May 1, 2021

## **American Century Investments**

Prospectus

## **VP Inflation Protection Fund**

Class I (APTIX) Class II (AIPTX)

The Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.



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## **Fund Summary**

## **Investment Objective**

VP Inflation Protection pursues long-term total return using a strategy that seeks to protect against U.S. inflation.

## Fees and Expenses

The following table describes the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the fund. The table does not include the fees and expenses associated with your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract. Had they been included, fees and expenses presented below would have been higher. For information regarding the fees and expenses associated with your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract, please refer to your insurance product prospectus.

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

	Class I	Class II
Management Fee	0.46%	0.46%
Distribution and Service (12b-1) Fees	None	0.25%
Other Expenses	0.01%	0.01%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	0.47%	0.72%

#### Example

The example below is intended to help you compare the costs of investing in the fund with the costs of investing in other mutual funds. The example does not include fees and expenses associated with your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract. Had they been included, fees and expenses would have been higher. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods, that you earn a 5% return each year, and that the fund's operating expenses remain the same. 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 I	\$48	\$151	\$264	\$592
Class II	\$74	\$231	\$401	\$895

### **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 66% of the average value of its portfolio.

## **Principal Investment Strategies**

The fund invests substantially all of its assets in investment-grade debt securities. An investment-grade security is one that has been rated by an independent rating agency in its top four credit quality categories or, if unrated, determined by the advisor to be of comparable credit quality. To help protect against U.S. inflation, under normal conditions the fund will invest over 50% of its assets in inflation-indexed debt securities. These securities include inflation-indexed U.S. Treasury securities, inflation-indexed securities issued by U.S. government agencies and instrumentalities other than the U.S. Treasury, and inflation-indexed securities issued by other entities such as corporations and foreign governments. Inflation-indexed securities are designed to protect the future purchasing power of the money invested in them. The fund also may invest in debt securities that are not inflation-indexed such as corporate bonds and notes, bank loans, commercial paper, and mortgage- or asset-backed securities.

The fund also may invest in derivative instruments, provided that such investments are in keeping with the fund's investment objective. For example, the fund may use swap agreements to manage or reduce the risk of the effects of inflation with respect to the fund's position in non-inflation-indexed securities. The fund also may enter into foreign currency exchange transactions for hedging purposes or to enhance returns. The fund may also invest in collateralized debt obligations, including collateralized loan obligations, and similarly structured investments.

The portfolio managers are not limited to a specific weighted average maturity range. However, the portfolio managers monitor the fund's weighted average maturity and seek to adjust it as appropriate, taking into account market conditions, the current inflation rate and other relevant factors.

Securities issued by the U.S. Treasury and certain U.S. government agencies, such as the Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae), are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. Securities issued by other U.S. government agencies, such as the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae), the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac), and

the Federal Home Loan Bank are not guaranteed by the U.S. Treasury or supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. However, these agencies are authorized to borrow from the U.S. Treasury to meet their obligations. Inflation-indexed securities issued by non-U.S. government entities are backed only by the credit of the issuer.

