

## American Funds Insurance Series®

### New World Fund®

Summary prospectus

Class 4 shares

May 1, 2020



CAPITAL  
GROUP®

AMERICAN  
FUNDS®

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Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, you may not receive paper copies of the fund's shareholder reports from the insurance company that offers your contract unless you specifically request paper copies from the insurance company or from your financial intermediary. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a website, and the insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a website link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company. If you have already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and do not need to take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from the insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by the insurance company.

You may elect to receive paper copies of all future reports free of charge from the insurance company. You can inform the insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by the insurance company. Your election to receive paper reports will apply to all investment options available under your contract.

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Before you invest, you may want to review the fund's [prospectus](#) and [statement of additional information](#), which contain more information about the fund and its risks. You can find the fund's prospectus, statement of additional information, reports to shareholders and other information about the fund online at [capitalgroup.com/afis](http://capitalgroup.com/afis). You can also get this information at no cost by calling (800) 421-9900, ext. 65413 or by sending an email request to [aficlass4@americanfunds.com](mailto:aficlass4@americanfunds.com). The current prospectus and statement of additional information, dated May 1, 2020, are incorporated by reference into this summary prospectus.

**Investment objective** The fund's investment objective is long-term capital appreciation.

**Fees and expenses of the fund** This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold an interest in Class 4 shares of the fund. It does not reflect insurance contract fees and expenses. If insurance contract fees and expenses were reflected, expenses shown would be higher.

Annual fund operating expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)	Class 4
Management fee	0.70%
Distribution fees	0.25
Other expenses	0.32
Total annual fund operating expenses	1.27
Fee waiver*	0.18
Total annual fund operating expenses after fee waiver	1.09

\* The investment adviser is currently waiving a portion of its management fee equal to .18% of the fund's net assets. This waiver will be in effect through at least May 1, 2021. The waiver may only be modified or terminated with the approval of the fund's board.

**Example** This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in Class 4 shares of the fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

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. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the fund's operating expenses remain the same. The example does not reflect insurance contract expenses. If insurance contract expenses were reflected, expenses shown would be higher. The example reflects the fee waiver described above through the expiration date of such waiver and total annual fund operating expenses thereafter. No sales charge (load) or other fees are charged by the fund upon redemption, so you would incur these hypothetical costs whether or not you were to redeem your shares 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
Class 4	\$111	\$385	\$680	\$1,518

**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 investment results. During the most recent fiscal year, the fund's portfolio turnover rate was 38% of the average value of its portfolio.

**Principal investment strategies** The fund invests primarily in common stocks of companies with significant exposure to countries with developing economies and/or markets. The securities markets of these countries may be referred to as emerging markets. The fund may invest in equity securities of any company, regardless of where it is based (including developed countries), if the fund's investment adviser determines that a significant portion of the company's assets or revenues (generally 20% or more) is attributable to developing countries.

Under normal market conditions, the fund invests at least 35% of its assets in equity and debt securities of issuers primarily based in qualified countries that have developing economies and/or markets. The fund may also, to a limited extent, invest in securities of issuers based in nonqualified developing countries.

In determining whether a country is qualified, the fund's investment adviser considers such factors as the country's per capita gross domestic product, the percentage of the country's economy that is industrialized, market capital as a percentage of gross domestic product, the overall regulatory environment, the presence of government regulation limiting or banning foreign ownership, and restrictions on repatriation of initial capital, dividends, interest and/or capital gains. The fund's investment adviser maintains a list of qualified countries and securities in which the fund may invest.

The fund may also invest in debt securities of issuers, including issuers of lower rated bonds (rated Ba1 or below and BB+ or below by Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations designated by the fund's investment adviser or unrated but determined to be of equivalent quality by the fund's investment adviser), with exposure to these countries. Bonds rated Ba1 or BB+ or below are sometimes referred to as "junk bonds."

In addition, the fund may invest in nonconvertible debt securities of issuers, including issuers of lower rated bonds and government bonds, that are primarily based in qualified countries or that have a significant portion of their assets or revenues attributable to developing countries.

The investment adviser uses a system of multiple portfolio managers in managing the fund's assets. Under this approach, the portfolio of the fund is divided into segments managed by individual managers.

