal Home Loan Banks, Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA”) and Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“FHLMC”), are neither issued nor guaranteed by the U.S. government. Although FNMA, FHLMC and the Federal Home Loan Banks are chartered by Acts of Congress, their securities are backed only by the credit of the respective instrumentality. Investors should

## RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUNDS (cont.)

remember that although certain government securities are guaranteed, market price and yield of the securities or net asset value and performance of a Fund is not guaranteed.

**Prepayment and call risk** – the risk that as interest rates decline debt issuers may repay or refinance their loans or obligations earlier than anticipated. For example, the issuers of mortgage- and asset-backed securities may repay principal in advance. This forces a Fund or an Underlying Fund to reinvest the proceeds from the principal prepayments at lower interest rates, which reduces a Fund's or an Underlying Fund's income.

In addition, changes in prepayment levels can increase the volatility of prices and yields on mortgage- and asset-backed securities. If a Fund or an Underlying Fund pays a premium (a price higher than the principal amount of the bond) for a mortgage- or asset-backed security and that security is prepaid, a Fund or an Underlying Fund may not recover the premium, resulting in a capital loss.

**High-yield bonds risk** – to the extent a Fund or an Underlying Fund invests in high-yield bonds (investments in high-yield bonds are often referred to as “junk bonds”) and other lower-rated bonds, the Fund or the Underlying Fund will be subject to substantial risk of loss. Investments in high-yield bonds are considered speculative. Issuers of these securities are generally considered to be less financially secure and less able to repay interest and principal than issuers of investment grade securities. Prices of high-yield bonds tend to be very volatile. These securities are less liquid than investment grade debt securities and may be difficult to price or sell, particularly in times of negative sentiment toward high-yield bonds. A Fund's or Underlying Fund's investments in lower-rated securities may involve the following specific risks:

- greater risk of loss due to default because of the increased likelihood that adverse economic or company-specific events will make the issuer unable to pay interest and/or principal when due;
- wider price fluctuations due to changing interest rates and/or adverse economic and business developments and
- greater risk of loss due to declining credit quality.

**Money market risk** – the risks that apply to bonds also apply to money market instruments, but to a lesser degree. This is because the money market instruments held by an Underlying Fund are securities with shorter maturities and higher quality than those typically of bonds.

### Risks Associated with International Stocks and Bonds

**Foreign securities risk** – foreign stocks and bonds may be more volatile, harder to price and less liquid than U.S. securities. Foreign investments involve some of the following risks:

- political and economic instability;
- the impact of currency exchange rate fluctuations;
- sanctions imposed by other foreign governments, including the United States;
- reduced information about issuers;
- higher transaction costs;
- less stringent regulatory and accounting standards and
- delayed settlement.

Additional risks include the possibility that a foreign jurisdiction might impose or increase withholding taxes on income payable with respect to foreign securities; the possible seizure, nationalization or expropriation of the issuer or foreign deposits (in which a Fund could lose its entire investment in a certain market); and the possible adoption of foreign governmental restrictions such as exchange controls.

**Regional** – adverse conditions in a certain region can adversely affect securities of issuers in other countries whose economies appear to be unrelated. To the extent that a Fund invests a significant portion of its assets in a specific geographic region, a Fund will generally have more exposure to regional economic risks. In the event of economic or political turmoil or a deterioration of diplomatic relations in a region or country where a substantial portion of a Fund's assets are invested, the Fund or Underlying Fund may experience substantial illiquidity or losses.

**Foreign currencies** – foreign securities may be denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates affect the value of a Fund's or an Underlying Fund's portfolio. Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more U.S. dollars.

**Foreign custody** – an Underlying Fund that invests in foreign securities may hold such securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories. Some foreign banks and securities depositories may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business, and there may be limited or no regulatory oversight of their operations. The laws of certain countries may put limits on an Underlying Fund's ability to recover its assets if a foreign bank, depository or issuer of a security, or any of their agents, goes bankrupt. In addition, it is often more expensive for an Underlying Fund to buy, sell and hold securities in certain foreign markets than in the United States. The increased expense of investing in foreign markets reduces the amount an Underlying Fund can earn



## RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUNDS (cont.)

on its investments and typically results in a higher operating expense ratio for an Underlying Fund holding assets outside the United States.

**Depository receipts** – investments in foreign securities may be in the form of depository receipts, such as American Depositary Receipts (ADRs), European Depositary Receipts (EDRs) and Global Depositary Receipts (GDRs), which typically are issued by local financial institutions and evidence ownership of the underlying securities. Depository receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted.

Depository receipts may or may not be jointly sponsored by the underlying issuer. The issuers of unsponsored depository receipts are not obligated to disclose information that is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depository receipts. Certain depository receipts are not listed on an exchange and therefore may be considered to be illiquid securities.

**Emerging markets risk** – the risks of foreign investments are usually much greater for emerging markets. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. They are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets and are more expensive to trade in. Since these markets are often small, they may be more likely to suffer sharp and frequent price changes or long-term price depression because of adverse publicity, investor perceptions or the actions of a few large investors. In addition, traditional measures of investment value used in the United States, such as price-to-earnings ratios, may not apply to certain small markets. Also, there may be less publicly available and reliable information about issuers in emerging markets than would be available about issuers in more developed capital markets, and such issuers may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject. Therefore, the ability to conduct adequate due diligence in emerging markets may be limited.

Many emerging markets have histories of political instability and abrupt changes in policies. As a result, their governments are more likely to take actions that are hostile or detrimental to private enterprise or foreign investment than those of more developed countries, including expropriation of assets, confiscatory taxation, high rates of inflation or unfavorable diplomatic developments. In the past, governments of such nations have expropriated

substantial amounts of private property, and most claims of the property owners have never been fully settled. There is no assurance that such expropriations will not reoccur. In such an event, it is possible that the Fund could lose the entire value of its investments in the affected market. Some countries have pervasiveness of corruption and crime that may hinder investments. Certain emerging markets may also face other significant internal or external risks, including the nationalization of assets, unexpected market closures, risk of war, and ethnic, religious and racial conflicts. In addition, governments in many emerging market countries participate to a significant degree in their economies and securities markets, which may impair investment and economic growth. National policies that may limit the Fund's investment opportunities include restrictions on investment in issuers or industries deemed sensitive to national interests.