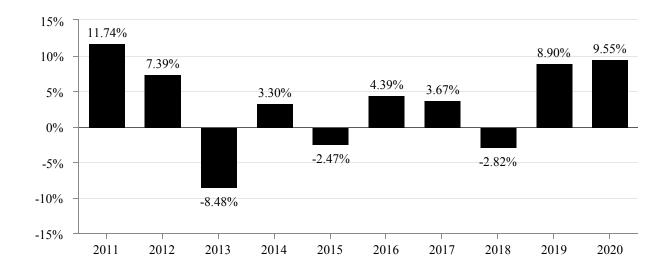
## **Principal Risks**

- Real Interest Rate Risk Inflation-indexed securities trade at prevailing real, or after-inflation, interest rates. The real interest rate is the current market interest rate minus the market's inflation expectations. Generally, when real interest rates rise, the value of the fund's debt securities will decline. The opposite is true when real interest rates decline. A period of rising interest rates may negatively affect the fund's performance.
- Credit Risk The value of the fund's debt securities will be affected adversely by the inability or perceived inability of the issuers of these securities to make interest and principal payments as they become due. As a result, the fund's share price also could decrease. Changes in the credit rating of a debt security held by the fund could have a similar effect.
- Inflation Risk Due to Internal Revenue Code provisions governing insurance product funds, no more than 55% of the fund's assets may be invested in securities issued by the same entity, such as the U.S. Treasury. Because the number of inflation-indexed debt securities issued by other entities is limited, the fund may have a substantial position in non-inflation-indexed securities. To the extent that this is the case, that portion of the portfolio will not be automatically protected from inflation.
- **Prepayment Risk** The fund may invest in debt securities backed by mortgages or other assets. If these underlying assets are prepaid, the fund may benefit less from declining interest rates than other funds.
- Liquidity Risk During periods of market turbulence or unusually low trading activity, in order to meet redemptions it may be necessary for the fund to sell securities at prices that could have an adverse effect on the fund's share price. Changing regulatory and market conditions, including increases in interest rates and credit spreads may adversely affect the liquidity of the fund's investments.
- **Derivative Risk** The use of derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional instruments. Derivatives are subject to a number of risks, including liquidity, interest rate, market, credit and correlation risk. They also involve the risk of mispricing or improper valuation, the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset, rate or index, and the risk of default or bankruptcy of the other party to the swap agreement.
- **Bank Loan Risk** The market for bank loans may not be highly liquid and the fund may have difficulty selling them. In connection with purchasing loan participations, the fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by borrowers with loan terms nor any set off rights, and the fund may not benefit directly from any posted collateral. As a result, the fund may be subject to the credit risk of both the borrower and the lender selling the participation. Bank loan transactions may take more than seven days to settle, meaning that proceeds would be unavailable to make additional investments or meet redemptions.
- Collateralized Debt Obligations/Collateralized Loan Obligation Risk Collateralized debt obligations and collateralized loan obligations (CLOs) are subject to credit, interest rate, valuation, and prepayment and extension risks. These securities also are subject to risk of default on the underlying asset, particularly during periods of economic downturn. The market value of CLOs may be affected by, among other things, changes in the market value of the underlying assets held by the CLO, changes in the distributions on the underlying assets, defaults and recoveries on the underlying assets, capital gains and losses on the underlying assets, prepayments on underlying assets and the availability, prices and interest rate of underlying assets.
- Foreign Securities Risk Foreign securities have certain unique risks, such as currency risk, social, political and economic risk, and foreign market and trading risk. Securities of foreign issuers may be less liquid, more volatile and harder to value than U.S. securities.
- **Market Risk** The value of the securities owned by the fund may go up and down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably. Market risks, including political, regulatory, economic and social developments, can affect the value of the fund's investments. Natural disasters, public health emergencies, terrorism and other unforeseeable events may lead to increased market volatility and may have adverse long-term effects on world economies and markets generally.
- **Public Health Emergency Risk** A pandemic, caused by the infectious respiratory illness COVID-19, is causing market disruption and other economic impacts. Markets have experienced volatility, reduced liquidity, and increased trading costs. These events may continue to impact the fund and its underlying investments.
- **Redemption Risk** –The fund may need to sell securities at times it would not otherwise do so in order to meet shareholder redemption requests. Selling securities to meet such redemptions may cause the fund to experience a loss or increase the fund's transaction costs. To the extent that an insurance company has a large position in the fund, the fund may experience relatively large redemptions if such insurance company reallocates its assets.
- Principal Loss Risk It is possible to lose money by investing in the fund.

An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit, and it is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or any other government agency.

## **Fund Performance**

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the fund. The bar chart shows changes in the fund's performance from year to year for Class II shares. The table shows how the fund's average annual returns for the periods shown compare with those of a broad measure of market performance. Fees associated with your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract are not reflected in the chart or table below. Had they been included, returns presented below would have been lower. The fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the fund will perform in the future.



#### **Calendar Year Total Returns**

#### Highest Performance Quarter (2Q 2020): 6.04%

Lowest Performance Quarter (2Q 2013): -7.16%

#### **Average Annual Total Returns**

For the calendar year ended December 31, 2020	1 year	5 years	10 years
Class I	9.81%	4.90%	3.59%
Class II	9.55%	4.64%	3.33%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	10.99%	5.08%	3.81%

## **Portfolio Management**

#### **Investment Advisor**

American Century Investment Management, Inc.

#### **Portfolio Managers**

**Robert V. Gahagan**, Senior Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager, has served on teams managing fixed-income investments for American Century since joining the advisor in 1983.

**Brian Howell**, Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager, has served on teams managing fixed-income investments for American Century since joining the advisor in 1987.

James E. Platz, Vice President and Portfolio Manager, has served on teams managing fixed-income investments for American Century since joining the advisor in 2003.

Miguel Castillo, Portfolio Manager, has served on teams managing fixed-income investments for American Century since joining the advisor in 2008.

## **Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares**

The fund only offers shares through insurance company separate accounts. For instructions on how to purchase and redeem shares through your separate account, read the prospectus provided by your insurance company. Orders for fund shares will be priced at the net asset value next determined after the order is received in the form required by the agreement between the fund, its investment advisor and/or its distributor and the insurance company from which you have purchased your separate account. There are no sales

commissions or redemption charges. However, certain sales or deferred sales charges and other charges may apply to the variable annuity or life insurance contracts. Those charges are disclosed in the separate account prospectus.

## **Tax Information**

Consult the prospectus of your insurance company separate account for a discussion of the tax status of your variable contract.

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

The fund is offered as an underlying investment option for variable annuity or life insurance contracts. The fund and its related companies pay the sponsoring insurance company and its related companies for distribution and other services. These payments may influence the insurance company to include the fund over another investment as an option in its products. Ask your salesperson or visit your insurance company's website for more information.

## **Objectives, Strategies and Risks**

## What is the fund's investment objective?

The fund pursues long-term total return using a strategy that seeks to protect against U.S. inflation.

