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Putnam INVESTMENTS

Putnam Variable Trust

Putnam VT Government Money Market Fund

Annual report

12 | 31 | 21

Message from the Trustees

February 10, 2022

Dear Shareholder:

In 2021, most areas of the stock market had another above-average year as corporate earnings rose amid rapid gross domestic product growth. Bonds, on the other hand, had a subpar year, with inflation causing concern. Financial markets are now adjusting to a shift in monetary policy, as the U.S. Federal Reserve reduces its bond-purchasing program and considers raising interest rates.

In 2022, the evolving Covid-19 pandemic remains challenging. Still, companies have learned to adapt to unexpected hurdles. Trends in consumer spending, employment, and credit conditions have been encouraging. We believe economic conditions may remain supportive for financial markets this year.

As the economy shifts gears, Putnam's investment professionals will be actively managing your fund and monitoring risks, as the firm has done for more than 80 years.

Thank you for investing with Putnam.

Respectfully yours,

Robert L. Reynolds
President and Chief Executive Officer
Putnam Investments

Kenneth R. Leibler
Chair, Board of Trustees

Performance summary (as of 12/31/21)

Investment objective

As high a rate of current income as Putnam Investment Management, LLC, believes is consistent with preservation of capital and maintenance of liquidity

Net asset value December 31, 2021

Class IA: $1.00	Class IB: $1.00

Total return at net asset value (as of 12/31/21)

	Class IA shares (2/1/88)	Class IB shares (4/30/98)	Lipper VP (Underlying Funds) — U.S. Government Money Market Funds
1 year	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
5 years	4.01	3.21	3.67
Annualized	0.79	0.63	0.72
10 years	4.07	3.26	3.74
Annualized	0.40	0.32	0.37
Life	158.81	151.33	160.36
Annualized	2.84	2.75	2.86
Current rate (as of 12/31/21)			
Current 7-day yield (without subsidy)	−0.36%	−0.61%	
Current 7-day yield (with subsidy)	0.01%	0.01%	

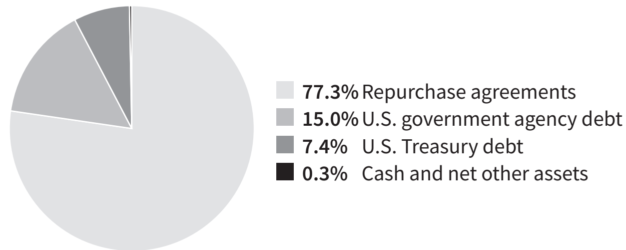
For a portion of the periods, the fund had expense limitations or waivers, without which returns would have been lower.

Lipper peer group average provided by Lipper, a Refinitiv company.

The 7-day yield is the most common gauge for measuring money market mutual fund performance. Yield reflects current performance more closely than total return.

Data represent past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results. More recent returns may be less or more than those shown. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, and you may have a gain or a loss when you sell your shares. Performance information does not reflect any deduction for taxes a shareholder may owe on fund distributions or on the redemption of fund shares. All total return figures are at net asset value and exclude contract charges and expenses, which are added to the variable annuity contracts to determine total return at unit value. Had these charges and expenses been reflected, performance would have been lower. Performance of class IB shares before their inception is derived from the historical performance of class IA shares, adjusted to reflect the higher operating expenses applicable to such shares. For more recent performance, contact your variable annuity provider who can provide you with performance that reflects the charges and expenses at your contract level.

Portfolio composition



Allocations are shown as a percentage of the fund's net assets. Cash and net other assets, if any, represent the market value weights of cash and other unclassified assets in the portfolio. Summary information may differ from the portfolio schedule included in the financial statements due to the inclusion of any interest accruals, the exclusion of as-of trades, if any, the use of different classifications of securities for presentation purposes, and rounding. Holdings and allocations may vary over time.

Report from your fund's managers

How was the money market environment for the 12-month reporting period ended December 31, 2021?

With the Federal Reserve holding its policy interest rate to a range of 0%–0.25% throughout 2021, short-term interest rates and yields on U.S. Treasury bills and U.S. government agency securities remained near zero for much of the period but began to rise in the fourth quarter.

How did Putnam VT Government Money Market Fund perform for the reporting period?

For the 12-month reporting period, the fund's class IA shares returned 0.01%, which was in line with the average return of the fund's Lipper peer group, U.S. Government Money Market Funds.

What was your strategy in this environment?