Emerging markets may also have differing legal systems and the existence or possible imposition of exchange controls, custodial restrictions or other foreign or U.S. governmental laws or restrictions applicable to such investments. Sometimes, they may lack or be in the relatively early development of legal structures governing private and foreign investments and private property. The ability to bring and enforce actions in emerging market countries may be limited and shareholder claims may be difficult or impossible to pursue. In addition to withholding taxes on investment income, some countries with emerging markets may impose differential capital gains taxes on foreign investors.

Practices in relation to settlement of securities transactions in emerging markets involve higher risks than those in developed markets, in part because the Fund will need to use brokers and counterparties that are less well capitalized, and custody and registration of assets in some countries may be unreliable compared to developed markets. The possibility of fraud, negligence, or undue influence being exerted by the issuer or refusal to recognize that ownership exists in some emerging markets, and, along with other factors, could result in ownership registration being completely lost. The Fund would absorb any loss resulting from such registration problems and may have no successful claim for compensation. In addition, communications between the United States and emerging market countries may be unreliable, increasing the risk of delayed settlements or losses of security certificates.

### Additional Principal Risks that May Affect the Funds

**Leverage risk** – leverage may be created when an investment exposes the Fund to a risk of loss that exceeds the amount invested. Certain derivatives provide the potential for investment gain or loss that may be several times greater than the change in the value of an underlying security, asset, interest rate, index or currency, resulting in

## RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUNDS (cont.)

the potential for a loss that may be substantially greater than the amount invested. Some leveraged investments have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment. Because leverage can magnify the effects of changes in the value of the Fund and make the Fund's share price more volatile, a shareholder's investment in the Fund may be more volatile, resulting in larger gains or losses in response to the fluctuating prices of the Fund's investments. Further, the use of leverage may require the Fund to maintain assets as "cover," maintain segregated asset accounts, or make margin payments, which might impair the Fund's ability to sell a portfolio security or make an investment at a time when it would otherwise be favorable to do so, or require that the Fund sell a portfolio security at a disadvantageous time.

**Derivatives risk** – a derivative is a contract, security or investment the value of which is based on the performance of an underlying financial asset, index or other measure. For example, the value of a futures contract changes based on the value of the underlying security or index. Derivatives often involve leverage, which means that their use can significantly magnify the effect of price movements of the underlying assets or reference measures, disproportionately increasing a Fund's losses and reducing the Fund's opportunities for gains when the financial asset or measure to which the derivative is linked changes in unexpected ways. Some risks of investing in derivatives include:

- the other party to the derivatives contract may fail to fulfill its obligations;
- their use may reduce liquidity and make a Fund harder to value, especially in declining markets and
- when used for hedging purposes, changes in the value of derivatives may not match or fully offset changes in the value of the hedged portfolio securities, thereby failing to achieve the original purpose for using the derivatives.

**Futures contracts** – the volatility of futures contract prices has been historically greater than the volatility of stocks and bonds. Because futures contracts generally involve leverage, their use can significantly magnify the effect of price movements of the underlying securities or reference measures, disproportionately increasing the Fund's losses and reducing the Fund's opportunities for gains. While futures contracts may be more liquid than other types of derivatives, the liquidity of the futures market depends on participants entering into offsetting transactions rather than making or taking delivery. To the extent participants decide to make or take delivery, liquidity in the futures market could be reduced. In addition, futures exchanges often impose a maximum permissible price movement on each futures contract for each trading session. may be disadvantaged if it is prohibited from executing a trade outside the daily permissible price movement.

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") has recently adopted Rule 18f-4 which replaces current SEC and staff guidance with respect to asset segregation requirements for derivatives and other instruments such as unfunded commitment agreements, reverse repurchase agreements, or similar financing transactions. The application of Rule 18f-4 to the Fund could restrict the Fund's ability to utilize derivative investments and financing transactions and prevent the Fund from implementing its principal investment strategies in the manner that it has historically, which may result in changes to the Fund's principal investment strategies and could adversely affect the Fund's performance. The compliance date for Rule 18f-4 is August 19, 2022.

Nationwide Fund Advisors, although registered as a commodity pool operator under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"), has claimed exclusion from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" under the CEA with respect to the Funds and, therefore, is not subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator under the CEA in its management of the Funds.

**Short position risk** – a Fund will incur a loss from a short position if the value of the stock index to which a futures contract relates increases after the Fund has entered into the short position. Short positions generally involve a form of leverage, which can exaggerate a Fund's losses. A Fund that engages in a short futures position may lose more money than the actual cost of the short position and its potential losses may be unlimited. Any gain from a short position will be offset in whole or in part by the transaction costs associated with the short position.

**Liquidity risk** – the risk that a security cannot be sold, or cannot be sold quickly, at an acceptable price. An inability to sell a portfolio position can adversely affect a Fund's or an Underlying Fund's value or prevent a Fund or an Underlying Fund from being able to take advantage of other investment opportunities. Liquidity risk may also refer to the risk that a Fund or an Underlying Fund will be unable to pay redemption proceeds within the allowable time period because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. To meet redemption requests, a Fund or an Underlying Fund may be forced to sell liquid securities at unfavorable times and conditions. Funds and Underlying Funds that invest in fixed-income securities and foreign securities will be especially subject to the risk that during certain periods, the liquidity of particular issuers will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic, market or political events, or adverse investor perceptions, whether or not accurate. Investments in foreign securities and high-yield bonds tend to have more exposure to liquidity risk than domestic securities.

**Cash position risk** – a Fund or Underlying Fund may hold significant positions in cash or money market instruments,

## RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUNDS (cont.)

the amount of which will vary and will depend on various factors, including market conditions and purchases and redemptions of fund shares. A larger amount of such holdings could negatively affect a Fund's investment results in a period of rising market prices due to missed investment opportunities.