### What are the fund's principal investment strategies?

The fund invests substantially all of its assets in investment-grade debt securities. To help protect against U.S. inflation, under normal conditions the fund will invest over 50% of its assets in inflation-indexed debt securities. These securities include inflation-indexed U.S. Treasury securities, inflation-indexed securities issued by U.S. government agencies and instrumentalities other than the U.S. Treasury, and inflation-indexed securities issued by other entities such as corporations and foreign governments. Inflation-indexed securities are designed to protect the future purchasing power of the money invested in them.

The fund also may invest in debt securities that are not inflation-indexed. Such investments may include other investment-grade debt securities, bank loans, and mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities, whether issued by the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities, corporations or other non-governmental issuers, or foreign governments.

Securities issued by the U.S. Treasury and certain U.S. government agencies, such as the Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae), are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. Securities issued by other U.S. government agencies, such as the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae), the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac), and the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) are not guaranteed by the U.S. Treasury or supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. However, these agencies are authorized to borrow from the U.S. Treasury to meet their obligations. Inflation-indexed securities issued by non-U.S. government entities are backed only by the credit of the issuer.

The fund also may invest in derivative instruments, provided that such instruments are in keeping with the fund's investment objective. For example, the fund may use swap agreements to manage or reduce the risk of the effects of inflation with respect to the fund's position in non-inflation-indexed securities. The fund also may enter into foreign currency exchange transactions for hedging purposes or to enhance returns. The fund may purchase securities in a number of different ways to seek higher rates of return. The fund may also use when-issued and forward commitment transactions. The fund may also invest in collateralized debt obligations, including collateralized loan obligations, and other similarly structured investments.

The portfolio managers are not limited to a specific weighted average maturity range. However, the portfolio managers monitor the fund's weighted average maturity and seek to adjust it as appropriate, taking into account market conditions, the current inflation rate and other relevant factors. For instance, during periods of rising interest rates, the portfolio managers may shorten a portfolio's maturity in order to reduce the effect of bond price declines on the fund's value. When interest rates are falling and bond prices are rising, they may lengthen a portfolio's maturity.

In the event of exceptional market or economic conditions, the fund may take temporary defensive positions that are inconsistent with the fund's principal investment strategies. To the extent the fund assumes a defensive position, it may not achieve its investment objective.

A description of the policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the fund's portfolio securities is available in the statement of additional information.

### What are the principal risks of investing in the fund?

Inflation-indexed securities offer a return linked to inflation. They are designed to protect investors from a loss of value due to inflation. However, inflation-indexed securities are still subject to the effects of changes in market interest rates caused by factors other than inflation, or so-called *real interest rates*. Because inflation-indexed securities trade at prevailing real, or after-inflation, interest rates, changes in these rates affect the value of such securities owned by the fund. Generally, when real interest rates rise, the value of these securities will decline. The opposite is true when real interest rates decline. A period of rising interest rates may negatively affect the fund's performance.

#### The real interest rate is the current market interest rate minus the market's inflation expectations.

An investment in securities issued by entities other than the U.S. Treasury or U.S. government and its agencies and instrumentalities increases the potential credit risk associated with the fund. Credit risk is the inability or perceived inability of the issuers of these securities to make interest and principal payments as they become due. As a result, the fund's share price could also decrease. Changes in the credit rating of a debt security held by the fund could have a similar effect. The fund will attempt to mitigate credit risk by limiting its investments to issuers whose credit has been rated investment grade or higher, or, if unrated, determined to be of equivalent credit quality by the advisor.

Due to Internal Revenue Code provisions governing insurance product funds, no more than 55% of the fund's assets may be invested in securities issued by the same entity, such as the U.S. Treasury. Because the number of inflation-indexed debt securities issued by other entities is limited, the fund may have a substantial position in non-inflation-indexed securities. To the extent that this is the case, that portion of the portfolio will not be automatically protected from inflation.

The fund invests in mortgage- and asset-backed securities. When borrowers refinance their mortgages to take advantage of declining interest rates, their existing mortgages are prepaid. The mortgages, which back the mortgage-backed securities purchased by the fund, may be prepaid in this fashion. Likewise, borrowers may prepay the auto loan, home equity loan or student loan receivables, corporate loans or bonds or other assets underlying the fund's asset-backed securities. When this happens, the fund will be required to purchase new securities at current market rates, which will usually be lower. Because of this prepayment risk, the fund may benefit less from declining interest rates than other funds.

The chance that a fund will have difficulty selling its debt securities is called liquidity risk. During periods of market turbulence or unusually low trading activity, in order to meet redemptions, it may be necessary for a fund to sell securities at prices that could have an adverse effect on the fund's share price. Changing regulatory and market conditions, including increases in interest rates and credit spreads may adversely affect the liquidity of the fund's investments.

The use of derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional instruments. Derivatives are subject to a number of risks including liquidity, interest rate, market, and credit risk. They also involve the risk of mispricing or improper valuation, the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset, rate or index, and the risk of default or bankruptcy of the other party to the swap agreement. Gains or losses involving some futures, options, and other derivatives may be substantial—in part because a relatively small price movement in these securities may result in an immediate and substantial gain or loss for the fund.