With yields on U.S. Treasury bills and government agency securities falling early in the period, we saw few investment opportunities in those sectors. As the fund's holdings of those securities matured, we increased the fund's exposure to repurchase agreements [repos]. Repos typically mature in one business day and are collateralized by U.S. Treasury securities or U.S. government agencies such as the Government National Mortgage Association and Federal National Mortgage Association.

With the expiration of the suspension of the federal debt limit approaching in the fall of 2021, the U.S. Treasury allowed the supply of outstanding bills to decline as part of its strategy to reduce its operating cash balance. With supply declining, longer-dated bills offered a minimal pickup in yield over repos with one-day maturities. We also wanted to maintain some flexibility given our view of the direction of short-term interest rates. At the time, we believed the U.S. Treasury bill curve would steepen in the coming months due to investor expectations for the Fed's asset-purchase tapering, a debt ceiling resolution, and future interest-rate increases to control inflationary pressures. Accordingly, we viewed repos with shorter maturities as being the better option in the ultra-low-rate environment for much of the period.

Following indications in the fourth quarter that the Fed would likely increase rates in 2022, the U.S. Treasury bill curve steepened as it priced in several rate hikes. As this occurred, we began purchasing securities with maturities of six to twelve months, adding incremental yield to the portfolio.

Against this backdrop, the weighted average maturity [WAM] of the fund's portfolio fell from 44 days on December 31, 2020, to 33 days on December 31, 2021. [WAM represents the average life of all the money market securities held in the portfolio.] The fund's weighted average life [WAL] decreased from 82 days on December 31, 2020, to 50 days by period-end. [WAL represents the average length of time for all the money market securities held in the portfolio to pay off principal at maturity.]

What is your outlook for 2022?

Calendar-year 2021 presented a challenging income environment for investors focused on the short end of the yield curve. The search for attractive yields was exacerbated by the amount of liquidity entering the system due to pro-growth monetary and fiscal policies. However, the highest inflation in nearly 40 years prompted the Fed to begin easing pandemic support measures. Fed officials began tapering asset purchases in the fourth quarter at a faster pace than previously expected, with the goal of terminating the program in March 2022. At its December meeting, the Fed discussed raising its policy interest rate earlier and faster than previously anticipated. This led many investors to price in multiple Fed hikes in 2022. Yield expectations have increased meaningfully as a result, with short-term Treasury yields rising to their highest levels of 2021. With the Fed reaching a policy inflection point and higher rates on the horizon, we are constructive on the outlook for short-term fixed income.

Consider these risks before investing: *You can lose money by investing in the fund. Although the fund seeks to preserve the value of your investment at $1.00 per share, it cannot guarantee it will do so. An investment in the fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. The fund's sponsor has no legal obligation to provide financial support to the fund, and you should not expect that the sponsor will provide financial support to the fund at any time.*

The values of money market investments usually rise and fall in response to changes in interest rates. Interest-rate risk is generally lowest for investments with short maturities (a significant part of the fund's investments). Changes in the financial condition of an issuer or counterparty, changes in specific economic or political conditions that affect a particular type of issuer, and changes in general economic or political conditions can increase the risk of default by an issuer or counterparty, which can affect a security's or instrument's credit quality or value. The value of investments in the fund's portfolio may fall or fail to rise over extended periods of time for a variety of reasons, including general economic, political, or financial market conditions; investor sentiment and market perceptions; government actions; geopolitical events or changes; and factors related to a specific issuer, geography, industry, or sector. These and other factors may lead to increased volatility and reduced liquidity in the fund's portfolio holdings.

Certain securities in which the fund may invest, including securities issued by certain U.S. government agencies and U.S. government-sponsored enterprises, are not guaranteed by the U.S. government or supported by the full faith and credit of the United States. Mortgage-backed investments carry the risk that they may increase in value less when interest rates decline and decline in value more when interest rates rise. We may have to invest the proceeds from prepaid investments, including mortgage- and asset-backed investments, in other investments with less attractive terms and yields.

Our investment techniques, analyses, and judgments may not produce the outcome we intend. The investments we select for the fund may not perform as well as other securities that we do not select for the fund. We, or the fund's other service providers, may experience disruptions or operating errors that could have a negative effect on the fund.

Your fund's managers

Portfolio Manager **Joanne M. Driscoll, CFA,** is Head of Short Term Liquid Markets. She joined Putnam in 1995 and has been in the investment industry since 1992.

Portfolio Manager **Jonathan M. Topper** has been in the investment industry since he joined Putnam in 1990.

Your fund's managers also manage other accounts advised by Putnam Management or an affiliate, including retail mutual fund counterparts to the funds in Putnam Variable Trust.