The fund relies on the professional judgment of its investment adviser to make decisions about the fund's portfolio investments. The basic investment philosophy of the investment adviser is to seek to invest in attractively valued companies that, in its opinion, represent good, long-term investment opportunities. Securities may be sold when the investment adviser believes that they no longer represent relatively attractive investment opportunities.

## Principal risks

**This section describes the principal risks associated with investing in the fund. You may lose money by investing in the fund. The likelihood of loss may be greater if you invest for a shorter period of time. Investors in the fund should have a long-term perspective and be able to tolerate potentially sharp declines in value.**

*Market conditions* – The prices of, and the income generated by, the common stocks and other securities held by the fund may decline – sometimes rapidly or unpredictably – due to various factors, including events or conditions affecting the general economy or particular industries; overall market changes; local, regional or global political, social or economic instability; governmental, governmental agency or central bank responses to economic conditions; and currency exchange rate, interest rate and commodity price fluctuations.

*Issuer risks* – The prices of, and the income generated by, securities held by the fund may decline in response to various factors directly related to the issuers of such securities, including reduced demand for an issuer's goods or services, poor management performance, major litigation related to the issuer, changes in government regulations affecting the issuer or its competitive environment and strategic initiatives such as mergers, acquisitions or dispositions and the market response to any such initiatives.

*Investing in growth-oriented stocks* – Growth-oriented common stocks and other equity-type securities (such as preferred stocks, convertible preferred stocks and convertible bonds) may involve larger price swings and greater potential for loss than other types of investments. These risks may be even greater in the case of smaller capitalization stocks.

*Investing outside the United States* – Securities of issuers domiciled outside the United States, or with significant operations or revenues outside the United States, may lose value because of adverse political, social, economic or market developments (including social instability, regional conflicts, terrorism and war) in the countries or regions in which the issuers operate or generate revenue. These securities may also lose value due to changes in foreign currency exchange rates against the U.S. dollar and/or currencies of other countries. Issuers of these securities may be more susceptible to actions of foreign governments, such as nationalization, currency blockage or the imposition of price controls or punitive taxes, each of which could adversely impact the value of these securities. Securities markets in certain countries may be more volatile and/or less liquid than those in the United States. Investments outside the United States may also be subject to different accounting practices and different regulatory, legal and reporting standards and practices, and may be more difficult to value, than those in the United States. In addition, the value of investments outside the United States may be reduced by foreign taxes, including foreign withholding taxes on interest and dividends. Further, there may be increased risks of delayed settlement of securities purchased or sold by the fund. The risks of investing outside the United States may be heightened in connection with investments in developing countries.

*Investing in developing countries* – Investing in countries with developing economies and/or markets may involve risks in addition to and greater than those generally associated with investing in developed countries. For instance, emerging market countries may have less developed legal and accounting systems than those in developed countries. The governments of these countries may be less stable and more likely to impose capital controls, nationalize a company or industry, place restrictions on foreign ownership and on withdrawing sale proceeds of securities from the country, and/or impose punitive taxes that could adversely affect the prices of securities. In addition, the economies of these countries may be dependent on relatively few industries that are more susceptible to local and global changes. Securities markets in these countries can also be relatively small and have substantially lower trading volumes. As a result, securities issued in these countries may be more volatile and less liquid, and may be more difficult to value, than securities issued in countries with more developed economies and/or markets. Less certainty with respect to security valuations may lead to additional challenges and risks in calculating the fund's net asset value. Additionally, emerging markets are more likely to experience problems with the clearing and settling of trades and the holding of securities by banks, agents and depositories that are less established than those in developed countries.

*Investing in debt instruments* – The prices of, and the income generated by, bonds and other debt securities held by the fund may be affected by changing interest rates and by changes in the effective maturities and credit ratings of these securities.

Rising interest rates will generally cause the prices of bonds and other debt securities to fall. A general rise in interest rates may cause investors to sell debt securities on a large scale, which could also adversely affect the price and liquidity of debt securities and could also result in increased redemptions from the fund. Falling interest rates may cause an issuer to redeem, call or refinance a debt security before its stated maturity, which may result in the fund failing to recoup the full amount of its initial investment and having to reinvest the proceeds in lower yielding securities. Longer maturity debt securities generally have greater sensitivity to changes in interest rates and may be subject to greater price fluctuations than shorter maturity debt securities.