Investments in bank loans, loans made by banks or other financial intermediaries to borrowers, require the fund to depend primarily upon the creditworthiness of the borrower for payment of principal and interest, exposing the fund to the credit risk of both the financial institution and the underlying borrower. The market for bank loans may not be highly liquid and the fund may have difficulty selling them. In connection with purchasing participations, the fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the borrower with the terms of the loan agreement, nor any rights with respect to any funds acquired by other lenders through set-off against the borrower, and the fund may not directly benefit from any collateral supporting the loan in which it has purchased the participation. In addition, transactions in bank loans may take more than seven days to settle. As a result, the proceeds from the sale of bank loans may not be registered under the Securities Act of 1933 and therefore not afforded the protections of the federal securities laws.

The risks of an investment in a collateralized debt obligation depend largely on the type of the collateral securities and the class of the debt obligation in which the fund invests. Collateralized debt obligations (CDOs) and collateralized loan obligations (CLOs) are subject to credit, interest rate, valuation, prepayment and extension risks. These securities also are subject to risk of default on the underlying asset, particularly during periods of economic downturn. The market value of CLO securities may be affected by, among other things, changes in the market value of the underlying assets held by the CLO, changes in the distributions on the underlying assets, defaults and recoveries on the underlying assets, capital gains and losses on the underlying assets, prepayments on underlying assets and the availability, prices and interest rate of underlying assets.

The fund may invest in securities issued by foreign corporations and foreign governments, agencies or instrumentalities. Foreign investment involves additional risks, including fluctuations in currency exchange rates, less stable political and economic structures, reduced availability of public information, and lack of uniform financial reporting and regulatory practices similar to those that apply in the United States. These factors make investing in foreign securities generally riskier than investing in U.S. securities. Securities of foreign issuers may be less liquid, more volatile and harder to value than U.S. securities. To the extent the fund invests in foreign securities, the overall risk of the fund could be affected.

The value of the securities owned by the fund may go up and down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably, due to factors affecting securities markets generally, particular industries, real or perceived adverse economic conditions or investor sentiment generally. Market risks, including political, regulatory, economic and social developments, can affect the value of the fund's investments. Natural disasters, public health emergencies, terrorism and other unforeseeable events may lead to increased market volatility and may have adverse long-term effects on world economies and markets generally.

A pandemic, caused by the infectious respiratory illness COVID-19, is causing travel restrictions, disruption of healthcare systems, prolonged quarantines, cancellations, supply chain interruptions, lower consumer demand, layoffs, credit downgrades, and defaults among other economic impacts. Certain markets have experienced temporary closures, extreme volatility, losses, reduced liquidity and increased trading costs. These events may continue to impact the fund and its underlying investments.

The fund may need to sell securities at times it would not otherwise do so in order to meet shareholder redemption requests. The fund could experience a loss when selling securities, particularly if the redemption requests are unusually large or frequent, occur in times of overall market turmoil or declining pricing for the securities sold or when the securities the fund wishes to sell are illiquid. Selling securities to meet such redemption requests also may increase transaction costs. To the extent that an insurance company has a large position in the fund, the fund may experience relatively large redemptions if such insurance company reallocates its assets. Although the advisor seeks to minimize the impact of such transactions where possible, the fund's performance may be adversely affected.

At any given time your shares may be worth less than the price you paid for them. In other words, it is possible to lose money by investing in the fund.

## Management

## Who manages the fund?

The Board of Directors, investment advisor and fund management team play key roles in the management of the fund.

### **The Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing the advisor's management and operations of the fund pursuant to the management agreement. In performing their duties, Board members receive detailed information about the fund and its advisor regularly throughout the year, and meet at least quarterly with management of the advisor to review reports about fund operations. The directors' role is to provide oversight and not to provide day-to-day management. More than three-fourths of the directors are independent of the fund's advisor. They are not employees, directors or officers of, and have no financial interest in, the advisor or any of its affiliated companies (other than as shareholders of American Century Investments funds), and they do not have any other affiliations, positions or relationships that would cause them to be considered "interested persons" under the Investment Company Act of 1940.

### The Investment Advisor

The fund's investment advisor is American Century Investment Management, Inc. (the advisor). The advisor has been managing mutual funds since 1958 and is headquartered at 4500 Main Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64111.

The advisor is responsible for managing the investment portfolios of the fund and directing the purchase and sale of its investment securities. The advisor also arranges for transfer agency, custody and all other services necessary for the fund to operate.

For the services it provides to the fund, the advisor receives a unified management fee based on a percentage of the daily net assets of each class of shares of the fund. The management fee is calculated daily and paid monthly in arrears. Out of the fund's fee, the advisor pays all expenses of managing and operating the fund except brokerage expenses, taxes, interest, fees and expenses of the independent directors (including legal counsel fees), extraordinary expenses, and expenses incurred in connection with the provision of shareholder services and distribution services under a plan adopted pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The advisor may pay unaffiliated third parties who provide recordkeeping and administrative services that would otherwise be performed by an affiliate of the advisor.