**Convertible securities risk** – the value of convertible securities may fall when interest rates rise and increase when interest rates fall. The prices of convertible securities with longer maturities tend to be more volatile than those with shorter maturities. Value also tends to change whenever the market value of the underlying common or preferred stock fluctuates. An Underlying Fund could lose money if the issuer of a convertible security is unable to meet its financial obligations.

**Securities lending risk** – the Underlying Funds may lend securities, which involves the risk that the borrower may fail to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. Consequently, an Underlying Fund may lose money and there could be a delay in recovering the loaned securities. An Underlying Fund could also lose money if it does not recover the loaned securities and/or the value of the collateral falls, including the value of investments made with cash collateral.

*Loss of money is a risk of investing in the Funds. An investment in a Fund is not a deposit of a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.*

\* \* \* \* \*

**Temporary investments** – each Fund and Underlying Fund generally will be fully invested in accordance with its objective and strategies. However, pending investment of cash balances, in anticipation of possible redemptions, or if a Fund's or Underlying Fund's management believes that business, economic, political or financial conditions warrant, a Fund may invest without limit in high-quality fixed-income securities, cash or money market cash equivalents. The use of temporary investments therefore is not a principal strategy, as it prevents a Fund from fully pursuing its investment objective, and the Fund may miss potential market upswings.

A Fund may invest in or use other types of investments or strategies not shown here that do not represent principal strategies or raise principal risks. More information about these non-principal investments, strategies and risks is available in the Funds' Statement of Additional Information ("SAI").

### Selective Disclosure of Portfolio Holdings

Each Fund posts onto the internet site for the Trust ([nationwide.com/mutualfundsnvit](http://nationwide.com/mutualfundsnvit)) substantially all of its securities holdings as of the end of each month. Such portfolio holdings are available no earlier than 15 calendar

days after the end of the previous month, and generally remain available on the internet site until the Fund files its next portfolio holdings report on Form N-CSR or Form N-PORT with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). A description of the Funds' policies and procedures regarding the release of portfolio holdings information is available in the Funds' SAI.

## FUND MANAGEMENT

### Investment Adviser

Nationwide Fund Advisors (“NFA” or “Adviser”), located at One Nationwide Plaza, Columbus, OH 43215, manages the investment of the Funds’ assets and supervises the daily business affairs of each Fund. Organized in 1999 as an investment adviser, NFA is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nationwide Financial Services, Inc.

NFA allocates each Fund’s assets between its Core Sleeve and its Volatility Overlay, and selects the Underlying Funds in which the Core Sleeves invest. NFA then monitors these allocations and Underlying Funds, as well as factors that could influence the allocations or Underlying Fund selections, such as market and economic conditions and Underlying Fund performance. NFA also administers each Fund’s volatility management program and daily provides a subadviser with the index notional exposure required for futures positions for each Fund. For these services, each Fund pays NFA an annual management fee. This is in addition to the investment advisory fees paid by the Underlying Funds to their investment adviser.

### Subadviser

Subject to the oversight of NFA and the Board of Trustees, the subadviser will manage all or a portion of the assets in each Fund’s Volatility Overlay in accordance with the Funds’ investment objectives and strategies. With regard to each Fund’s Volatility Overlay, the subadviser is responsible for executing trades to meet the target futures position requirements, including selecting the various futures contracts and the timing of the placement of the trades, as well as selecting the appropriate futures brokers based on best execution considerations. The subadviser is also responsible for maintaining all outstanding margin accounts and residual cash, and for monitoring the value of each Fund’s futures positions. NFA pays the subadviser from the management fee it receives from each Fund.

**NATIONWIDE ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC (“NWAM”)** is the subadviser for each Fund’s Volatility Overlay. NWAM is located at One Nationwide Plaza, Mail Code 1-20-19, Columbus, OH 43215. NWAM is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company (“Nationwide Mutual”), and is an affiliate of the Adviser.

The Funds are used as underlying investment options to fund benefits payable under variable annuities and/or variable life insurance contracts issued by Nationwide Life (“Variable Contracts”), some of which may offer guaranteed lifetime income or death benefits. Certain conflicts of interest thus may exist because NFA and NWAM are affiliated with Nationwide Life, and one purpose of the Volatility Overlays is to minimize the costs and risks to Nationwide Life of supporting guaranteed benefits available through Variable Contracts. Accordingly, the risk exists that, in providing each Fund’s volatility management program, NFA and NWAM may take into account Nationwide Life’s

interests as they relate to guaranteed benefits available under Variable Contracts. As the Funds’ investment adviser and subadviser, respectively, NFA and NWAM have a fiduciary duty to each Fund and must act in the best interests of each Fund’s shareholders. NFA and NWAM therefore together have adopted various policies, procedures and internal compliance controls that are intended to identify, monitor and address actual or potential conflicts of interest in order to safeguard the best interests of the Funds’ shareholders.

### Management Fees

Each Fund pays NFA a management fee based on the Fund’s average daily net assets. The total management fee paid by each Fund for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020, expressed as a percentage of each Fund’s average daily net assets and taking into account any applicable fee waivers or reimbursements, was as follows:

Fund	Actual Management Fee Paid
NVIT Managed American Funds Asset Allocation Fund	0.15%
NVIT Managed American Funds Growth-Income Fund	0.15%

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board of Trustees’ approval of the investment advisory and subadvisory agreements for the Funds is in the Funds’ Annual Report to shareholders, which covers the period ending December 31, 2020.

### Portfolio Management

#### NFA

Christopher C. Graham; Keith P. Robinette, CFA; and Andrew Urban, CFA, are the Funds’ co-portfolio managers and are jointly responsible for the day-to-day management of the Funds in accordance with (1) the selection of investments in which the Core Sleeves invest and (2) each Fund’s allocations between the Core Sleeve and the Volatility Overlay. The portfolio managers also are responsible for administering the volatility management program and providing the subadviser daily with index notional exposures required for futures positions.

