Vanguard®

Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund
REIT Index Portfolio

April 28, 2017

Prospectus

INDEXED TO MSCI®

This prospectus contains financial data for the Portfolio through the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016.

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

Contents

Portfolio Summary

Investment Objective

The Portfolio seeks to provide a high level of income and moderate long-term capital appreciation by tracking the performance of a benchmark index that measures the performance of publicly traded equity REITs.

Fees and Expenses

The following table describes the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Portfolio. The expenses shown in the table and in the example that follow do not reflect additional fees and expenses associated with the annuity or life insurance program through which you invest. If those additional fees and expenses were included, overall expenses would be higher.

Annual Portfolio Operating Expenses

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

Management Fees	0.24%
12b-1 Distribution Fee	None
Other Expenses	0.03%
Total Annual Portfolio Operating Expenses	0.27%

Example

The following example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Portfolio with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. It illustrates the hypothetical expenses that you would incur over various periods if you were to invest $10,000 in the Portfolio's shares. This example assumes that the Portfolio provides a return of 5% each year and that total annual portfolio operating expenses remain as stated in the preceding table. You would incur these hypothetical expenses whether or not you redeem your investment at the end of the given period. 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
$28	$87	$152	$343

Portfolio Turnover

The Portfolio pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs. These costs, which are not reflected in annual portfolio operating expenses or in the previous expense example, reduce the Portfolio's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Portfolio's turnover rate was 14% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Portfolio employs an indexing investment approach designed to track the performance of the MSCI US REIT Index. The Index is composed of stocks of publicly traded equity real estate investment trusts (known as REITs). The Portfolio attempts to replicate the Index by investing all, or substantially all, of its assets in the stocks that make up the Index, holding each stock in approximately the same proportion as its weighting in the Index.

Principal Risks

An investment in the Portfolio could lose money over short or even long periods. You should expect the Portfolio's share price and total return to fluctuate within a wide range. The Portfolio is subject to the following risks, which could affect the Portfolio's performance:

- *Industry concentration risk,* which is the chance that the stocks of REITs will decline because of adverse developments affecting the real estate industry and real property values. Because the Portfolio concentrates its assets in REIT stocks, industry concentration risk is high.
- *Stock market risk,* which is the chance that stock prices overall will decline. Stock markets tend to move in cycles, with periods of rising prices and periods of falling prices. The Portfolio's target index may, at times, become focused in stocks of a limited number of companies, which could cause the Portfolio to underperform the overall stock market.
- *Asset concentration risk*, which is the chance that, because the Portfolio's target index (and therefore the Portfolio) tends to be heavily weighted in its ten largest holdings, the Portfolio's performance may be hurt disproportionately by the poor performance of relatively few stocks.
- *Interest rate risk,* which is the chance that REIT stock prices overall will decline, and that the cost of borrowing for REITs will increase because of rising interest rates. Interest rate risk is high for the Portfolio.
- *Investment style risk*, which is the chance that returns from REIT stocks—which typically are small- or mid-capitalization stocks—will trail returns from the overall

stock market. Historically, REIT stocks have performed quite differently from the overall market.

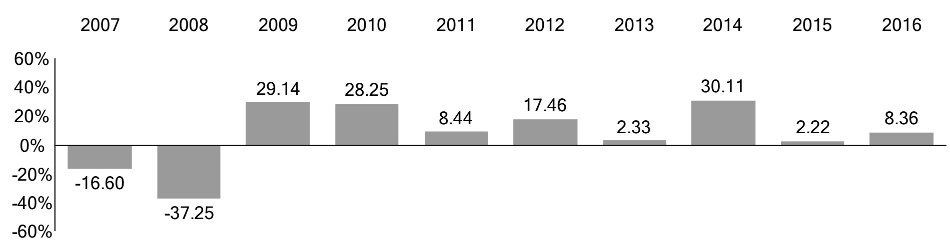
- *Derivatives risk.* The Portfolio may invest in derivatives, which may involve risks different from, and possibly greater than, those of investments directly in the underlying securities or assets.

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

Annual Total Returns

The following bar chart and table are intended to help you understand the risks of investing in the Portfolio. The bar chart shows how the performance of the Portfolio has varied from one calendar year to another over the periods shown. The table shows how the average annual total returns of the Portfolio compare with those of its target index and a comparative index, which have investment characteristics similar to those of the Portfolio. The Portfolio's returns are net of its expenses but do not reflect additional fees and expenses that are deducted by the annuity or life insurance program through which you invest. If such fees and expenses were included in the calculation of the Portfolio's returns, the returns would be lower. Keep in mind that the Portfolio's past performance does not indicate how the Portfolio will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available on our website for Financial Advisors at *advisors.vanguard.com* or by calling Vanguard toll-free at 800-522-5555.