Bonds and other debt securities are also subject to credit risk, which is the possibility that the credit strength of an issuer or guarantor will weaken or be perceived to be weaker, and/or an issuer of a debt security will fail to make timely payments of principal or interest and the security will go into default. A downgrade or default affecting any of the fund’s securities could cause the value of the fund’s shares to decrease. Lower quality debt securities generally have higher rates of interest and may be subject to greater price fluctuations than higher quality debt securities. Credit risk is gauged, in part, by the credit ratings of the debt securities in which the fund invests. However, ratings are only the opinions of the rating agencies issuing them and are not guarantees as to credit quality or an evaluation of market risk. The fund’s investment adviser relies on its own credit analysts to research issuers and issues in seeking to assess credit and default risks.

*Investing in lower rated debt instruments* – Lower rated bonds and other lower rated debt securities generally have higher rates of interest and involve greater risk of default or price declines due to changes in the issuer’s creditworthiness than those of higher quality debt securities. The market prices of these securities may fluctuate more than the prices of higher quality debt securities and may decline significantly in periods of general economic difficulty. These risks may be increased with respect to investments in junk bonds.

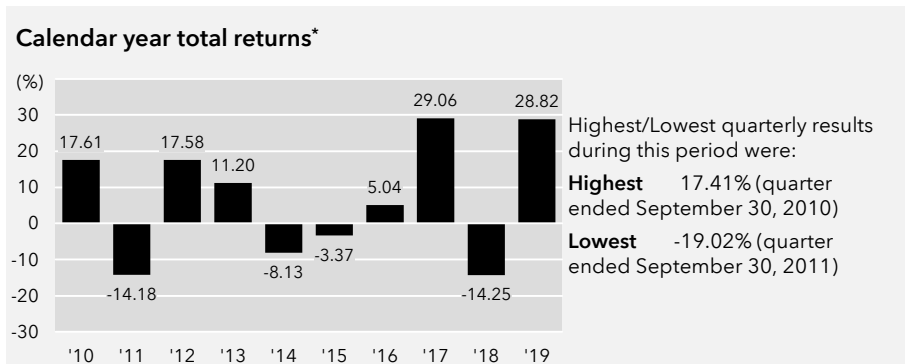
*Liquidity risk* – Certain fund holdings may be or may become difficult or impossible to sell, particularly during times of market turmoil. Liquidity may be impacted by the lack of an active market for a holding, legal or contractual restrictions on resale, or the reduced number and capacity of market participants to make a market in such holding. Market prices for less liquid or illiquid holdings may be volatile, and reduced liquidity may have an adverse impact on the market price of such holdings. Additionally, the sale of less liquid or illiquid holdings may involve substantial delays (including delays in settlement) and additional costs and the fund may be unable to sell such holdings when necessary to meet its liquidity needs or may be forced to sell at a loss.

*Investing in small companies* – Investing in smaller companies may pose additional risks. For example, it is often more difficult to value or dispose of small company stocks and more difficult to obtain information about smaller companies than about larger companies. Furthermore, smaller companies often have limited product lines, operating histories, markets and/or financial resources, may be dependent on one or a few key persons for management, and can be more susceptible to losses. Moreover, the prices of their stocks may be more volatile than stocks of larger, more established companies, particularly during times of market turmoil.

*Management* – The investment adviser to the fund actively manages the fund’s investments. Consequently, the fund is subject to the risk that the methods and analyses, including models, tools and data, employed by the investment adviser in this process may be flawed or incorrect and may not produce the desired results. This could cause the fund to lose value or its investment results to lag relevant benchmarks or other funds with similar objectives.

Your investment in the fund is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency, entity or person. You should consider how this fund fits into your overall investment program.