Mr. Graham is Chief Investment Officer of NFA. Mr. Graham joined the Office of Investments at Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company (“Nationwide Mutual”) in November 2004, serving primarily as a portfolio manager for a hedge fund and for Nationwide Mutual’s proprietary general account. He joined NFA in 2016.

Mr. Robinette is a Senior Director of Asset Strategies of NFA. Mr. Robinette joined Nationwide Mutual in 2012 where

## FUND MANAGEMENT (cont.)

he most recently managed a portfolio of hedge funds and led manager due diligence reviews. He joined NFA in 2017.

Mr. Urban is a Senior Director of Asset Strategies of NFA. He joined NFA in 2016. Prior to joining NFA, Mr. Urban worked for six years as an investment analyst for the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, where he was most recently responsible for hedge fund manager selection and due diligence as well as portfolio risk management.

### NWAM

Frederick N. Gwin, CFA, and Chad W. Finebrock, CFA, are jointly responsible for derivatives trading and execution for each Fund's Volatility Overlay.

Mr. Gwin is a Senior Investment Professional on the Investment Risk Management team for Nationwide Mutual and its affiliates, and in such capacity is responsible for derivatives execution for NWAM. Mr. Gwin has been with Nationwide Mutual and/or its affiliates, including NWAM, for over 30 years.

Mr. Finebrock joined Nationwide Mutual, the parent company of NWAM, in 2001. He is a Senior Investment Professional and is responsible for trading U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. government agency debt securities, mortgage-backed securities and derivatives for Nationwide Mutual and its affiliates.

### Additional Information about the Portfolio Managers

The SAI provides additional information about each portfolio manager's compensation, other accounts managed by each portfolio manager and each portfolio manager's ownership of securities in the Funds managed by the portfolio manager, if any.

### Manager-of-Managers Structure

The Adviser and the Trust have received an exemptive order from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for a manager-of-managers structure that allows the Adviser, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees, to hire, replace or terminate a subadviser (excluding hiring a subadviser which is an affiliate of the Adviser) without the approval of shareholders. The order also allows the Adviser to revise a subadvisory agreement with an unaffiliated subadviser with the approval of the Board of Trustees but without shareholder approval. If a new unaffiliated subadviser is hired for a Fund, shareholders will receive information about the new subadviser within 90 days of the change. The exemptive order allows the Funds greater flexibility, enabling them to operate more efficiently.

Pursuant to the exemptive order, the Adviser monitors and evaluates any subadvisers, which includes the following:

- performing initial due diligence on prospective Fund subadvisers;
- monitoring subadviser performance, including ongoing analysis and periodic consultations;
- communicating performance expectations and evaluations to the subadvisers;
- making recommendations to the Board of Trustees regarding renewal, modification or termination of a subadviser's contract and
- selecting Fund subadvisers.

The Adviser does not expect to recommend subadviser changes frequently. The Adviser periodically provides written reports to the Board of Trustees regarding its evaluation and monitoring of each subadviser. Although the Adviser monitors each subadviser's performance, there is no certainty that any subadviser or a Fund will obtain favorable results at any given time.



### Choosing a Share Class

Shares of series of the Trust (the “Funds”) are currently sold to separate accounts of insurance companies, including Nationwide Life Insurance Company, Jefferson National Life Insurance Company and their affiliated life insurance companies (collectively, “Nationwide”) to fund benefits payable under variable insurance contracts. The Trust currently issues Class I, Class II, Class IV, Class V, Class VIII, Class D, Class P, Class X, Class Y and Class Z shares. Each Fund offers only certain share classes; therefore, many share classes are not available for certain Funds.

Insurance companies, including Nationwide, that provide additional services entitling them to receive 12b-1 fees may sell Class D, Class P, Class II, Class VIII and Class Z shares. Class D shares are offered solely to insurance companies that are not affiliated with Nationwide. Class Y shares are sold to other mutual funds, such as “funds-of-funds” that invest in the Funds, and to separate accounts of insurance companies that seek neither 12b-1 fees nor administrative services fees. Class IV shares are sold generally to separate accounts of Nationwide previously offering shares of the Market Street Fund portfolios (prior to April 28, 2003). Class V shares are currently sold to certain separate accounts of Nationwide to fund benefits payable under corporate owned life insurance (“COLI”) contracts. Shares of the Funds are not sold to individual investors.

The separate accounts purchase shares of a Fund in accordance with variable account allocation instructions received from owners of the variable insurance contracts. A Fund then uses the proceeds to buy securities for its portfolio.

The Funds are intended to be used primarily in connection with certain guaranteed benefits available through variable annuity contracts issued by Nationwide Life Insurance Company and Nationwide Life and Annuity Insurance Company (collectively, “Nationwide Life”), and are designed to help reduce a contract owner’s exposure to equity investments when equity markets are declining. The Volatility Overlay is intended to minimize the costs and risks to Nationwide Life of supporting these guaranteed benefits. Please check with Nationwide Life to determine if these Funds are featured with your variable annuity contract. More information about the guaranteed benefits that feature the Funds may be found in the prospectus of the separate account of your variable annuity contract and should be read in conjunction with this Prospectus. Guaranteed benefits may vary, depending on the benefits rider you have selected for your variable annuity contract. The protections provided by the benefits rider you have selected may be limited, and may not protect you from all losses. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the selection of a guaranteed benefit is not required. If the variable annuity contract you purchased does not include a benefits rider, or if you choose to purchase a variable annuity contract but do

not select a benefits rider, your investment will not be protected and you may lose some or all of the value of your investment. In such instances, the contract owner should consider whether a different underlying fund option may be a more appropriate investment in light of his or her own circumstances and financial objectives.