Annual Total Returns — REIT Index Portfolio



During the periods shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a calendar quarter was 34.45% (quarter ended September 30, 2009), and the lowest return for a quarter was –38.26% (quarter ended December 31, 2008).

Average Annual Total Returns for Periods Ended December 31, 2016

	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
REIT Index Portfolio	8.36%	11.61%	5.00%
Comparative Indexes (reflect no deduction for fees or expenses)			
MSCI US REIT Index	8.60%	11.86%	4.96%
REIT Spliced Index	8.60	11.86	5.20

Investment Advisor

The Vanguard Group, Inc. (Vanguard)

Portfolio Managers

Walter Nejman, Portfolio Manager at Vanguard. He has co-managed the Portfolio since 2016.

Gerard C. O'Reilly, Principal of Vanguard. He has managed the Portfolio since its inception in 1999 (co-managed since 2016).

Tax Information

The Portfolio normally distributes its net investment income and net realized capital gains, if any, to its shareholders, which are the insurance company separate accounts that sponsor your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract. The tax consequences to you of your investment in the Portfolio depend on the provisions of the annuity or life insurance contract through which you invest. For more information on taxes, please refer to the prospectus of the annuity or life insurance contract through which Portfolio shares are offered.

Payments to Financial Intermediaries

The Portfolio and its investment advisor do not pay financial intermediaries for sales of Portfolio shares.

More on the Portfolio

This prospectus describes the principal risks you would face as an investor in this Portfolio. It is important to keep in mind one of the main axioms of investing: generally, the higher the risk of losing money, the higher the potential reward. The reverse, also, is generally true: the lower the risk, the lower the potential reward. As you consider an investment in any mutual fund, you should take into account your personal tolerance for fluctuations in the securities markets. Look for this symbol throughout the prospectus. It is used to mark detailed information about the more significant risks that you would confront as a Portfolio investor. To highlight terms and concepts important to mutual fund investors, we have provided Plain Talk® explanations along the way. Reading the prospectus will help you decide whether the Portfolio is the right investment for you. We suggest that you keep this prospectus for future reference.

A Note About Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund

The REIT Index Portfolio of Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund is a mutual fund used solely as an investment option for annuity or life insurance contracts offered by insurance companies. This means that you cannot purchase shares of the Portfolio directly, but only through a contract offered by an insurance company.

The REIT Index Portfolio is separate from other Vanguard mutual funds, even when the Portfolio and a fund have the same investment objective and advisor. The Portfolio's investment performance will differ from the performance of other Vanguard funds because of differences in the securities held and because of administrative and insurance costs associated with the annuity or life insurance program through which you invest.

Plain Talk About Costs of Investing

Costs are an important consideration in choosing a mutual fund. That is because you, as a contract owner, pay a proportionate share of the costs of operating a portfolio, plus any transaction costs incurred when the portfolio buys or sells securities. These costs can erode a substantial portion of the gross income or the capital appreciation a portfolio achieves. Even seemingly small differences in expenses can, over time, have a dramatic effect on a portfolio's performance.

The following sections explain the principal investment strategies and policies that the Portfolio uses in pursuit of its objective. The Fund's board of trustees, which oversees the Portfolio's management, may change investment strategies or policies in the interest of shareholders without a shareholder vote, unless those strategies or policies are designated as fundamental. Under normal circumstances, the Portfolio will invest at least 80% of its assets in stocks that make up its target index. This policy may be changed only upon 60 days' notice to shareholders.

Market Exposure

The Portfolio invests in stocks of publicly traded equity real estate investment trusts.

The Portfolio is subject to stock market risk, which is the chance that stock prices overall will decline. Stock markets tend to move in cycles, with periods of rising prices and periods of falling prices. The Portfolio's target index may, at times, become focused in stocks of a limited number of companies, which could cause the Portfolio to underperform the overall stock market.

To illustrate the volatility of stock prices, the following table shows the best, worst, and average annual total returns for the U.S. stock market over various periods as measured by the S&P 500 Index, a widely used barometer of U.S. stock market activity. Total returns consist of dividend income plus change in market price. Note that the returns shown do not include the costs of buying and selling stocks or other expenses that a real-world investment portfolio would incur.

U.S. Stock Market Returns
(1926–2016)

	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years	20 Years
Best	54.2%	28.6%	19.9%	17.8%
Worst	–43.1	–12.4	–1.4	3.1
Average	11.9	10.1	10.3	11.0

The table covers all of the rolling 1-, 5-, 10-, and 20-year periods from 1926 through 2016. You can see, for example, that although the average annual return on common stocks for *all* of the 5-year periods was 10.1%, average annual returns for *individual* 5-year periods ranged from –12.4% (from 1928 through 1932) to 28.6% (from 1995 through 1999). These average annual returns reflect *past* performance of common stocks; you should not regard them as an indication of *future* performance of either the stock market as a whole or the Portfolio in particular.