Understanding your fund's expenses

As an investor in a variable annuity product that invests in a registered investment company, you pay ongoing expenses, such as management fees, distribution fees (12b-1 fees), and other expenses. In the most recent six-month period, your fund's expenses were limited; had expenses not been limited, they would have been higher. Using the following information, you can estimate how these expenses affect your investment and compare them with the expenses of other funds. You may also pay one-time transaction expenses, which are not shown in this section and would result in higher total expenses. Charges and expenses at the insurance company separate account level are not reflected. For more information, see your fund's prospectus or talk to your financial representative.

Review your fund's expenses

The two left-hand columns of the Expenses per $1,000 table show the expenses you would have paid on a $1,000 investment in your fund from 7/1/21 to 12/31/21. They also show how much a $1,000 investment would be worth at the close of the period, *assuming actual returns and expenses*. To estimate the ongoing expenses you paid over the period, divide your account value by $1,000, then multiply the result by the number in the first line for the class of shares you own.

Compare your fund's expenses with those of other funds

The two right-hand columns of the Expenses per $1,000 table show your fund's expenses based on a $1,000 investment, *assuming a hypothetical 5% annualized return*. You can use this information to compare the ongoing expenses (but not transaction expenses or total costs) of investing in the fund with those of other funds. All shareholder reports of mutual funds and funds serving as variable annuity vehicles will provide this information to help you make this comparison. Please note that you cannot use this information to estimate your actual ending account balance and expenses paid during the period.

Expense ratios

	Class IA	Class IB
Total annual operating expenses for the fiscal year ended 12/31/20	0.45%	0.70%
Annualized expense ratio for the six-month period ended 12/31/21*†	0.07%	0.07%

Fiscal year expense information in this table is taken from the most recent prospectus, is subject to change, and may differ from that shown for the annualized expense ratio and in the financial highlights of this report.

Expenses are shown as a percentage of average net assets.

*For the fund's most recent fiscal half year; may differ from expense ratios based on one-year data in the financial highlights.

†Reflects a voluntary waiver of certain fund expenses.

Expenses per $1,000

	Expenses and value for a $1,000 investment, assuming actual returns for the 6 months ended 12/31/21		Expenses and value for a $1,000 investment, assuming a hypothetical 5% annualized return for the 6 months ended 12/31/21	
	Class IA	**Class IB**	**Class IA**	**Class IB**
Expenses paid per $1,000*†	$0.35	$0.35	$0.36	$0.36
Ending value (after expenses)	$1,000.10	$1,000.10	$1,024.85	$1,024.85

*Expenses for each share class are calculated using the fund's annualized expense ratio for each class, which represents the ongoing expenses as a percentage of average net assets for the six months ended 12/31/21. The expense ratio may differ for each share class.

†Expenses based on actual returns are calculated by multiplying the expense ratio by the average account value for the period; then multiplying the result by the number of days in the period (184); and then dividing that result by the number of days in the year (365). Expenses based on a hypothetical 5% return are calculated by multiplying the expense ratio by the average account value for the six-month period; then multiplying the result by the number of days in the six-month period (184); and then dividing that result by the number of days in the year (365).

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Trustees of Putnam Variable Trust and Shareholders of
Putnam VT Government Money Market Fund:

Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the fund's portfolio, of Putnam VT Government Money Market Fund (one of the funds constituting Putnam Variable Trust, referred to hereafter as the "Fund") as of December 31, 2021, the related statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2021, the statement of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2021, including the related notes, and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2021 (collectively referred to as the "financial statements"). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as of December 31, 2021, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2021 and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2021 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Fund's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to the Fund in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits of these financial statements in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2021 by correspondence with the custodian and brokers; when replies were not received from brokers, we performed other auditing procedures. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Boston, Massachusetts
February 10, 2022

We have served as the auditor of one or more investment companies in the Putnam Investments family of funds since at least 1957. We have not been able to determine the specific year we began serving as auditor.