The Funds currently do not foresee any disadvantages to the owners of variable insurance contracts arising out of the fact that the Funds may offer their shares to both variable annuity and variable life insurance policy separate accounts, and to the separate accounts of various other insurance companies to fund benefits of their variable insurance contracts. Nevertheless, the Board of Trustees will monitor any material irreconcilable conflicts which may arise (such as those arising from tax or other differences), and determine what action, if any, should be taken in response to such conflicts. If such a conflict were to occur, one or more insurance companies’ separate accounts might be required to withdraw their investments in one or more of the Funds. This might force a Fund to sell its securities at disadvantageous prices.

The distributor for the Funds is Nationwide Fund Distributors LLC (“NFD” or the “Distributor”).

### Purchase Price

The purchase price of each share of a Fund is its net asset value (“NAV”) next determined after the order is received by the Fund or its agents. No sales charge is imposed on the purchase of a Fund’s shares; however, your variable insurance contract may impose a sales charge. Generally, net assets are based on the market value of the securities and other assets owned by a Fund, less its liabilities. The NAV for a class is determined by dividing the total market value of the securities and other assets of a Fund allocable to such class, less the liabilities allocable to that class, by the total number of that class’s outstanding shares.

NAV is determined at the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (usually 4 p.m. Eastern Time) (“Exchange”) on each day the Exchange is open for trading. Each Fund may reject any order to buy shares and may suspend the sale of shares at any time.

The Funds do not calculate NAV on the following days:

- New Year’s Day
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Presidents’ Day
- Good Friday
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day
- Other days when the Exchange is closed.

## INVESTING WITH NATIONWIDE FUNDS *(cont.)*

To the extent that a Fund's investments are traded in markets that are open when the Exchange is closed, the value of a Fund's investments may change on days when shares cannot be purchased or redeemed.

### Fair Value Pricing

The Board of Trustees has adopted Valuation Procedures governing the method by which individual portfolio securities held by the Funds (including affiliated Underlying Funds) are valued in order to determine each Fund's NAV. The Valuation Procedures provide that each Fund's assets are valued primarily on the basis of market-based quotations. Investments in other registered open-end mutual funds are valued based on the NAV for those mutual funds, which in turn may use fair value pricing. Where such Underlying Fund NAVs or other market-based quotations for a Fund's assets are either unavailable or deemed by the Adviser to be unreliable, such securities are valued at fair value by the Trustees or persons acting at their direction pursuant to procedures approved by the Board of Trustees. In addition, fair value determinations are required for securities whose value is affected by a significant event (as defined below) that will materially affect the value of a security and which occurs subsequent to the time of the close of the principal market on which such security trades but prior to the calculation of the Funds' NAVs. The prospectuses for those underlying mutual funds should explain the circumstances under which those funds will use fair value pricing and the effects of using fair value pricing. Shares of exchange-traded funds are valued based on the prices at which they trade on the stock exchanges on which they are listed.

A "significant event" is defined by the Valuation Procedures as an event that materially affects the value of a security that occurs after the close of the principal market on which such security trades but before the calculation of a Fund's NAV. Significant events that could affect individual portfolio securities may include corporate actions such as reorganizations, mergers and buy-outs, corporate announcements on earnings, significant litigation, regulatory news such as government approvals and news relating to natural disasters affecting an issuer's operations. Significant events that could affect a large number of securities in a particular market may include significant market fluctuations, market disruptions or market closings, governmental actions or other developments, or natural disasters or armed conflicts that affect a country or region.

By fair valuing a security, each Fund attempts to establish a price that it might reasonably expect to receive upon the current sale of that security. The fair value of one or more of the securities in a Fund's portfolio which is used to determine a Fund's NAV could be different from the actual value at which those securities could be sold in the market.

Thus, fair valuation may have an unintended dilutive or accretive effect on the value of shareholders' investments in a Fund.

Each Underlying Fund calculates its NAV at the close of trading on each business day. The Underlying Funds will not calculate NAVs on days that the Exchange is closed for trading. Assets are valued primarily on the basis of market-based quotations. However, the Underlying Funds have adopted procedures for making "fair value" determinations if these quotations are not readily available or are deemed unreliable. For example, if events occur between the close of markets outside the United States and the close of regular trading on the Exchange that, in the opinion of the Underlying Funds' investment adviser materially affect the value of the portfolio securities of an Underlying Fund, the securities will be valued in accordance with fair value procedures. Use of these procedures is intended to result in more appropriate NAVs. In addition, such use is intended to reduce, if not eliminate, potential arbitrage opportunities otherwise available to short-term investors in an Underlying Fund.

The Valuation Procedures are intended to help ensure that the prices at which a Fund's shares are purchased and redeemed are fair, and do not result in dilution of shareholder interests or other harm to shareholders. In the event a Fund fair values its securities, the Fund's NAV may be higher or lower than would have been the case if the Fund had not fair valued its securities.

### In-Kind Purchases

Each Fund may accept payment for shares in the form of securities that are permissible investments for such Fund.

### Selling Shares

Shares may be sold (redeemed) at any time, subject to certain restrictions described below. The redemption price is the NAV per share next determined after the order is received by the Fund or its agent. Of course, the value of the shares redeemed may be more or less than their original purchase price depending upon the market value of a Fund's investments at the time of the redemption.

Because variable insurance contracts may have different provisions with respect to the timing and method of redemptions, variable insurance contract owners should contact their insurance company directly for details concerning these transactions.

Under normal circumstances, a Fund expects to satisfy redemption requests through the sale of investments held in cash or cash equivalents. However, a Fund may also use the proceeds from the sale of portfolio securities or a bank line of credit to meet redemption requests if consistent with management of the Fund, or in stressed market conditions. Under extraordinary circumstances, a Fund, in



## INVESTING WITH NATIONWIDE FUNDS (cont.)

its sole discretion, may elect to honor redemption requests by transferring some of the securities held by the Fund directly to an account holder as a redemption in-kind. If an account holder receives securities in a redemption in-kind, the account holder may incur brokerage costs, taxes or other expenses in converting the securities to cash (although tax implications for investments in variable insurance contracts are typically deferred during the accumulation phase). Securities received from in-kind redemptions are subject to market risk until they are sold. For more about the Funds' ability to make a redemption in-kind, as well as how redemptions in-kind are effected, see the SAI.