Mutual funds that invest in stocks are often classified according to market value or market capitalization. These classifications typically include small-cap, mid-cap, and large-cap. It's important to understand that market capitalization ranges change over time. Also, interpretations of size vary, and there are no "official" definitions of small-, mid-, and large-cap, even among Vanguard fund advisors. The asset-weighted median market capitalization of the Portfolio's stock holdings as of December 31, 2016, was $10.1 billion.

Stock funds can also be categorized according to whether the stocks they hold are value or growth stocks or a blend of both. The REIT Index Portfolio generally fits into the mid-cap blend category.

The Portfolio is subject to investment style risk, which is the chance that returns from REIT stocks—which typically are small- or mid-capitalization stocks—will trail returns from the overall stock market. Historically, REIT stocks have performed quite differently from the overall market.

Security Selection

The Portfolio uses an indexing investment approach. The Portfolio attempts to replicate the MSCI US REIT Index by investing all, or substantially all, of its assets in the stocks that make up the Index.

Plain Talk About REITs

Rather than directly owning properties—which can be costly and difficult to convert into cash when needed—some investors buy shares in a company that owns and manages real estate. Such a company is known as a real estate investment trust, or REIT. Unlike corporations, REITs do not have to pay income taxes if they meet certain Internal Revenue Code requirements. To qualify, a REIT must distribute at least 90% of its taxable income to its shareholders and receive at least 75% of that income from rents, mortgages, and sales of property. REITs offer investors greater liquidity and diversification than direct ownership of a handful of properties. REITs also offer the potential for higher income than an investment in common stocks would provide. As with any investment in real estate, however, a REIT's performance depends on specific factors, such as the company's ability to find tenants for its properties, to renew leases, and to finance property purchases and renovations. That said, returns from REITs may not correspond to returns from direct property ownership.

The Portfolio holds each stock contained in the MSCI US REIT Index in approximately the same proportion as its weighting in the Index. For example, if 5% of the MSCI US REIT Index were made up of the stock of a specific REIT, the Portfolio would invest 5% of *its* assets in that stock.

Because it invests in stocks of REITs, the Portfolio is subject to several risks in addition to general stock market risk. These risks include:

Industry concentration risk, which is the chance that the stocks of REITs will decline because of adverse developments affecting the real estate industry and real property values. Because the Portfolio concentrates its assets in REIT stocks, industry concentration risk is high.

Interest rate risk, which is the chance that REIT stock prices overall will decline, and that the cost of borrowing for REITs will increase because of rising interest rates. Interest rate risk is high for the Portfolio.

In general, during periods of high interest rates, REITs may lose some of their appeal for investors who may be able to obtain higher yields from other income-producing investments, such as long-term bonds. Higher interest rates also mean that financing for property purchases and improvements are more costly and difficult to obtain.

Plain Talk About Types of REITs

An *equity REIT* generally owns properties directly. Equity REITs typically generate income from rental and lease payments, and they offer the potential for growth from property appreciation as well as occasional capital gains from the sale of property. A *mortgage REIT* makes loans to commercial real estate developers. Mortgage REITs earn interest income and are subject to credit risk (i.e., the chance that a developer will fail to repay a loan). A *hybrid REIT* holds both properties and mortgages. The Portfolio invests in equity REITs only, and not other types of REITs.

Because of its emphasis on REIT stocks, the Portfolio's performance may, at times, be linked to the ups and downs of the real estate market. In general, real estate values can be affected by a variety of factors, including, but not limited to, supply and demand for properties, the economic health of the nation as well as different regions, and the strength of specific industries that rent properties. Ultimately, an individual REIT's performance depends on the types and locations of the properties it owns and on how well the REIT manages its properties. For instance, rental income could decline because of extensive vacancies, increased competition from nearby properties, tenants' failure to pay rent, regulatory limitations on rents, fluctuations in rental income, variations in market rental rates, or incompetent management.

Property values could decrease because of overbuilding in the area, environmental liabilities, uninsured damages caused by natural disasters, a general decline in the neighborhood, losses because of casualty or condemnation, increases in property taxes, or changes in zoning laws. Loss of IRS status as a qualified REIT may also affect an individual REIT's performance. In addition, many real estate issuers, including REITs, utilize leverage (and some may be highly leveraged), which increases investment risk and could adversely affect the issuer's operations and market value in periods of rising interest rates.

The MSCI US REIT Index is made up of stocks of publicly traded equity REITs that meet certain criteria. For example, to be included in the Index, a REIT must meet a minimum market capitalization threshold and have enough shares and trading volume to be considered liquid. In line with the Index, the Portfolio invests in equity REITs only.