The fund's portfolio 12/31/21

REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS (77.3%)*	Principal amount	Value
Interest in $347,190,000 joint tri-party repurchase agreement dated 12/31/2021 with BofA Securities, Inc. due 1/3/2022 — maturity value of $19,511,081 for an effective yield of 0.050% (collateralized by Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities with coupon rates ranging from 3.000% to 3.500% and due dates ranging from 3/20/2047 to 6/20/2050, valued at $354,133,800)	$19,511,000	$19,511,000
Interest in $423,316,000 joint tri-party repurchase agreement dated 12/31/2021 with Citigroup Global Markets, Inc. due 1/3/2022 — maturity value of $19,400,097 for an effective yield of 0.060% (collateralized by Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities with coupon rates ranging from 2.500% to 5.000% and due dates ranging from 10/20/2051 to 11/20/2051, valued at $431,802,869)	19,400,000	19,400,000
Interest in $304,400,000 joint tri-party repurchase agreement dated 12/31/2021 with Royal Bank of Canada due 1/3/2022 — maturity value of $19,400,081 for an effective yield of 0.050% (collateralized by Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities with coupon rates ranging from 1.500% to 3.000% and due dates ranging from 3/1/2051 to 11/1/2051, valued at $310,489,294)	19,400,000	19,400,000
Total repurchase agreements (cost $58,311,000)		**$58,311,000**

U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCY OBLIGATIONS (15.0%)*	Yield (%)	Maturity date	Principal amount	Value
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation FRB	0.370	6/9/23	$850,000	$853,468
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation FRB	0.110	1/20/23	750,000	750,220
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation unsec. bonds	0.110	8/5/22	500,000	505,156
Federal Home Loan Banks unsec. bonds	0.130	9/28/22	800,000	799,635
Federal Home Loan Banks unsec. bonds	0.120	8/12/22	800,000	800,018
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation unsec. FRN	0.310	5/5/22	1,000,000	1,000,000
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation unsec. FRN	0.200	3/4/22	1,000,000	1,000,000
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation unsec. FRN	0.145	8/19/22	750,000	750,120
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation unsec. Notes	0.070	7/25/22	$850,000	$850,260
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation unsec. notes	0.064	1/13/22	548,000	548,415
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. FRN	0.400	4/7/22	1,000,000	1,000,000
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. FRN	0.220	3/9/22	1,000,000	1,000,000
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. Notes	0.127	10/5/22	550,000	557,805
Federal National Mortgage Association unsec. Notes	0.080	9/6/22	850,000	857,465
Total U.S. government agency obligations (cost $11,272,562)				**$11,272,562**

U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS (7.4%)*	Yield (%)	Maturity date	Principal amount	Value
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.219	11/3/22	$850,000	$848,443
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.162	6/23/22	750,000	749,423
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.135	6/16/22	750,000	749,539
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.111	8/11/22	750,000	749,494
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.108	5/19/22	850,000	849,653
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.105	10/6/22	800,000	799,362
U.S. Treasury Bills	0.076	9/8/22	800,000	799,581
Total U.S. treasury obligations (cost $5,545,495)				**$5,545,495**

Total investments (cost $75,129,057)	**$75,129,057**

Key to holding's abbreviations

FRB Floating Rate Bonds: the rate shown is the current interest rate at the close of the reporting period. Rates may be subject to a cap or floor. For certain securities, the rate may represent a fixed rate currently in place at the close of the reporting period.

FRN Floating Rate Notes: the rate shown is the current interest rate or yield at the close of the reporting period. Rates may be subject to a cap or floor. For certain securities, the rate may represent a fixed rate currently in place at the close of the reporting period.

Notes to the fund's portfolio

Unless noted otherwise, the notes to the fund's portfolio are for the close of the fund's reporting period, which ran from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 (the reporting period). Within the following notes to the portfolio, references to "Putnam Management" represent Putnam Investment Management, LLC, the fund's manager, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Putnam Investments, LLC and references to "ASC 820" represent Accounting Standards Codification 820 *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*.

* Percentages indicated are based on net assets of $75,392,037.

The dates shown on debt obligations are the original maturity dates.

ASC 820 establishes a three-level hierarchy for disclosure of fair value measurements. The valuation hierarchy is based upon the transparency of inputs to the valuation of the fund's investments. The three levels are defined as follows:

Level 1: Valuations based on quoted prices for identical securities in active markets.

Level 2: Valuations based on quoted prices in markets that are not active or for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Valuations based on inputs that are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The following is a summary of the inputs used to value the fund's net assets as of the close of the reporting period:

	Valuation inputs		
Investments in securities:	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**
Repurchase agreements	$—	$58,311,000	$—
U.S. government agency obligations	—	11,272,562	—
U.S. treasury obligations	—	5,545,495	—
Totals by level	**$—**	**$75,129,057**	**$—**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of assets and liabilities

12/31/21

Assets	
Investment in securities, at value (Note 1):	
Unaffiliated issuers (identified cost $16,818,057)	$16,818,057
Repurchase agreements (identified cost $58,311,000)	58,311,000
Cash	281
Interest and other receivables	66,161
Receivable for shares of the fund sold	541,100
Receivable from Manager (Note 2)	4,966
Total assets	**75,741,565**