The percentage rate used to calculate the management fee for each class of shares of the fund is determined daily using a twocomponent formula that takes into account (i) the daily net assets of the accounts managed by the advisor that are in the same broad investment category as the fund (the Category Fee) and (ii) the assets of all funds in the American Century Investments family of funds (the Complex Fee). The statement of additional information contains detailed information about the calculation of the management fee.

Management Fee Paid by the Fund to the Advisor as a Percentage of Average Net Assets for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020 VP Inflation Protection Fund

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board of Directors' approval of the fund's investment advisory agreement with the advisor is available in the fund's semiannual report to shareholders dated June 30, 2020.

Class I

0.46%

Class II

0.46%

## The Fund Management Team

The advisor uses teams of portfolio managers and analysts, organized by broad investment categories such as money markets, corporate bonds, government bonds and municipal bonds, in its management of fixed-income funds. Designated portfolio managers serve on the firm's Global Fixed Income Investment Committee, which is responsible for periodically adjusting each fund's dynamic investment parameters based on economic and market conditions. All listed portfolio managers are responsible for security selection and portfolio construction for the fund within these parameters, as well as compliance with stated investment objectives and cash flow monitoring. Other members of the investment team provide research and analytical support but generally do not make day-to-day investment decisions for the fund.

The individuals listed below are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund described in this prospectus.

#### Robert V. Gahagan (Global Fixed Income Investment Committee Representative)

Mr. Gahagan, Senior Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager, has served on teams managing fixed-income investments for American Century since joining the advisor in 1983. He has a bachelor's degree in economics and an MBA from the University of Missouri – Kansas City.

#### Brian Howell (Global Fixed Income Investment Committee Representative)

Mr. Howell, Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager, has served on teams managing fixed-income investments for American Century since joining the advisor in 1987. He has a bachelor's degree in mathematics/statistics and an MBA from the University of California – Berkeley.

#### James E. Platz

Mr. Platz, Vice President and Portfolio Manager, has served on teams managing fixed-income investments for American Century since joining the advisor in 2003. He received a bachelor's degree in history and political economies of industrial societies from the University of California - Berkeley, and an MBA from the University of Southern California. He is a CFA charterholder.

#### **Miguel Castillo**

Mr. Castillo, Portfolio Manager, has served on teams managing fixed-income investments since joining the advisor in 2008 as a senior fixed income trader. He was promoted to portfolio manager in 2014. He has a bachelor's degree in banking and finance from Escuela Bancaria Y Comercial, Mexico City, and an MBA from the University of Minnesota.

The statement of additional information provides additional information about the accounts managed by the portfolio managers, the structure of their compensation and their ownership of fund securities.

#### **Fundamental Investment Policies**

Shareholders must approve any change to the fundamental investment policies contained in the statement of additional information, as well as any change to the investment objective of the fund. The Board of Directors and/or the advisor may change any other policies or investment strategies described in this prospectus or otherwise used in the operation of the fund at any time, subject to applicable notice provisions.

#### **Fees and Expenses**

The fees and expenses set forth herein are those of the fund only; for the fees and expenses associated with your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract, please consult your insurance product prospectus.

Because this fund is offered as an investment option under certain types of insurance contracts, the insurance company offering the fund performs recordkeeping and administrative services for fund shareholders that would otherwise be performed by American Century Investments' transfer agent. In some circumstances, the advisor will pay the insurance company a fee for performing those services. Also, the advisor or the fund's distributor may make payments to insurance companies for various additional services, other expenses and/or the insurance companies' distribution of the fund out of their profits or other available sources. Such payments may be made for one or more of the following: (1) distribution, which may include expenses incurred by insurance companies for their sales activities with respect to the fund, such as preparing, printing and distributing sales literature and advertising materials and compensating registered representatives or other employees of such insurance companies for their sales activities, as well as the opportunity for the fund to be made available by such insurance companies; (2) shareholder services, such as providing individual and custom investment advisory services to clients of the insurance companies; and (3) marketing and promotional services, including business planning assistance, educating personnel about the fund, and sponsorship of sales meetings, which may include covering costs of providing speakers, meals and other entertainment. The distributor may sponsor seminars and conferences designed to educate insurance companies about the fund and may cover the expenses associated with attendance at such meetings, including travel costs. These payments and activities are intended to provide an incentive to insurance companies to sell the fund by educating them about the fund, and helping defray the costs associated with offering the fund. Ask your salesperson or visit your insurance company's website for more information. The amount of any payments described by this paragraph is determined by the advisor or the distributor, and all such amounts are paid out of the available assets of the advisor and distributor, and not by you or the fund. As a result, the total expense ratio of the fund will not be affected by any such payments.

## **Additional Policies Affecting Your Investment**

## **Purchase and Redemption of Shares**

The fund only offers shares through insurance company separate accounts. For instructions on how to purchase and redeem shares through your separate account, read the prospectus provided by your insurance company. Orders for fund shares will be priced at the net asset value next determined after the order is received in the form required by the agreement between the fund, its investment advisor and/or its distributor and the insurance company from which you have purchased your separate account. There are no sales commissions or redemption charges. However, certain sales or deferred sales charges and other charges may apply to the variable annuity or life insurance contracts. Those charges are disclosed in the separate account prospectus.