### Restrictions on Sales

Shares of a Fund may not be redeemed or a Fund may delay paying the proceeds from a redemption when the Exchange is closed (other than customary weekend and holiday closings) or if trading is restricted or an emergency exists (as determined by the SEC).

Subject to the provisions of the variable insurance contracts, a Fund may delay forwarding the proceeds of your redemption for up to 7 days after receipt of such redemption request. Such proceeds may be delayed if the investor redeeming shares is engaged in excessive trading, or if the amount of the redemption request otherwise would be disruptive to efficient portfolio management or would adversely affect the Fund.

### Excessive or Short-Term Trading

Each Fund seeks to discourage excessive or short-term trading (often described as "market timing"). Excessive trading (either frequent exchanges between Funds or redemptions and repurchases of Funds within a short time period) may:

- disrupt portfolio management strategies;
- increase brokerage and other transaction costs and
- negatively impact Fund performance for all variable insurance contract owners indirectly investing in a Fund.

A Fund may be more or less affected by short-term trading in Fund shares, depending on various factors such as the size of the Fund, the amount of assets the Fund typically maintains in cash or cash equivalents, the dollar amount, number and frequency of trades in Fund shares and other factors. Funds that invest in foreign securities may be at greater risk for excessive trading. Investors may attempt to take advantage of anticipated price movements in securities held by the Funds based on events occurring after the close of a foreign market that may not be reflected in the Fund's NAV (referred to as "arbitrage market timing"). Arbitrage market timing may also be attempted in funds that hold significant investments in small-cap securities, high-yield (junk) bonds and other types of investments that may not be frequently traded. There is the possibility that

arbitrage market timing, under certain circumstances, may dilute the value of Fund shares if redeeming shareholders receive proceeds (and buying shareholders receive shares) based on NAVs that do not reflect appropriate fair value prices.

The Board of Trustees has adopted the following policies with respect to excessive short-term trading of the Funds.

### Monitoring of Trading Activity

It is difficult for the Funds to monitor short-term trading because the insurance company separate accounts that invest in the Funds typically aggregate the trades of all of their respective contract holders into a single purchase, redemption or exchange transaction. Additionally, most insurance companies combine all of their contract holders' investments into a single omnibus account in each Fund. Therefore, the Funds typically cannot identify, and thus cannot successfully prevent, short-term trading by an individual contract holder within that aggregated trade or omnibus account but must rely instead on the insurance company to monitor its individual contract holder trades to identify individual short-term traders.

Subject to the limitations described above, each Fund does, however, monitor significant cash flows into and out of the Fund and, when unusual cash flows are identified, will request that the applicable insurance company investigate the activity, inform the Fund whether or not short-term trading by an individual contract holder is occurring and take steps to prevent future short-term trades by such contract holder.

With respect to the Nationwide variable insurance contracts which offer the Funds, Nationwide monitors redemption and repurchase activity, and as a general matter, Nationwide currently limits the number and frequency of trades as set forth in the Nationwide separate account prospectus. Other insurance companies may employ different policies or provide different levels of cooperation in monitoring trading activity and complying with Fund requests.

### Restrictions on Transactions

As described above, each insurance company has its own policies and restrictions on short-term trading. Additionally, the terms and restrictions on short-term trading may vary from one variable insurance contract to another even among those contracts issued by the same insurance company. Therefore, contract holders should consult their own variable insurance contract for the specific short-term trading periods and restrictions.

Whenever a Fund is able to identify short-term trades and/or traders, such Fund has broad authority to take discretionary action against market timers and against particular trades. As described above, however, the Fund

## INVESTING WITH NATIONWIDE FUNDS (cont.)

typically requires the assistance of the insurance company to identify such short-term trades and traders. In the event the Fund cannot identify and prevent such trades, these may result in increased costs to all Fund shareholders as described below. When identified, a Fund has sole discretion to:

- restrict or reject purchases or exchanges that it or its agents believe constitute excessive trading and
- reject purchases or exchanges that violate a Fund's excessive trading policies or its exchange limits.

### Distribution and Services Plans

Because distribution and services fees are paid out of a Fund's assets on an ongoing basis, these fees will increase the cost of your investment over time and may cost you more than paying other types of charges.

#### Distribution Plan

In addition to expenses that may be imposed by variable insurance contracts, the Trust has adopted a Distribution Plan under Rule 12b-1 of the 1940 Act, which permits the Funds to compensate the Distributor for expenses associated with distributing and selling Class II and Class Z shares of a Fund and providing shareholder services. Under the Distribution Plan, a Fund pays the Distributor from its Class II or Class Z shares a fee that is accrued daily and paid monthly ("Rule 12b-1 fees"). The amount of this fee shall not exceed an annual amount of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of a Fund's Class II or Class Z shares. The Distribution Plan may be terminated at any time as to any share class of a Fund, without payment of any penalty, by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of that share class.

#### Administrative Services Plan

Shares of the Funds are subject to fees pursuant to an Administrative Services Plan (the "Plan") adopted by the Trust. These fees are paid by a Fund to insurance companies or their affiliates (including those that are affiliated with Nationwide) who provide administrative support services to variable insurance contract holders on behalf of the Funds and are based on the average daily net assets of the applicable share class. Under the Plan, a Fund may pay an insurance company or its affiliates a maximum annual fee of 0.25% for Class II shares and 0.19% for Class Z shares of the NVIT Managed American Funds Asset Allocation Fund.

For the current fiscal year, administrative services fees for the Funds, expressed as a percentage of the share class's average daily net assets for Class II shares of each Fund and Class Z shares of the NVIT Managed American Funds Asset Allocation Fund, are anticipated to be 0.25% and 0.19%, respectively.

### Revenue Sharing

NFA and/or its affiliates (collectively, "Nationwide Funds Group" or "NFG") often make payments for marketing, promotional or related services provided by:

- insurance companies that offer subaccounts in the Funds as underlying investment options in variable annuity contracts or
- broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries that sell variable insurance contracts that include such investment options.