Liabilities	
Payable for shares of the fund repurchased	208,872
Payable for custodian fees (Note 2)	2,154
Payable for investor servicing fees (Note 2)	9,044
Payable for Trustee compensation and expenses (Note 2)	80,404
Payable for administrative services (Note 2)	817
Payable for auditing and tax fees	36,739
Other accrued expenses	11,498
Total liabilities	**349,528**
Net assets	**$75,392,037**

Represented by	
Paid-in capital (Unlimited shares authorized) (Notes 1 and 4)	$75,392,199
Total distributable earnings (Note 1)	(162)
Total — Representing net assets applicable to capital shares outstanding	**$75,392,037**

Computation of net asset value Class IA	
Net assets	$40,968,423
Number of shares outstanding	40,968,234
Net asset value, offering price and redemption price per share (net assets divided by number of shares outstanding)	$1.00

Computation of net asset value Class IB	
Net assets	$34,423,614
Number of shares outstanding	34,423,952
Net asset value, offering price and redemption price per share (net assets divided by number of shares outstanding)	$1.00

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of operations

Year ended 12/31/21

Investment income	
Interest	$61,565
Total investment income	**61,565**

Expenses	
Compensation of Manager (Note 2)	219,287
Investor servicing fees (Note 2)	56,678
Custodian fees (Note 2)	8,277
Trustee compensation and expenses (Note 2)	3,268
Distribution fees (Note 2)	91,597
Administrative services (Note 2)	1,975
Auditing and tax fees	36,954
Other	26,187
Fees waived and reimbursed by Manager (Note 2)	(389,556)
Total expenses	**54,667**
Expense reduction (Note 2)	(6)
Net expenses	**54,661**
Net investment income	**6,904**

Realized gain	
Net realized gain on:	
Securities from unaffiliated issuers (Notes 1 and 3)	1,924
Total net realized gain	**1,924**
Net gain on investments	**1,924**
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	**$8,828**

Statement of changes in net assets

	Year ended 12/31/21	Year ended 12/31/20
Increase (decrease) in net assets		
Operations:		
Net investment income	$6,904	$184,864
Net realized gain on investments	1,924	200
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	**8,828**	**185,064**
Distributions to shareholders (Note 1):		
From ordinary income		
Net investment income		
Class IA	(3,634)	(108,051)
Class IB	(3,270)	(77,266)
Increase (decrease) from capital share transactions (Note 4)	(12,048,253)	1,236,687
Total increase (decrease) in net assets	**(12,046,329)**	**1,236,434**
Net assets:		
Beginning of year	87,438,366	86,201,932
End of year	**$75,392,037**	**$87,438,366**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Financial highlights (For a common share outstanding throughout the period)

INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:					LESS DISTRIBUTIONS:				RATIOS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:		
Period ended	**Net asset value, beginning of period**	Net investment income (loss)	Net realized gain (loss) on investments	**Total from investment operations**	From net investment income	**Total distributions**	**Net asset value, end of period**	**Total return at net asset value (%)[a,b]**	**Net assets, end of period (in thousands)**	Ratio of expenses to average net assets (%)[a,c]	Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets (%)
Class IA											
12/31/21	**$1.00**	.0001	—[e]	**.0001**	(.0001)	**(.0001)**	**$1.00**	**.01**	**$40,968**	.07[d]	.01[d]
12/31/20	**1.00**	.0024	—[e]	**.0024**	(.0024)	**(.0024)**	**1.00**	**.24**	**48,536**	.26[d]	.22[d]
12/31/19	**1.00**	.0179	—[e]	**.0179**	(.0179)	**(.0179)**	**1.00**	**1.81**	**44,065**	.45	1.79
12/31/18	**1.00**	.0142	—	**.0142**	(.0142)	**(.0142)**	**1.00**	**1.43**	**48,473**	.45	1.41
12/31/17	**1.00**	.0047	—	**.0047**	(.0047)	**(.0047)**	**1.00**	**.47**	**50,212**	.45[d]	.46[d]
Class IB											
12/31/21	**$1.00**	.0001	—[e]	**.0001**	(.0001)	**(.0001)**	**$1.00**	**.01**	**$34,424**	.07[d]	.01[d]
12/31/20	**1.00**	.0019	—[e]	**.0019**	(.0019)	**(.0019)**	**1.00**	**.19**	**38,903**	.32[d]	.20[d]
12/31/19	**1.00**	.0154	—[e]	**.0154**	(.0154)	**(.0154)**	**1.00**	**1.55**	**42,137**	.70	1.55
12/31/18	**1.00**	.0117	—	**.0117**	(.0117)	**(.0117)**	**1.00**	**1.18**	**44,834**	.70	1.17
12/31/17	**1.00**	.0025	—	**.0025**	(.0024)	**(.0024)**	**1.00**	**.24**	**49,160**	.67[d]	.24[d]

[a] The charges and expenses at the insurance company separate account level are not reflected.