**Investment results** The following bar chart shows how the investment results of the Class 4 shares of the fund have varied from year to year, and the following table shows how the fund’s average annual total returns for various periods compare with a broad measure of securities market results and other applicable measures of market results. This information provides some indication of the risks of investing in the fund. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index reflects the market sectors in which the fund invests. The J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index (EMBI) Global Diversified reflects the bond market sectors in which the fund invests. Past investment results (before and after taxes) are not predictive of future investment results. Figures shown reflect fees and expenses associated with an investment in the fund, but do not reflect insurance contract fees and expenses. If insurance contract fees and expenses were included, results would have been lower. Updated information on the fund’s investment results can be obtained by visiting [capitalgroup.com/afis](http://capitalgroup.com/afis).



<b>Average annual total returns</b> For the periods ended December 31, 2019:	<b>1 year</b>	<b>5 years</b>	<b>10 years*</b>	<b>Lifetime*</b>
Fund	28.82%	7.67%	5.78%	7.95%
MSCI All Country World Index (reflects no deduction for sales charges, account fees, expenses or U.S. federal income taxes)	26.60	8.41	8.79	5.15
MSCI Emerging Markets Index (reflects no deduction for sales charges, account fees, expenses or U.S. federal income taxes)	18.42	5.61	3.68	7.43
J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index (EMBI) Global Diversified (reflects no deductions for sales charges, account fees, expenses or U.S. federal income taxes)	15.05	6.24	6.90	9.15

\* Lifetime returns are from June 17, 1999, the date the fund began investment operations. Class 4 shares began investment operations on December 14, 2012; therefore, returns for the fund prior to that date assume a hypothetical investment in Class 1 shares, but reflect the .50% annual expense that applies to Class 4 shares, .25% of which is described in the "Plan of distribution" section of this prospectus and .25% of which is described in the "Fund expenses" section of this prospectus. Returns for Class 1 shares are comparable to those of Class 4 shares because both classes invest in the same portfolio of securities.

## Management

**Investment adviser** Capital Research and Management Company<sup>SM</sup>

**Portfolio managers** The individuals primarily responsible for the portfolio management of the fund are:

<b>Portfolio manager/ Series title (if applicable)</b>	<b>Portfolio manager experience in this fund</b>	<b>Primary title with investment adviser</b>
<b>Carl M. Kawaja</b> Vice President	21 years	Partner – Capital World Investors
<b>Wahid Butt</b>	Less than 1 year	Partner – Capital Research Global Investors
<b>Bradford F. Freer</b>	3 years	Partner – Capital Research Global Investors
<b>Nicholas J. Grace</b>	8 years	Partner – Capital Research Global Investors
<b>Jonathan Knowles</b>	Less than 1 year	Partner – Capital World Investors
<b>Winnie Kwan</b>	Less than 1 year	Partner – Capital Research Global Investors
<b>Robert W. Lovelace</b>	Less than 1 year	Partner – Capital International Investors
<b>Kirstie Spence</b>	Less than 1 year	Partner – Capital Fixed Income Investors
<b>Tomonori Tani</b>	2 years	Partner – Capital World Investors
<b>Lisa Thompson</b>	Less than 1 year	Partner – Capital International Investors
<b>Christopher Thomsen</b>	Less than 1 year	Partner – Capital Research Global Investors

**Purchase and sale of fund shares** Shares of the fund are not sold directly to the general public. The fund is offered only as an underlying investment option for variable insurance contracts, and insurance company separate accounts and qualified feeder funds – and not the holders of variable insurance contracts – are the shareholders of the fund. Although the fund does not require a minimum amount for initial or subsequent purchases from insurance companies, your insurance company may impose investment minimums for your purchase of the fund.

You may sell (redeem) shares on any business day. You must sell (redeem) shares through your insurance company.

**Tax information** See your variable insurance contract prospectus for information regarding the federal income tax treatment of your variable insurance contract and related distributions.

**Payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries** The fund is not sold directly to the general public but instead is offered as an underlying investment option for variable insurance contracts. The fund and its related companies may make payments to the sponsoring insurance company (or its affiliates) for distribution and/or other services. These payments may be a factor that the insurance company considers in including the fund as an underlying investment option in the variable insurance contract. The prospectus (or other offering document) for your variable insurance contract may contain additional information about these payments.