These payments are often referred to as "revenue sharing payments." The existence or level of such payments may be based on factors that include, without limitation, differing levels or types of services provided by the insurance company, broker-dealer or other financial intermediary, the expected level of assets or sales of shares, the placing of some or all of the Funds on a recommended or preferred list, access to an intermediary's personnel and other factors. Revenue sharing payments are paid from NFG's own legitimate profits and other of its own resources (not from the Funds') and may be in addition to any Rule 12b-1 payments or administrative services payments that are paid. Because revenue sharing payments are paid by NFG, and not from the Funds' assets, the amount of any revenue sharing payments is determined by NFG.

In addition to the revenue sharing payments described above, NFG may offer other incentives to sell variable insurance contract separate accounts in the form of sponsorship of educational or other client seminars relating to current products and issues, assistance in training or educating an intermediary's personnel, and/or entertainment or meals. These payments may also include, at the direction of a retirement plan's named fiduciary, amounts to a retirement plan intermediary to offset certain plan expenses or otherwise for the benefit of plan participants and beneficiaries.

The recipients of such incentives may include:

- affiliates of NFA;
- broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries that sell such variable insurance contracts and
- insurance companies, such as Nationwide, that include shares of the Funds as underlying subaccount options.

Payments may be based on current or past sales of separate accounts investing in shares of the Funds, current or historical assets, or a flat fee for specific services provided. In some circumstances, such payments may create an incentive for an insurance company or intermediary or their employees or associated persons to:

- recommend a particular variable insurance contract or specific subaccounts representing shares of a Fund instead of recommending options offered by competing insurance companies or

## INVESTING WITH NATIONWIDE FUNDS *(cont.)*

- sell shares of a Fund instead of shares of funds offered by competing fund families.

Notwithstanding the revenue sharing payments described above, NFA and all subadvisers to the Trust are prohibited from considering a broker-dealer's sale of any of the Trust's shares, or the inclusion of the Trust's shares in an insurance contract provided by an insurance affiliate of the broker-dealer, in selecting such broker-dealer for the execution of Fund portfolio transactions.

Fund portfolio transactions nevertheless may be effected with broker-dealers who coincidentally may have assisted customers in the purchase of variable insurance contracts that feature subaccounts in the Funds' shares issued by Nationwide Life Insurance Company, Nationwide Life & Annuity Insurance Company, Jefferson National Life Insurance Company or Jefferson National Life Insurance Company of New York, affiliates of NFA, although neither such assistance nor the volume of shares sold of the Trust or any affiliated investment company is a qualifying or disqualifying factor in NFA's or a subadviser's selection of such broker-dealer for portfolio transaction execution.

The insurance company that provides your variable insurance contract may also make similar revenue sharing payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries in order to promote the sale of such insurance contracts. Contact your insurance provider and/or financial intermediary for details about revenue sharing payments it may pay or receive.

## DISTRIBUTIONS AND TAXES

### Dividends and Distributions

Each Fund intends to elect and qualify each year as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. As a regulated investment company, a Fund generally pays no federal income tax on the income and gains it distributes to the insurance company separate accounts. Each Fund expects to declare and distribute all of its net investment income, if any, as dividends quarterly. Each Fund will distribute net realized capital gains, if any, at least annually. A Fund may distribute such income dividends and capital gains more frequently, if necessary, in order to reduce or eliminate federal excise or income taxes on the Fund. The amount of any distribution will vary, and there is no guarantee a Fund will pay either an income dividend or a capital gains distribution. Each Fund automatically reinvests any capital gains and income dividends in additional shares of the Fund unless the insurance company has requested in writing to receive such dividends and distributions in cash.

### Tax Status

Shares of the Funds must be purchased through separate accounts used to fund variable insurance contracts. As a result, it is anticipated that any income dividends or capital gains distributed by a Fund will be exempt from current taxation by contract holders if left to accumulate within a separate account. Withdrawals from such contracts may be subject to ordinary income tax and, if made before age 59½, a 10% penalty tax. Investors should ask their own tax advisors for more information on their tax situation, including possible state or local taxes. For more information on taxes, please refer to the accompanying prospectus of the annuity or life insurance program through which shares of the Funds are offered.

Please refer to the SAI for more information regarding the tax treatment of the Funds.

**This discussion of “Distributions and Taxes” is not intended or written to be used as tax advice. Contract owners should consult their own tax professional about their tax situation.**

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Trust enters into contractual arrangements with various parties (collectively, “service providers”), including, among others, the Funds’ investment adviser, subadviser(s), shareholder service providers, custodian(s), securities lending agent, fund administration and accounting agents, transfer agent and distributor, who provide services to the Funds. Shareholders and contract holders are not parties to, or intended (or “third-party”) beneficiaries of, any of those contractual arrangements, and those contractual arrangements are not intended to create in any individual shareholder or group of shareholders or contract holders any right to enforce them against the service providers or to seek any remedy under them against the service providers, either directly or on behalf of the Trust.

This Prospectus provides information concerning the Trust and the Funds that you should consider in determining whether to purchase shares of the Funds. Neither this Prospectus, nor the related SAI, is intended, or should be read, to be or to give rise to an agreement or contract between the Trust or the Funds and any shareholder or contract holder or to give rise to any rights to any shareholder, contract holder or other person other than any rights under federal or state law that may not be waived.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The financial highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Funds' financial performance for the past five years ended December 31 or, if a Fund or a class has not been in operation for five years, for the life of that Fund or class. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned (or lost) on an investment in a Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). THE TOTAL RETURNS DO NOT INCLUDE CHARGES THAT ARE IMPOSED BY VARIABLE INSURANCE CONTRACTS. IF THESE CHARGES WERE REFLECTED, RETURNS WOULD BE LOWER THAN THOSE SHOWN. Information has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, whose report, along with the Funds' financial statements, is included in the Trust's annual reports, which are available upon request. Since Class Z shares of the NVIT Managed American Funds Asset Allocation Fund have not yet commenced operations as of the date of this Prospectus, no information is presented for that class in the Financial Highlights.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS ASSET ALLOCATION FUND

