

# Morgan Stanley

## INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Morgan Stanley Variable Insurance Fund, Inc.

# U.S. Real Estate Portfolio

## Summary Prospectus | April 30, 2020

### Share Class and Ticker Symbols

Class II

MSRBX

Before you invest, you may want to review the Fund's statutory prospectus ("Prospectus"), which contains more information about the Fund and its risks. You can find the Fund's Prospectus and other information about the Fund, including the Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") and the most recent Annual and Semi-Annual Reports to Shareholders ("Shareholder Reports"), online at [www.morganstanley.com/im/MSVIFUSRealEstateII](http://www.morganstanley.com/im/MSVIFUSRealEstateII). You can also get this information at no cost by calling toll-free 1-866-414-6349 or by sending an e-mail request to [orders@mysummaryprospectus.com](mailto:orders@mysummaryprospectus.com). The Fund's Prospectus and SAI, both dated April 30, 2020 (as may be supplemented from time to time), are incorporated by reference into this Summary Prospectus.

### Investment Objective

The Fund seeks to provide above average current income and long-term capital appreciation by investing primarily in equity securities of companies in the U.S. real estate industry, including real estate investment trusts.

### Fees and Expenses of the Fund (Class II)

The table below describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold Class II shares of the Fund. The Fund does not charge any sales loads or other fees when you purchase or redeem shares. The table and the example below do not reflect the impact of any charges by your insurance company. If they did, Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses would be higher.

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

Advisory Fee	0.70%
Distribution (12b-1) Fee	0.25%
Other Expenses	0.27%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses *	1.22%
Fee Waiver and/or Expense Reimbursement*	0.15%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and/or Expense Reimbursement*	1.07%

### Example

The example below is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund, your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). 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
U.S. Real Estate Portfolio	\$109	\$372	\$656	\$1,464

\* The Fund's "Adviser," Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc., has agreed to reduce its advisory fee and/or reimburse the Fund so that Total



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Annual Fund Operating Expenses, excluding certain investment related expenses, taxes, interest and other extraordinary expenses (including litigation), will not exceed 1.07%. The fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements will continue for at least one year or until such time as the Company's Board of Directors acts to discontinue all or a portion of such waivers and/or reimbursements when it deems such action is appropriate.

### 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 Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 20% of the average value of its portfolio.

### Principal Investment Strategies

The Adviser seeks a combination of above average current income and long-term capital appreciation by investing primarily in equity securities of companies in the U.S. real estate industry, including real estate investment trusts ("REITs"). The Fund focuses on REITs as well as real estate operating companies ("REOCs") that invest in a variety of property types and regions.

Under normal circumstances, at least 80% of the Fund's assets will be invested in equity securities of companies in the U.S. real estate industry. This policy may be changed without shareholder approval; however, you would be notified in writing of any changes.

The Adviser actively manages the Fund using a combination of top-down and bottom-up methodologies. The top-down portion seeks diversified exposure to all major asset classes with an overweighting to property markets that offer the best relative valuation. The Adviser's proprietary models drive the bottom-up value-driven approach for stock selection. The bottom-up research process strongly influences the Adviser's perspective on which property markets it believes provide better relative value and growth prospects and, consequently, affects its decision to overweight or underweight a given property market.

The Adviser may consider information about environmental, social and governance issues (also referred to as ESG) in its bottom-up stock selection process when making investment decisions. The Adviser may engage with company management regarding corporate governance practices as well as what the Adviser deems to be materially important environmental and/or social issues facing a company.

The Adviser generally considers selling a portfolio holding if the holding's share price shifts to the point where the position no longer represents an attractive relative value opportunity versus the underlying value of its assets and/or growth prospects or versus other securities in the universe.

### Principal Risks

There is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective, and you can lose money investing in this Fund. The principal risks of investing in the Fund include:

- **Equity Securities.** In general, prices of equity securities are more volatile than those of fixed-income securities. The prices of equity securities fluctuate, and sometimes widely fluctuate, in response to activities specific to the issuer of the security as well as factors unrelated to the fundamental condition of the issuer, including general market, economic and political conditions.
- **REITs and REOCs.** Investing in REITs and REOCs exposes investors to the risks of owning real estate directly, as well as to risks that relate specifically to the way in which REITs and REOCs are organized and operated. Operating REITs requires specialized management skills and the Fund indirectly bears management expenses along with the direct expenses of the Fund. REITs are also subject to certain provisions under federal tax law and the failure of a company to qualify as a REIT could have adverse consequences for the Fund.
- **Small and Mid Cap Companies.** Investments in small and mid cap companies may involve greater risks than investments in larger, more established companies. The securities issued by small and mid cap companies may be less liquid and such companies may have more limited markets, financial resources and product lines, and may lack the depth of management of larger companies.
- **Non-Diversification.** Because the Fund is non-diversified, it may be more susceptible to an adverse event affecting a portfolio investment than a diversified portfolio and a decline in the value of that investment may cause the Fund's overall value to decline to a greater degree than a diversified portfolio.
- **Value Stocks.** Value stocks are those stocks the Adviser believes to be undervalued in comparison to their peers, due to market, company-specific or other factors. The prices of value stocks, therefore, may be below average in relation to other measures. Different investment styles (e.g., "growth," "value" or "quantitative") tend to shift in and out of favor depending upon market and economic conditions and investor sentiment. The Fund may outperform or underperform other funds that invest in similar asset classes but employ different investment styles.
- **Market and Geopolitical.** The value of your investment in the Fund is based on the market prices and values of the Fund's investments, which change daily due to economic and other events that affect markets generally, as well as those that affect

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particular regions, countries, industries, companies or governments. These events may be sudden and unexpected, and could adversely affect the liquidity of the Fund's investments, which may in turn impact valuation, the Fund's ability to sell securities and/or its ability to meet redemptions. The risks associated with these developments may be magnified if certain social, political, economic and other conditions and events (such as natural disasters, epidemics and pandemics, terrorism, conflicts and social unrest) adversely interrupt the global economy and financial markets. It is difficult to predict when events affecting the U.S. or global financial markets may occur, the effects that such events may have and the duration of those effects (which may last for extended periods).