Under normal market conditions, the fund generally meets redemption requests through its holdings of cash or cash equivalents or by selling portfolio securities. We reserve the right to pay part or all of the proceeds for certain large redemptions in readily marketable securities instead of cash. A description of the requirements for large redemptions is included in the statement of additional information. Additionally, the fund may consider interfund lending to meet redemption requests. The fund is more likely to use these other methods to meet large redemption requests or during times of market stress.

### **Frequent Trading Practices**

Frequent trading and other abusive trading practices may disrupt portfolio management strategies and harm fund performance. If the cumulative amount of frequent trading activity is significant relative to a fund's net assets, the fund may incur trading costs that are higher than necessary as securities are first purchased then quickly sold to meet the redemption request. In such case, the fund's performance could be negatively impacted by the increased trading costs created by frequent trading if the additional trading costs are significant.

Because of the potentially harmful effects of abusive trading practices, the fund's Board of Directors has approved American Century Investments' abusive trading policies and procedures, which are designed to reduce the frequency and effect of these activities in our funds. These policies and procedures include monitoring trading activity, imposing trading restrictions on certain accounts, and using fair value pricing when current market prices are not readily available. Although these efforts are designed to discourage abusive trading practices, they cannot eliminate the possibility that such activity will occur. American Century Investments seeks to exercise its judgment in implementing these tools to the best of its ability in a manner that it believes is consistent with shareholder interests.

We may deem the sale of all or a substantial portion of a shareholder's purchase of fund shares to be frequent trading if the sale is made:

- within seven days of the purchase; or
- within 30 days of the purchase, if it happens more than once per year.

The frequent trading limitations do not apply to the following types of transactions:

- purchases of shares through reinvested distributions (dividends and capital gains);
- redemption of shares to pay fund or account fees;
- transactions through automatic purchase or redemption plans;

In addition, American Century Investments reserves the right to accept purchases and exchanges in excess of the trading restrictions discussed above if it believes that such transactions would not be inconsistent with the best interests of fund shareholders or this policy.

American Century Investments' policies do not permit us to enter into arrangements with fund shareholders that permit such shareholders to engage in frequent purchases and redemptions of fund shares. Shares of the fund are not sold directly to the public, but rather to insurance company separate accounts for the purpose of offering the fund as an investment option under variable annuity or variable life insurance products. Purchases and redemptions of fund shares held in omnibus arrangements with insurance companies are aggregated and presented to the fund on a net basis, inherently making it more difficult for the fund to identify abusive trading practices or the shareholder who is effecting the transaction. American Century Investments monitors aggregate trades placed in insurance company separate accounts, and works with each insurance company to identify investors engaging in abusive trading practices and impose restrictions to discourage such practices. Pursuant to Rule 22c-2 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, American Century Investments and each insurance company that uses an American Century Variable Portfolios, Inc. or American Century Variable Portfolios II, Inc. fund as an underlying investment vehicle has entered into an information sharing agreement that obligates the insurance company to: (i) provide certain information regarding shareholder transactions to American Century Investments upon its request; and (ii) impose restrictions on shareholder transactions when instructed by American Century Investments. Because American Century Investments relies on each insurance company to provide information and impose restrictions, our ability to monitor and discourage abusive trading may be dependent on the insurance company's timely performance of such duties and restrictions may not be applied uniformly in all cases.

#### **Small Distributions and Uncashed Distribution Checks**

Generally, dividends and distributions cannot be paid by check for an amount less than \$50. Any such amount will be automatically reinvested in additional shares. The fund reserves the right to reinvest any dividend or distribution amount you elect to receive by check if your check is returned as undeliverable or if you do not cash your check within six months. Interest will not accrue on the amount of your uncashed check. We will reinvest your check into your account at the NAV on the day of reinvestment. When reinvested, those amounts are subject to the risk of loss like any other fund investment. We also reserve the right to change your election to receive dividends and distributions in cash after a check is returned undeliverable or uncashed for the six month period, and we may automatically reinvest all future dividends and distributions at the NAV on the date of the payment.

#### **Canceling a Transaction**

American Century Investments will use its best efforts to honor your request to revoke a transaction instruction if your revocation request is received prior to the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) (generally 4 p.m. Eastern time) on the trade date of the transaction. Once processing has begun, or the NYSE has closed on the trade date, the transaction can no longer be canceled. Each fund reserves the right to suspend the offering of shares for a period of time and to reject any specific investment (including a purchase by exchange). Additionally, we may refuse a purchase if, in our judgment, it is of a size that would disrupt the management of a fund.

#### **Right to Change Policies**

We reserve the right to change any stated investment requirement, including those that relate to purchases, exchanges and redemptions. In accordance with applicable law, we also may alter, add or discontinue any service or privilege. Changes may affect all investors or only those in certain classes or groups. In addition, from time to time we may waive a policy on a case-by-case basis, as the advisor deems appropriate.