As of December 31, 2016, 155 equity REITS were included in the Index. The Index is rebalanced quarterly, except when a merger, acquisition, or similar corporate action dictates same-day rebalancing. On a quarterly basis, current stocks are tested for continued compliance with the guidelines of the Index. A REIT may be removed from the Index because of a decline in market capitalization, because it becomes illiquid, or because of other changes in its status. REITs in the MSCI US REIT Index tend to be small- and mid-capitalization stocks. Like small- and mid-cap stocks in general, REIT stocks tend to more volatile than the large-cap stocks that dominate the overall stock market. REIT stocks tend to have a significant amount of dividend income, which can reduce the impact of this volatility. However, the Portfolio is subject to additional risk because of the concentration in the real estate sector. This focus on a single sector may result in more risk than that for a more diversified, multi-sector portfolio.

Stocks in the MSCI US REIT Index represent a broadly diversified range of property types. The makeup of the Portfolio, as of December 31, 2016, was as follows.

Portfolio Allocation by REIT type	Percentage of Portfolio
Retail	22.4%
Specialized	16.2
Residential	15.9
Office	13.5
Health Care	12.0
Diversified	7.3
Industrial	6.5
Hotel & Resort	6.2

Other Investment Policies and Risks

The Portfolio reserves the right to substitute a different index for the index it currently tracks if the current index is discontinued, if the Portfolio's agreement with the sponsor of its target index is terminated, or for any other reason determined in good faith by the Fund's board of trustees. In any such instance, the substitute index would represent the same market segment as the current index.

The Portfolio may invest in foreign securities to the extent necessary to carry out its investment strategy of holding all, or substantially all, of the stocks that make up the index it tracks.

The Portfolio may invest in derivatives. In general, investments in derivatives may involve risks different from, and possibly greater than, those of investments directly in the underlying securities or assets.

Generally speaking, a derivative is a financial contract whose value is based on the value of a financial asset (such as a stock, a bond, or a currency), a physical asset (such as gold, oil, or wheat), a market index (such as the S&P 500 Index), or a reference rate (such as LIBOR). The Portfolio may invest in derivatives only if the expected risks and rewards of the derivatives are consistent with the investment objective, policies, strategies, and risks of the Portfolio as disclosed in this prospectus. In particular, derivatives will be used only when they may help the advisor to accomplish one or more of the following:

- Invest in eligible asset classes with greater efficiency and lower cost than is possible through direct investment.
- Obtain economic exposure to a stock, a basket of stocks, or an index when deemed desirable.
- Add value when these instruments are attractively priced.

The market for many derivatives is, or suddenly can become, illiquid, which may result in significant, rapid, and unpredictable changes in the prices for derivatives. The Portfolio's use of a derivative subjects it to the risk of nonperformance by the counterparty, potentially resulting in delayed or partial payment or even nonpayment of amounts due under the derivative contract. The Portfolio attempts to mitigate this risk by requiring the posting of collateral by its counterparty.

The Portfolio's derivative investments may include total return swaps or other derivatives.

Plain Talk About Derivatives

Derivatives can take many forms. Some forms of derivatives—such as exchange-traded futures and options on securities, commodities, or indexes—have been trading on regulated exchanges for decades. These types of derivatives are standardized contracts that can easily be bought and sold and whose market values are determined and published daily. Non-exchange-traded derivatives (such as certain swap agreements and foreign currency exchange forward contracts), on the other hand, tend to be more specialized or complex and may be more difficult to accurately value.

Cash Management

The Portfolio's daily cash balance may be invested in one or more Vanguard CMT Funds, which are very low-cost money market funds. When investing in a Vanguard CMT Fund, the Portfolio bears its proportionate share of the expenses of the CMT Fund in which it invests. Vanguard receives no additional revenue from Portfolio assets invested in a Vanguard CMT Fund.

Temporary Investment Measures

The Portfolio may temporarily depart from its normal investment policies and strategies when the advisor believes that doing so is in the Portfolio's best interest, so long as the alternative is consistent with the Portfolio's investment objective. For instance, the Portfolio may invest beyond its normal limits in derivatives or exchange-traded funds that are consistent with the Portfolio's objective when those instruments are more favorably priced or provide needed liquidity, as might be the case when the Portfolio receives large cash flows that it cannot prudently invest immediately.

Frequent Trading or Market-Timing

Background. Some investors try to profit from strategies involving frequent trading of mutual fund shares, such as market-timing. For funds holding foreign securities, investors may try to take advantage of an anticipated difference between the price of the fund's shares and price movements in overseas markets, a practice also known as time-zone arbitrage. Investors also may try to engage in frequent trading of funds holding investments such as small-cap stocks and high-yield bonds. As money is shifted into and out of a fund by an investor engaging in frequent trading, the fund incurs costs for buying and selling securities, resulting in increased brokerage and administrative costs. These costs are borne by *all* fund investors, including the long-term investors who do not generate the costs. In addition, frequent trading may interfere with an advisor's ability to efficiently manage the fund.