[b] Total return assumes dividend reinvestment.

[c] Includes amounts paid through expense offset arrangements, if any (Note 2). Also excludes acquired fund fees and expenses, if any.

[d] Reflects a voluntary waiver of certain fund expenses in effect during the period relating to the enhancement of certain annualized net yields of the fund. As a result of such waivers, the expenses of each class reflect a reduction of the following amounts as a percentage of average net assets (Note 2):

	12/31/21	12/31/20	12/31/17
Class IA	0.37%	0.18%	N/A
Class IB	0.62	0.38	0.03%

[e] Amount represents less than $0.0001 per share.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to financial statements 12/31/21

Within the following Notes to financial statements, references to “State Street” represent State Street Bank and Trust Company, references to “the SEC” represent the Securities and Exchange Commission, references to “Putnam Management” represent Putnam Investment Management, LLC, the fund’s manager, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Putnam Investments, LLC and references to “OTC”, if any, represent over-the-counter. Unless otherwise noted, the “reporting period” represents the period from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

Putnam VT Government Money Market Fund (the fund) is a diversified series of Putnam Variable Trust (the Trust), a Massachusetts business trust registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, as an open-end management investment company. The goal of the fund is to seek as high a rate of current income as Putnam Management believes is consistent with preservation of capital and maintenance of liquidity. The fund invests at least 99.5 percent of the fund’s total assets in cash, U.S. government securities and repurchase agreements that are fully collateralized by U.S. government securities or cash. The fund invests mainly in debt securities that are obligations of the U.S. government, its agencies and instrumentalities and accordingly are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States (e.g., U.S. Treasury bills) or by the credit of a federal agency or government-sponsored entity (e.g., securities issued by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac). The U.S. government securities in which the fund invests may also include variable and floating rate instruments and when-issued and delayed delivery securities (i.e., payment or delivery of the securities occurs at a future date for a predetermined price). Under normal circumstances, the fund invests at least 80% of the fund’s net assets in U.S. government securities and repurchase agreements that are fully collateralized by U.S. government securities. This policy may be changed only after 60 days’ notice to shareholders. The securities purchased by the fund are subject to quality, maturity, diversification and other requirements pursuant to rules promulgated by the SEC. Putnam Management may consider, among other factors, credit and interest rate risks and characteristics of the issuer or counterparty, as well as general market conditions, when deciding whether to buy or sell investments.

The fund offers class IA and class IB shares of beneficial interest. Class IA shares are offered at net asset value and are not subject to a distribution fee. Class IB shares are offered at net asset value and pay an ongoing distribution fee, which is identified in Note 2.

In the normal course of business, the fund enters into contracts that may include agreements to indemnify another party under given circumstances. The fund’s maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be, but have not yet been, made against the fund. However, the fund’s management team expects the risk of material loss to be remote.

The fund has entered into contractual arrangements with an investment adviser, administrator, distributor, shareholder servicing agent and custodian, who each provide services to the fund. Unless expressly stated otherwise, shareholders are not parties to, or intended beneficiaries of these contractual arrangements, and these contractual arrangements are not intended to create any shareholder right to enforce them against the service providers or to seek any remedy under them against the service providers, either directly or on behalf of the fund.

Under the fund’s Amended and Restated Agreement and Declaration of Trust, any claims asserted against or on behalf of the Putnam Funds, including claims against Trustees and Officers, must be brought in state and federal courts located within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Note 1 — Significant accounting policies

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the fund in the preparation of its financial statements. The preparation of financial statements is in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the reported amounts of increases and decreases in net assets from operations. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Subsequent events after the Statement of assets and liabilities date through the date that the financial statements were issued have been evaluated in the preparation of the financial statements.

Investment income, realized gains and losses and expenses of the fund are borne pro-rata based on the relative net assets of each class to the total net assets of the fund, except that each class bears expenses unique to that class (including the distribution fees applicable to such classes). Each class votes as a class only with respect to its own distribution plan or other matters on which a class vote is required by law or determined by the Trustees. Shares of each class would receive their pro-rata share of the net assets of the fund, if the fund were liquidated. In addition, the Trustees declare separate dividends on each class of shares.