## Share Price, Distributions and Taxes

### **Share Price**

American Century Investments will price the fund shares you purchase, exchange or redeem based on the *net asset value* (NAV) next determined after your order is received in good order by the fund's transfer agent, or other financial intermediary with the authority to accept orders on the fund's behalf. We determine the NAV of each fund as of the close of regular trading (usually 4 p.m. Eastern time) on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on each day the NYSE is open. On days when the NYSE is closed (including certain U.S. national holidays), we do not calculate the NAV.

The **net asset value**, or NAV, of each class of the fund is the current value of the class's assets, minus any liabilities, divided by the number of shares of the class outstanding.

Readily available market quotations for fixed income securities shall generally be received from independent pricing services that have been approved by the Board. It is anticipated that such pricing services will generally provide evaluated prices based on accepted industry conventions. Evaluated prices are commonly derived through utilization of market models. Such models take into consideration various market factors and security characteristics. These may include, but are not limited to, the following: trade data, quotations from broker-dealers and active market makers, relevant yield curve and spread data, related sector levels, creditworthiness, trade data or market information on comparable securities and other relevant security specific information. Debt obligations with 60 days or less remaining until maturity may be valued at amortized cost.

If the fund determines that the market price for a portfolio security is not readily available or that the valuation methods mentioned above do not reflect the security's fair value, such security is valued as determined in good faith by the fund's board or its designee, in accordance with procedures adopted by the fund's board. Circumstances that may cause the fund to use alternate procedures to value a security include, but are not limited to:

- if, after the close of the foreign exchange on which a portfolio security is principally traded, but before the close of the NYSE, an event occurs that may materially affect the value of the security;
- a debt security has been declared in default; or
- trading in a security has been halted during the trading day.

If such circumstances occur, the fund will fair value the security if the fair valuation would materially impact the fund's NAV. While fair value determinations involve judgments that are inherently subjective, these determinations are made in good faith in accordance with procedures adopted by the fund's board.

The effect of using fair value determinations is that the fund's NAV will be based, to some degree, on security valuations that the board or its designee believes are fair rather than being solely determined by the market.

With respect to any portion of the fund's assets that are invested in one or more open-end management investment companies that are registered with the SEC (known as registered investment companies), the fund's NAV will be calculated based upon the NAVs of such registered investment companies. These registered investment companies are required by law to explain the circumstances under which they will use fair value pricing and the effects of using fair value pricing in their prospectuses.

Securities and other assets quoted in foreign currencies are valued in U.S. dollars based on the prevailing exchange rates at the time the fund's NAV is determined.

Trading of securities in foreign markets may not take place every day the NYSE is open. Also, trading in some foreign markets and on some electronic trading networks may take place on weekends or holidays when the fund's NAV is not calculated. So, the value of the fund's portfolio may be affected on days when you will not be able to purchase, exchange or redeem fund shares.

#### Distributions

Federal tax laws require the fund to make distributions to its shareholders in order to qualify as a regulated investment company. Qualification as a regulated investment company means that the fund should not be subject to state or federal income tax on amounts distributed. The distributions generally consist of dividends and interest received by the fund, as well as *capital gains* realized by the fund on the sale of its investment securities. The fund pays distributions from net income quarterly, if any. The fund generally expects to pay distributions from capital gains, if any, once a year in March. The fund may make more frequent distributions, if necessary, to comply with Internal Revenue Code provisions.

*Capital gains* are increases in the values of capital assets, such as stocks or bonds, from the time the assets are purchased.

You will participate in fund distributions, when they are declared, starting on the next business day after your purchase is effective. For example, if you purchase shares on a day that a distribution is declared, you will not receive that distribution. If you redeem shares, you will receive any distribution declared on the day you redeem. If you redeem all shares, we will include any distributions received with your redemption proceeds.

Provided that all shareholders agree, the fund may utilize the consent dividend provision of Internal Revenue Code Section 565 which treats the income earned by the fund as distributed to the shareholders as of the end of the taxable year.

#### Taxes

Consult the prospectus of your insurance company separate account for a discussion of the tax status of your variable contract.

## **Multiple Class Information**

The fund offers multiple classes of shares. All classes are offered exclusively to insurance companies to fund their obligations under the variable annuity and variable life contracts purchased by their clients.

Class I and Class II shares have different fees and expenses. Different fees and expenses will affect performance.

Except as described below, all classes of shares of the fund have identical voting, dividend, liquidation and other rights, preferences, terms and conditions. The only differences between the classes are (a) each class may be subject to different expenses specific to that class; (b) each class has a different identifying designation or name; (c) each class has exclusive voting rights with respect to matters solely affecting that class; and (d) each class may have different exchange privileges.

#### Rule 12b-1 Fees

Investment Company Act Rule 12b-1 permits mutual funds that adopt a written plan to pay certain expenses associated with the distribution of their shares out of fund assets. The fund's Class II shares have a 12b-1 plan. Under the plan, the fund's Class II pays the distributor an annual fee of 0.25% of Class II average net assets for distribution services, including past distribution services. The distributor pays all or a portion of such fees to the insurance companies that make Class II shares available. Because these fees are used to pay for services that are not related to prospective sales of the fund, the class will continue to make payments under its plan even if it is closed to new investors. Because these fees are paid out of the fund's assets on an ongoing basis, over time these fees will increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges. For additional information about the plan and its terms, see *Multiple Class Structure* in the statement of additional information.