Policies to address frequent trading. The Vanguard funds (other than money market funds and short-term bond funds, but including Vanguard Short-Term Inflation-Protected Securities Index Fund) do not knowingly accommodate frequent trading. The board of trustees of each Vanguard fund (other than money market funds and short-term bond funds, but including Vanguard Short-Term Inflation-Protected Securities Index Fund) has adopted policies and procedures reasonably designed to detect and discourage frequent trading and, in some cases, to compensate the fund for the costs associated with it. These policies and procedures do not apply to Vanguard ETF® Shares because frequent trading in ETF Shares generally does not disrupt portfolio management or otherwise harm fund investors. Although there is no assurance that Vanguard will be able to detect or prevent frequent trading or market-timing in all circumstances, the following policies have been adopted to address these issues:

- Each Vanguard fund reserves the right to reject any purchase request—including exchanges from other Vanguard funds—without notice and regardless of size. For example, a purchase request could be rejected because the investor has a history of frequent trading or if Vanguard determines that such purchase may negatively affect a fund's operation or performance.
- Certain Vanguard funds charge shareholders purchase and/or redemption fees on transactions.

You may purchase or sell Portfolio shares through a contract offered by an insurance company. When insurance companies establish omnibus accounts in the Portfolio for their clients, we cannot monitor the individual clients' trading activity. However, we review trading activity at the omnibus account level, and we look for activity that may indicate potential frequent trading or market-timing. If we detect suspicious trading activity, we will seek the assistance of the insurance company to investigate that trading activity and take appropriate action, including prohibiting additional purchases of Portfolio shares by a client. Insurance companies may apply frequent-trading policies that differ from one another. Please read the insurance company contract and program materials carefully to learn of any rules or fees that may apply.

See the accompanying prospectus for the annuity or insurance program through which Portfolio shares are offered for further details on transaction policies.

The Portfolio, in determining its net asset value, will use fair-value pricing when appropriate, as described in the *Share Price* section. Fair-value pricing may reduce or eliminate the profitability of certain frequent-trading strategies.

Do not invest with Vanguard if you are a market-timer.

Turnover Rate

A mutual fund's turnover rate is a measure of its trading activity. Generally, an index fund sells securities in response to redemption requests or to changes in the composition of its target index. The Portfolio may sell securities regardless of how long they have been held. The historical turnover rates for the Portfolio can be found in the *Financial Highlights* section of this prospectus. A turnover rate of 100% for example, would mean that a Portfolio had sold and replaced securities valued at 100% of its net assets within a one-year period.

Plain Talk About Turnover Rate

Before investing in a mutual fund, you should review its turnover rate. This gives an indication of how transaction costs, which are not included in the fund's expense ratio, could affect the fund's future returns. In general, the greater the volume of buying and selling by the fund, the greater the impact that brokerage commissions and other transaction costs will have on its return. Also, funds with high turnover rates may be more likely to generate capital gains, including short-term capital gains, that must be distributed to shareholders and will be taxable to shareholders investing through a taxable account.

The Portfolio and Vanguard

Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund is a member of The Vanguard Group, a family of more than 190 mutual funds holding assets of approximately $3.6 trillion. All of the funds that are members of The Vanguard Group (other than funds of funds) share in the expenses associated with administrative services and business operations, such as personnel, office space, and equipment.

Vanguard Marketing Corporation provides marketing services to the funds. Although shareholders do not pay sales commissions or 12b-1 distribution fees, each fund (other than a fund of funds) or each share class of a fund (in the case of a fund with multiple share classes) pays its allocated share of the Vanguard funds' marketing costs.

Plain Talk About Vanguard's Unique Corporate Structure

The Vanguard Group is truly a ***mutual*** mutual fund company. It is owned jointly by the funds it oversees and thus indirectly by the shareholders in those funds. Most other mutual funds are operated by management companies that may be owned by one person, by a private group of individuals, or by public investors who own the management company's stock. The management fees charged by these companies include a profit component over and above the companies' cost of providing services. By contrast, Vanguard provides services to its member funds on an at-cost basis, with no profit component, which helps to keep the funds' expenses low.

Investment Advisor

The Vanguard Group, Inc. (Vanguard), P.O. Box 2600, Valley Forge, PA 19482, which began operations in 1975, serves as advisor to the Portfolio through its Equity Index Group. As of December 31, 2016, Vanguard managed approximately $3.1 trillion in assets. Vanguard provides investment advisory services to the Portfolio on at at-cost basis, subject to the supervision and oversight of the trustees and officers of the Portfolio.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, the Portfolio's advisory expenses represented an effective annual rate of 0.01% of the Portfolio's average net assets.