### Selected data for each share of capital outstanding throughout the periods indicated

Ratios/Supplemental Data													
Operations				Distributions				Ratios/Supplemental Data					
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	Net Investment Income <sup>(a)</sup>	Net Realized and Unrealized Gains (Losses) from Investments	Total from Operations	Net Investment Income	Net Realized Gains	Total Distributions	Net Asset Value, End of Period	Total Return <sup>(b)(c)</sup>	Net Assets at End of Period	Ratio of Expenses to Average Net Assets <sup>(d)(e)</sup>	Ratio of Net Investment Income to Average Net Assets <sup>(d)(e)</sup>	Ratio of Expenses (Prior to Reimbursements) to Average Net Assets <sup>(d)(e)</sup>	Portfolio Turnover <sup>(b)</sup>
Class II Shares													
Year Ended December 31, 2020	\$11.80	0.13	0.68	0.81	(0.13)	(0.44)	\$12.04	7.09%	\$2,541,550,856	0.69%	1.17%	0.69%	9.90%
Year Ended December 31, 2019	\$10.37	0.18	1.76	1.94	(0.19)	(0.32)	\$11.80	18.97%	\$2,309,941,982	0.69%	1.57%	0.69%	0.82%
Year Ended December 31, 2018	\$11.59	0.15	(0.67)	(0.52)	(0.14)	(0.56)	\$10.37	(4.82)%	\$1,706,672,250	0.69%	1.33%	0.69%	0.39%
Year Ended December 31, 2017	\$10.16	0.13	1.64	1.77	(0.21)	(0.13)	\$11.59	17.55%	\$1,502,670,401	0.69%	1.21%	0.69%	1.60%
Year Ended December 31, 2016	\$ 9.36	0.14	0.66	0.80	—	—	\$10.16	8.55%	\$ 989,061,462	0.69%	1.42%	0.69%	0.70%

Amounts designated as "—" are zero or have been rounded to zero.

(a) Per share calculations were performed using average shares method.

(b) Not annualized for periods less than one year.

(c) The total returns do not include charges that are imposed by variable insurance contracts. If these charges were reflected, returns would be lower than those shown.

(d) Annualized for periods less than one year.

(e) Expense ratios are based on the direct expenses of the Fund and do not include the effect of the underlying funds' expenses. For additional information on the underlying funds, please refer to the Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information.



# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS: NVIT MANAGED AMERICAN FUNDS GROWTH-INCOME FUND

## Selected data for each share of capital outstanding throughout the periods indicated

	Operations				Distributions			Ratios/Supplemental Data						
	Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	Net Investment Income <sup>(a)</sup>	Net Realized and Unrealized Gains (Losses) from Investments	Total from Operations	Net Investment Income	Net Realized Gains	Total Distributions	Net Asset Value, End of Period	Total Return <sup>(b)(c)</sup>	Net Assets at End of Period	Ratio of Expenses to Average Net Assets <sup>(d)(e)(f)</sup>	Ratio of Net Investment Income to Average Net Assets <sup>(d)(e)</sup>	Ratio of Expenses (Prior to Reimbursements) to Average Net Assets <sup>(d)(e)(f)(g)</sup>	Portfolio Turnover <sup>(h)</sup>
Class II Shares	\$11.87	0.10	0.68	0.78	(0.13)	(0.68)	(0.81)	\$11.84	6.98%	\$593,118,417	0.70%	0.85%	0.70%	20.20%
	\$10.30	0.16	2.06	2.22	(0.17)	(0.48)	(0.65)	\$11.87	21.98%	\$523,411,673	0.71%	1.38%	0.71%	2.71%
	\$11.12	0.13	(0.38)	(0.25)	(0.11)	(0.46)	(0.57)	\$10.30	(2.58)%	\$340,244,780	0.72%	1.11%	0.72%	6.21%
	\$ 9.23	0.12	1.88	2.00	(0.10)	(0.01)	(0.11)	\$11.12	21.70%	\$272,299,135	0.72%	1.17%	0.72%	5.92%
	\$ 8.99	0.13	0.78	0.91	(0.13)	(0.54)	(0.67)	\$ 9.23	10.04%	\$143,388,667	0.72%	1.46%	0.76%	10.43%

(a) Per share calculations were performed using average shares method.

(b) Not annualized for periods less than one year.

(c) The total returns do not include charges that are imposed by variable insurance contracts. If these charges were reflected, returns would be lower than those shown.

(d) Annualized for periods less than one year.

(e) Expense ratios are based on the direct expenses of the Fund and do not include the effect of the underlying funds' expenses. For additional information on the underlying funds, please refer to the Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information.

(f) Expense ratios include expenses reimbursed to the Advisor.

(g) During the period, certain fees may have been waived and/or reimbursed. If such waivers/reimbursements had not occurred, the ratios would have been as indicated.

## **Information from Nationwide Funds**

Please read this Prospectus before you invest, and keep it with your records. This Prospectus is intended for use in connection with variable insurance contracts. The following documents – which may be obtained free of charge – contain additional information about the Funds' investments:

- Statement of Additional Information (incorporated by reference into this Prospectus)
- Annual Reports (which contain discussions of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected each Fund's performance during its last fiscal year)
- Semiannual Reports

To obtain a document free of charge, to request other information about the Funds, or to make inquiries to the Funds, call 800-848-6331, visit [nationwide.com/mutualfundsnvit](http://nationwide.com/mutualfundsnvit) or contact your variable insurance provider.

## **Information from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC")**

You can obtain copies of Fund documents from the SEC (the SEC charges a fee to copy any documents except when accessing Fund documents directly on the SEC's EDGAR database):

- on the SEC's EDGAR database via the internet at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov); or
- by electronic request to [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov)

## **Nationwide Funds Group**

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