## **Financial Highlights**

## Understanding the Financial Highlights

The following financial information does not include fees and expenses associated with your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract. Had they been included, the performance shown would have been lower.

The table on the next page itemizes what contributed to the changes in the share price during the most recently ended fiscal year. It also shows the changes in share price for this period in comparison to changes over the last five fiscal years.

On a per-share basis, the table includes as appropriate

- share price at the beginning of the period
- · investment income and capital gains or losses
- · distributions of income and capital gains paid to investors
- share price at the end of the period

The table also includes some key statistics for the period as appropriate

- Total Return the overall percentage of return of the fund, assuming the reinvestment of all distributions
- Expense Ratio the operating expenses of the fund as a percentage of average net assets
- Net Income Ratio the net investment income of the fund as a percentage of average net assets
- Portfolio Turnover the percentage of the fund's investment portfolio that is replaced during the period

The Financial Highlights have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm. Their Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm and the financial statements are included in the fund's annual report, which is available upon request.

### **VP Inflation Protection Fund**

Per-Sha	re Data									Ratios and Sup	plemental Data		
		Income From Investment Operations:			Dis	Distributions From:				Ratio to Average Net Assets of:			
	Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	Net Investment Income (Loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)	Total From Investment Operations	Net Investment Income	Net Realized Gains	Total Distributions	Net Asset Value, End of Period	Total Return <sup>(2)</sup>	Operating Expenses	Net Investment Income (Loss)	Portfolio Turnover Rate	Net Assets, End of Period (in thousands)
Class I													
2020	\$10.28	0.16	0.84	1.00	(0.17)	_	(0.17)	\$11.11	9.81%	0.47%	1.53%	66%	\$123,185
2019	\$9.66	0.25	0.63	0.88	(0.26)	_	(0.26)	\$10.28	9.16%	0.47%	2.48%	41%	\$98,523
2018	\$10.23	0.28	(0.54)	(0.26)	(0.31)	_	(0.31)	\$9.66	(2.57)%	0.48%	2.83%	15%	\$86,413
2017	\$10.13	0.24	0.15	0.39	(0.29)	_	(0.29)	\$10.23	3.92%	0.47%	2.34%	28%	\$88,334
2016	\$9.96	0.20	0.27	0.47	(0.22)	(0.08)	(0.30)	\$10.13	4.71%	0.48%	1.88%	37%	\$78,925
Class II													
2020	\$10.26	0.14	0.84	0.98	(0.15)	_	(0.15)	\$11.09	9.55%	0.72%	1.28%	66%	\$514,161
2019	\$9.64	0.22	0.63	0.85	(0.23)	—	(0.23)	\$10.26	8.90%	0.72%	2.23%	41%	\$510,615
2018	\$10.21	0.26	(0.55)	(0.29)	(0.28)	_	(0.28)	\$9.64	(2.82)%	0.73%	2.58%	15%	\$525,858
2017	\$10.11	0.21	0.16	0.37	(0.27)	_	(0.27)	\$10.21	3.67%	0.72%	2.09%	28%	\$588,902
2016	\$9.94	0.17	0.27	0.44	(0.19)	(0.08)	(0.27)	\$10.11	4.39%	0.73%	1.63%	37%	\$580,541

#### Notes to Financial Highlights

(1) Computed using average shares outstanding throughout the period.

(2) Total returns are calculated based on the net asset value of the last business day. Total returns for periods less than one year are not annualized. The total returns presented do not include the fees and charges assessed with investments in variable insurance products, those charges are disclosed in the separate account prospectus. The inclusion of such fees and charges would lower total return.

## Notes

## Notes

## Where to Find More Information

### **Annual and Semiannual Reports**

Additional information about the fund's investments is available in the fund's annual and semiannual reports to shareholders. In the fund's annual report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the fund's performance during its last fiscal year. This prospectus incorporates by reference the Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm and the financial statements included in the fund's <u>annual report</u> to shareholders, dated December 31, 2020.

#### **Statement of Additional Information (SAI)**

The SAI contains a more detailed legal description of the fund's operations, investment restrictions, policies and practices. The <u>SAI</u> is incorporated by reference into this prospectus. This means that it is legally part of this prospectus, even if you don't request a copy.

You may obtain a free copy of the SAI, annual reports and semiannual reports by contacting American Century Investments at the address or telephone numbers listed below, or online at americancentury.com/funds/vp\_fund\_reports.jsp. You may also ask questions about the fund or your accounts by contacting the insurance company through which you purchased the fund.

#### The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)

Reports and other information about the fund are available on the EDGAR database on the SEC's website at sec.gov, and copies of this information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following email address: publicinfo@sec.gov.

This prospectus shall not constitute an offer to sell securities of the fund in any state, territory, or other jurisdiction where the fund's shares have not been registered or qualified for sale, unless such registration or qualification is not required, or under any circumstances in which such offer or solicitation would be unlawful.

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