For a discussion of why the board of trustees approved the Portfolio's investment advisory arrangement, see the Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund's most recent semiannual report to shareholders covering the fiscal period ended June 30.

The managers primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Portfolio are:

Walter Nejman, Portfolio Manager at Vanguard. He has been with Vanguard since 2005, has worked in investment management since 2008, and has co-managed the Portfolio since 2016. Education: B.A., Arcadia University; M.B.A., Villanova University.

Gerard C. O'Reilly, Principal of Vanguard. He has been with Vanguard since 1992, has managed investment portfolios since 1994, and has managed the Portfolio since its inception in 1999 (co-managed since 2016). Education: B.S., Villanova University.

The Fund's *Statement of Additional Information* provides information about each portfolio manager's compensation, other accounts under management, and ownership of shares of the Portfolio.

Taxes

The Portfolio normally distributes its net investment income and net realized short-term or long-term capital gains, if any, to its shareholders, which are the insurance company separate accounts that fund your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract. The tax consequences to you of your investment in a Portfolio depend on the provisions of the annuity or life insurance contract through which you invest; please refer to the prospectus of such contract for more information.

The Portfolio intends to operate in such a manner that a separate account investing only in Portfolio shares will result in the variable annuity and variable life insurance contracts supported by that account receiving favorable tax treatment. This favorable treatment means that you will generally not be taxed on Portfolio distributions or proceeds on dispositions of Portfolio shares received by the separate account funding your contract. In order to qualify for this favorable treatment, the insurance company separate accounts that invest in the Portfolio must satisfy certain requirements. If a Portfolio funding your contract does not meet such requirements, your contract could lose its favorable tax treatment and income and gain allocable to your contract could be taxable currently to you. Also, if the IRS were to determine that contract holders have an impermissible level of control over the investments funding their contracts, your contract could lose its favorable tax treatment and income and gain allocable to your contract could be taxable currently to you. Please see the Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund's *Statement of Additional Information* for more information.

Share Price

Share price, also known as *net asset value* (NAV), is calculated each business day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), generally 4 p.m., Eastern time. The NAV per share is computed by dividing the total assets, minus liabilities, of the Portfolio by the number of Portfolio shares outstanding. On U.S. holidays or other days when the Exchange is closed, the NAV is not calculated, and the Portfolio does not sell or redeem shares. However, on those days the value of the Portfolio's assets may be affected to the extent that the Portfolio holds securities that change in value on those days (such as foreign securities that trade on foreign markets that are open).

Stocks held by a Vanguard portfolio are valued at their *market value* when reliable market quotations are readily available from the principal exchange or market on which they are traded. Such securities are generally valued at their official closing price, the last reported sales price, or if there were no sales that day, the mean between the closing bid and asking prices. When a portfolio determines that pricing-service information or market quotations either are not readily available or do not accurately reflect the value of a security, the security is priced at its *fair value* (the amount that the owner might reasonably expect to receive upon the current sale of the security).

The values of any foreign securities held by a portfolio are converted into U.S. dollars using an exchange rate obtained from an independent third party as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE. The values of any mutual fund shares, including institutional money market fund shares, held by a portfolio are based on the NAVs of the shares. The values of any ETF shares or closed-end fund shares held by a portfolio are based on the market value of the shares.

A portfolio also will use fair-value pricing if the value of a security it holds has been materially affected by events occurring before the portfolio's pricing time but after the close of the principal exchange or market on which the security is traded. This most commonly occurs with foreign securities, which may trade on foreign exchanges that close many hours before the portfolio's pricing time. Intervening events might be company-specific (e.g., earnings report, merger announcement) or country-specific or regional/global (e.g., natural disaster, economic or political news, act of terrorism, interest rate change). Intervening events include price movements in U.S. markets that exceed a specified threshold or that are otherwise deemed to affect the value of foreign securities. Fair-value pricing may be used for domestic securities—for example, if (1) trading in a security is halted and does not resume before the portfolio's pricing time or a security does not trade in the course of a day and (2) the portfolio holds enough of the security that its price could affect the portfolio's NAV.

Fair-value prices are determined by Vanguard according to procedures adopted by the board of trustees. When fair-value pricing is employed, the prices of securities used by a portfolio to calculate its NAV may differ from quoted or published prices for the same securities.

The Portfolio's NAV is used to determine the unit value for the annuity or life insurance program through which you invest. For more information on unit values, please refer to the accompanying prospectus of the insurance company that offers your annuity or life insurance program.

Financial Highlights

The following financial highlights table is intended to help you understand the Portfolio's financial performance for the periods shown, and certain information reflects financial results for a single Portfolio share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost each period on an investment in the Portfolio (assuming reinvestment of all distributions). This information has been obtained from the financial statements audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, whose report—along with the Portfolio's financial statements—is included in Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund's most recent annual report to shareholders. You may obtain a free copy of the latest annual or semiannual report by visiting *vanguard.com* or by contacting Vanguard by telephone or mail.