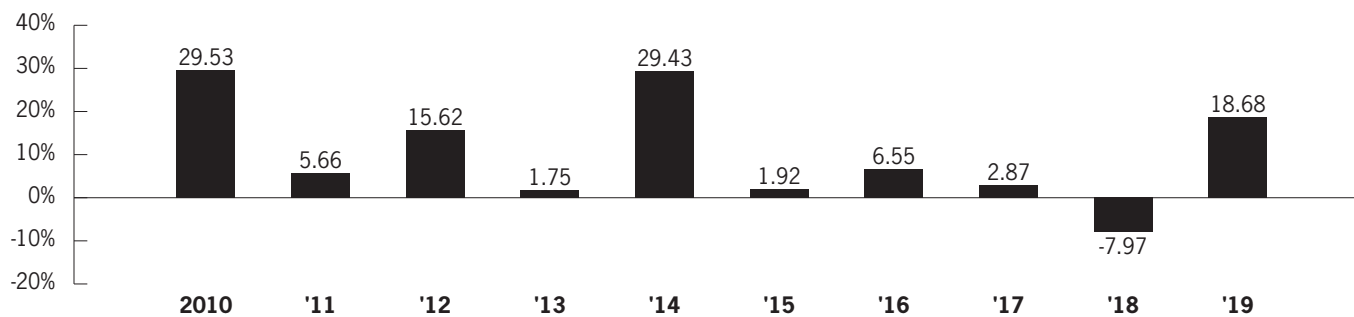
Shares of the Fund are not bank deposits and are not guaranteed or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.

### Performance Information

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing changes in the Fund's Class II shares' performance from year-to-year and by showing how the Fund's Class II shares' average annual returns for the past one, five and 10 year periods compare with those of a broad measure of market performance, as well as a comparative sector index, over time. This performance information does not include the impact of any charges deducted by your insurance company. If it did, returns would be lower. The Fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future.

#### Annual Total Returns—Calendar Years (Class II)

Commenced operations on November 5, 2002



High Quarter

03/31/19

15.15%

Low Quarter

09/30/11

-15.93%

#### Average Annual Total Return (Class II)

(for the calendar periods ended December 31, 2019)

	Past One Year	Past Five Years	Past Ten Years
Class II			
Return before Taxes	18.68%	4.06%	9.78%
FTSE Nareit Equity REITs Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) <sup>1</sup>	26.00%	7.21%	11.94%
S&P 500® Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) <sup>2</sup>	31.49%	11.70%	13.56%

<sup>(1)</sup> The FTSE Nareit (National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts) Equity REITs Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index of tax qualified equity REITs listed on the New York Stock Exchange, NYSE Amex and the NASDAQ National Market Systems. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

<sup>(2)</sup> The Standard & Poor's 500® Index (S&P 500® Index) measures the performance of the large-cap segment of the U.S. equities market, covering approximately 80% of the U.S. equities market. The Index includes 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

### Fund Management

**Adviser.** Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc.

**Portfolio Managers.** The Fund is managed by members of the Global Listed Real Assets team. Information about the member responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund is shown below:

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Name	Title with Adviser	Date Began Managing Fund
Theodore R. Bigman	Managing Director	March 1997

### Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

The Prospectus offers Class II shares of the Fund. The Company also offers Class I shares of the Fund through a separate prospectus. Class I shares are subject to lower expenses, but may not be available through your insurance company, qualified pension plan or retirement plan. For eligibility information, contact your insurance company or qualified pension or retirement plan.

The Fund offers its shares only to insurance companies (either directly or indirectly through other variable insurance funds) for separate accounts that they establish to fund variable life insurance and variable annuity contracts, and to other entities under qualified pension and retirement plans. An insurance company purchases or redeems shares of the Fund based on, among other things, the amount of net contract premiums or purchase payments allocated to a separate account investment division, transfers to or from a separate account investment division, contract loans and repayments, contract withdrawals and surrenders, and benefit payments. The contract prospectus describes how contract owners may allocate, transfer and withdraw amounts to, and from, separate accounts.

For more information, please refer to the section of the Prospectus entitled “Shareholder Information—Purchasing and Selling Fund Shares.”

### Tax Information

Special tax rules apply to life insurance companies, variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance contracts. For information on federal income taxation of a life insurance company with respect to its receipt of distributions from the Fund and federal income taxation of owners of variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts, refer to the contract prospectus.

For more information, please refer to the section of the Prospectus entitled “Shareholder Information—Taxes.”

### Payments to Insurance Companies and Other Financial Intermediaries

The Adviser and/or the Fund’s “Distributor,” Morgan Stanley Distribution, Inc., may pay insurance companies or their affiliates in connection with Fund-related administrative services that the insurance companies provide in connection with the issuance of their variable annuity contracts. These payments, which may be significant in amount, may create a conflict of interest by influencing the insurance company to recommend one variable annuity or variable life insurance contract over another or be a factor in an insurance company’s decision to include the Fund as an underlying investment option in its variable annuity or variable life insurance contracts. Shareholders should ask their salesperson or visit their insurance company’s web site for more information.