Security valuation Portfolio securities and other investments are valued using policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees. The Trustees have formed a Pricing Committee to oversee the implementation of these procedures and have delegated responsibility for valuing the fund’s assets in accordance with these procedures to Putnam Management. Putnam Management has established an internal Valuation Committee that is responsible for making fair value determinations, evaluating the effectiveness of the pricing policies of the fund and reporting to the Pricing Committee.

The valuation of the fund’s portfolio instruments is determined by means of the amortized cost method (which approximates fair value) as set forth in Rule 2a–7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The amortized cost of an instrument is determined by valuing it at its original cost and thereafter amortizing any discount or premium from its face value at a constant rate until maturity and is generally categorized as a Level 2 security.

Joint trading account Pursuant to an exemptive order from the SEC, the fund may transfer uninvested cash balances into a joint trading account along with the cash of other registered investment companies and certain other accounts managed by Putnam Management. These balances may be invested in issues of short-term investments having maturities of up to 90 days.

Repurchase agreements The fund, or any joint trading account, through its custodian, receives delivery of the underlying securities, the fair value of which at the time of purchase is required to be in an amount at least equal to the resale price, including accrued interest. Collateral for certain tri-party repurchase agreements, which totaled $59,478,244 at the end of the reporting period, is held at the counterparty’s custodian in a segregated account for the benefit of the fund and the counterparty. Putnam Management is responsible for determining that the value of these underlying securities is at all times at least equal to the resale price, including accrued interest. In the event of default or bankruptcy by the other party to the agreement, retention of the collateral may be subject to legal proceedings.

Security transactions and related investment income Security transactions are recorded on the trade date (the date the order to buy or sell is executed). Interest income, including amortization and accretion of premiums and discounts, is recorded on the accrual basis. Gains or losses on securities sold are determined on the identified cost basis.

Interfund lending The fund, along with other Putnam funds, may participate in an interfund lending program pursuant to an exemptive order issued by the SEC. This program allows the fund to lend to other Putnam funds that permit such transactions. Interfund lending transactions are subject to each fund’s investment policies and borrowing and lending limits. Interest earned or paid on the interfund lending transaction will be based on the average of certain current market rates. During the reporting period, the fund did not utilize the program.

Lines of credit The fund participates, along with other Putnam funds, in a $317.5 million unsecured committed line of credit and a $235.5 million unsecured uncommitted line of credit, both provided by State Street. Borrowings may be made for temporary or emergency purposes, including the funding of shareholder redemption requests and trade settlements. Interest is charged to the fund based on the fund’s borrowing at a rate equal to 1.25% plus the higher of (1) the Federal Funds rate and (2) the Overnight Bank Funding Rate for the committed line of credit and 1.30% plus the higher of (1) the Federal Funds rate and (2) the Overnight Bank Funding Rate for the uncommitted line of credit. A closing fee equal to 0.04% of the committed line of credit and 0.04% of the uncommitted line of credit has been paid by the participating funds. In addition, a commitment fee of 0.21% per annum on any unutilized portion of the committed line of credit is allocated to the participating funds based on their relative net assets and paid quarterly. During the reporting period, the fund had no borrowings against these arrangements.

Federal taxes It is the policy of the fund to distribute all of its taxable income within the prescribed time period and otherwise comply with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), applicable to regulated investment companies.

The fund is subject to the provisions of Accounting Standards Codification 740 *Income Taxes* (ASC 740). ASC 740 sets forth a minimum threshold for financial statement recognition of the benefit of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The fund did not have a liability to record for any unrecognized tax benefits in the accompanying financial statements. No provision has been made for federal taxes on income, capital gains or unrealized appreciation on securities held nor for excise tax on income and capital gains. Each of the fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remains subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

Under the Regulated Investment Company Modernization Act of 2010, the fund will be permitted to carry forward capital losses incurred for an unlimited period and the carry forwards will retain their character as either short-term or long-term capital losses. At December 31, 2021, the fund had the following capital loss carryovers available, to the extent allowed by the Code, to offset future net capital gain, if any:

Loss carryover		
Short-term	Long-term	Total
$—	$162	$162

Distributions to shareholders Income dividends are recorded daily by the fund and are paid monthly. Distributions from capital gains, if any, are paid at least annually. The amount and character of income and gains to be distributed are determined in accordance with income tax regulations, which may differ from generally accepted accounting principles. For the reporting period, there were no material temporary or permanent differences. Reclassifications are made to the fund's capital accounts to reflect income and gains available for distribution (or available capital loss carryovers) under income tax regulations. At the close of the reporting period, the fund required no such reclassifications.