Yields and total returns presented for the Portfolio are net of the Portfolio's operating expenses, but do not take into account charges and expenses attributable to the annuity or life insurance program through which you invest. The expenses of the annuity or life insurance program reduce the returns and yields you ultimately receive, so you should bear those expenses in mind when evaluating the performance of the Portfolio and when comparing the yields and returns of the Portfolio with those of other mutual funds.

Plain Talk About How to Read the Financial Highlights Table

The Portfolio began fiscal year 2016 with a net asset value (share price) of $13.77 per share. During the year, the Portfolio earned $0.346 per share from investment income (interest and dividends) and $0.734 per share from investments that had appreciated in value or that were sold for higher prices than the Portfolio paid for them.

Shareholders received $1.370 per share in the form of dividend and capital gains distributions. A portion of each year's distributions may come from the prior year's income or capital gains.

The share price at the end of the year was $13.48, reflecting earnings of $1.080 per share and distributions of $1.370 per share. This was a decrease of $0.29 per share (from $13.77 at the beginning of the year to $13.48 at the end of the year). For a shareholder who reinvested the distributions in the purchase of more shares, the total return was 8.36% for the year.

As of December 31, 2016, the Portfolio had approximately $1.1 billion in net assets. For the year, its expense ratio was 0.27% ($2.70 per $1,000 of net assets), and its net investment income amounted to 2.55% of its average net assets. The Portfolio sold and replaced securities valued at 14% of its net assets.

REIT Index Portfolio

	Year Ended December 31,				
For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	**$13.77**	**$14.17**	**$11.87**	**$12.12**	**$10.90**
Investment Operations					
Net Investment Income	.346	.358	.307	.308	.264
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	.734	(.032)	3.061	.002	1.594
Total from Investment Operations	1.080	.326	3.368	.310	1.858
Distributions					
Dividends from Net Investment Income	(.375)	(.251)	(.367)	(.255)	(.233)
Distributions from Realized Capital Gains	(.995)	(.475)	(.701)	(.305)	(.405)
Total Distributions	(1.370)	(.726)	(1.068)	(.560)	(.638)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	**$13.48**	**$13.77**	**$14.17**	**$11.87**	**$12.12**
Total Return	**8.36%**	**2.22%**	**30.11%**	**2.33%**	**17.46%**
Ratios/Supplemental Data					
Net Assets, End of Period (Millions)	$1,093	$990	$1,009	$655	$644
Ratio of Total Expenses to Average Net Assets	0.27%	0.27%	0.27%	0.27%	0.28%
Ratio of Net Investment Income to Average Net Assets	2.55%	2.60%	3.96%	2.50%	2.36%
Portfolio Turnover Rate	14%	21%	11%	19%	8%

General Information

This Portfolio of Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund offers its shares to insurance companies to fund both annuity and life insurance contracts. Because of differences in tax treatment or other considerations, the best interests of various contract owners participating in the Portfolio might at some time be in conflict. The Fund's board of trustees will monitor for any material conflicts and determine what action, if any, should be taken.

If the board of trustees determines that continued offering of shares would be detrimental to the best interests of the Portfolio's shareholders, the Portfolio may suspend the offering of shares for a period of time. If the board of trustees determines that a specific purchase acceptance would be detrimental to the best interests of the Portfolio's shareholders (for example, because of the size of the purchase request or a history of frequent trading by the investor), the Portfolio may reject such a purchase request.

If you wish to redeem money from the Portfolio, please refer to the instructions provided in the accompanying prospectus for the annuity or life insurance program. Shares of the Portfolio may be redeemed on any business day. The redemption price of shares will be at the next-determined net asset value per share. Redemption proceeds will be wired to the administrator generally on the day following receipt of the redemption request, but no later than seven calendar days. Contract owners will receive their redemption checks from the administrator.

The Portfolio may suspend the redemption right or postpone payment at times when the New York Stock Exchange is closed or during any emergency circumstances, as determined by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The exchange privilege (your ability to redeem shares from one Portfolio to purchase shares of another Portfolio) may be available to you through your contract. Although we make every effort to maintain the exchange privilege, Vanguard reserves the right to revise or terminate this privilege, limit the amount of an exchange, or reject any exchange, at any time, without notice.

If the board of trustees determines that it would be detrimental to the best interests of the Portfolio's remaining shareholders to make payment in cash, the Portfolio may pay redemption proceeds, in whole or in part, by an in-kind distribution of readily marketable securities.

For certain categories of investors, the Portfolio has authorized one or more brokers to accept on its behalf purchase and redemption orders. The brokers are authorized to designate other intermediaries to accept purchase and redemption orders on the Portfolio's behalf. The Portfolio will be deemed to have received a purchase or redemption order when an authorized broker, or a broker's authorized designee, accepts the order in accordance with the Portfolio's instructions. In most cases, for these categories of investors, a contract owner's properly transmitted order will be priced at the Portfolio's next-determined NAV after the order is accepted by the authorized broker or the broker's designee. The contract owner should review the authorized broker's policies relating to trading in the Vanguard funds.

Please consult the Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund's *Statement of Additional Information* or our website for a description of the policies and procedures that govern disclosure of the Fund's portfolio holdings.

Glossary of Investment Terms

Active Management. An investment approach that seeks to exceed the average returns of a particular financial market or market segment. In selecting securities to buy and sell, active managers may rely on, among other things, research, market forecasts, quantitative models, and their own judgment and experience.

Capital Gains Distribution. Payment to portfolio shareholders of gains realized on securities that a portfolio has sold at a profit, minus any realized losses.

Common Stock. A security representing ownership rights in a corporation.

Distributions. Payments to portfolio shareholders of dividend income, capital gains, and return of capital generated by the portfolio's investment activities and distribution policies, after expenses.

Dividend Distribution. Payment to portfolio shareholders of income from interest or dividends generated by a portfolio's investments.

Expense Ratio. A portfolio's total annual operating expenses expressed as a percentage of the portfolio's average net assets. The expense ratio includes management and administrative expenses, but does not include the transaction costs of buying and selling portfolio securities.

Inception Date. The date on which the assets of a portfolio are first invested in accordance with the portfolio's investment objective. For portfolios with a subscription period, the inception date is the day after that period ends. Investment performance is generally measured from the inception date.

Indexing. A low-cost investment strategy in which a mutual fund attempts to track—rather than outperform—a specified market benchmark, or "index."

Liquidity. The degree of a security's marketability (i.e., how quickly the security can be sold at a fair price and converted to cash).

Median Market Capitalization. An indicator of the size of companies in which a portfolio invests; the midpoint of market capitalization (market price x shares outstanding) of a portfolio's stocks, weighted by the proportion of the portfolio's assets invested in each stock. Stocks representing half of the portfolio's assets have market capitalizations above the median, and the rest are below it.

Mutual Fund. An investment company that pools the money of many people and invests it in a variety of securities in an effort to achieve a specific objective over time.

MSCI US REIT Index. An index that represents approximately 85% of the U.S. real estate investment trust market.

New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). A stock exchange based in New York City that is open for regular trading on business days, Monday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Eastern time. Net asset values (NAVs) are calculated each business day as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE. In the rare event the NYSE experiences unanticipated trade disruptions and is unavailable at the close of the trading day, NAVs will be calculated as of the close of regular trading on the Nasdaq (or another alternate exchange if the Nasdaq is unavailable), generally 4 p.m., Eastern time.

Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT). A company that owns and manages a group of properties, mortgages, or both.

REIT Spliced Index. An index that reflects performance of the MSCI US REIT Index adjusted to include a 2% cash position (Lipper Money Market Average) through April 30, 2009, and the MSCI US REIT Index thereafter.

Securities. Stocks, bonds, money market instruments, and other investments.

Total Return. A percentage change, over a specified time period, in a portfolio's net asset value, assuming the reinvestment of all distributions of dividends and capital gains.

Volatility. The fluctuations in value of a mutual fund or other security. The greater a portfolio's volatility, the wider the fluctuations in its returns.

Yield. Income (interest or dividends) earned by an investment, expressed as a percentage of the investment's price.

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For More Information
If you would like more information about Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund REIT Index Portfolio, the following documents are available free upon request:

Annual/Semiannual Reports to Shareholders
Additional information about the Portfolio's investments is available in Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund's annual and semiannual reports to shareholders. In the annual report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Portfolio's performance during its last fiscal year.

Statement of Additional Information (SAI)
The SAI provides more detailed information about the Portfolio and is incorporated by reference into (and thus legally a part of) this prospectus.

To receive a free copy of the latest annual or semiannual reports or the SAI, or to request additional information about the Fund or other Vanguard funds, please visit *vanguard.com* or contact us as follows:

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P.O. Box 2600
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Telephone: 800-522-5555
Text telephone for people with hearing impairment:
800-749-7273

Information Provided by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
You can review and copy information about the Fund (including the SAI) at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. To find out more about this public service, call the SEC at 202-551-8090. Reports and other information about the Fund are also available in the EDGAR database on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov, or you can receive copies of this information, for a fee, by electronic request at the following email address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing the Public Reference Section, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC 20549-1520.

Fund's Investment Company Act file number: 811-05962

Vanguard Marketing Corporation, Distributor.

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