The tax basis components of distributable earnings as of the close of the reporting period were as follows:

Undistributed ordinary income	$3
Capital loss carryforward	(162)

The aggregate identified cost on a financial reporting and tax basis is the same.

Expenses of the Trust Expenses directly charged or attributable to any fund will be paid from the assets of that fund. Generally, expenses of the Trust will be allocated among and charged to the assets of each fund on a basis that the Trustees deem fair and equitable, which may be based on the relative assets of each fund or the nature of the services performed and relative applicability to each fund.

Beneficial interest At the close of the reporting period, insurance companies or their separate accounts were record owners of all but a de minimis number of the shares of the fund. Approximately 32.3% of the fund is owned by accounts of one insurance company.

Note 2 — Management fee, administrative services and other transactions

The fund pays Putnam Management a management fee (based on the fund's average net assets and computed and paid monthly) at annual rates that may vary based on the average of the aggregate net assets of all open-end mutual funds sponsored by Putnam Management (excluding net assets of funds that are invested in, or that are invested in by, other Putnam funds to the extent necessary to avoid "double counting" of those assets). Such annual rates may vary as follows:

0.440%	of the first $5 billion,
0.390%	of the next $5 billion,
0.340%	of the next $10 billion,
0.290%	of the next $10 billion,
0.240%	of the next $50 billion,
0.220%	of the next $50 billion,
0.210%	of the next $100 billion and
0.205%	of any excess thereafter.

For the reporting period, the management fee represented an effective rate (excluding the impact from any expense waivers in effect) of 0.271% of the fund's average net assets.

Putnam Management has contractually agreed, through April 30, 2023, to waive fees and/or reimburse the fund's expenses to the extent necessary to limit the cumulative expenses of the fund, exclusive of brokerage, interest, taxes, investment-related expenses, extraordinary expenses, acquired fund fees and expenses and payments under the fund's investor servicing contract, investment management contract and distribution plan, on a fiscal year-to-date basis to an annual rate of 0.20% of the fund's average net assets over such fiscal year-to-date period. During the reporting period, the fund's expenses were not reduced as a result of this limit.

Putnam Management may from time to time voluntarily undertake to waive fees and/or reimburse certain fund expenses in order to enhance the annualized net yield for the fund. Any such waiver or reimbursement would be voluntary and may be modified or discontinued by Putnam Management at any time without notice. For the reporting period, Putnam Management waived $389,556 as a result of this waiver, which includes $91,597 of class IB specific distribution fees from the fund.

Putnam Investments Limited (PIL), an affiliate of Putnam Management, is authorized by the Trustees to manage a separate portion of the assets of the fund as determined by Putnam Management from time to time. PIL did not manage any portion of the assets of the fund during the reporting period. If Putnam Management were to engage the services of PIL, Putnam Management would pay a quarterly sub-management fee to PIL for its services at an annual rate of 0.25% of the average net assets of the portion of the fund managed by PIL.

The fund reimburses Putnam Management an allocated amount for the compensation and related expenses of certain officers of the fund and their staff who provide administrative services to the fund. The aggregate amount of all such reimbursements is determined annually by the Trustees.

Custodial functions for the fund's assets are provided by State Street. Custody fees are based on the fund's asset level, the number of its security holdings and transaction volumes.

Putnam Investor Services, Inc., an affiliate of Putnam Management, provides investor servicing agent functions to the fund. Putnam Investor Services, Inc. was paid a monthly fee for investor servicing at an annual rate of 0.07% of the fund's average daily net assets. During the reporting period, the expenses for each class of shares related to investor servicing fees were as follows:

Class IA	$31,019
Class IB	25,659
Total	$56,678

The fund has entered into expense offset arrangements with Putnam Investor Services, Inc. and State Street whereby Putnam Investor Services, Inc.'s and State Street's fees are reduced by credits allowed on cash balances. For the reporting period, the fund's expenses were reduced by $6 under the expense offset arrangements.

Each Independent Trustee of the fund receives an annual Trustee fee, of which $53, as a quarterly retainer, has been allocated to the fund, and an additional fee for each Trustees meeting attended. Trustees also are reimbursed for expenses they incur relating to their services as Trustees.

The fund has adopted a Trustee Fee Deferral Plan (the Deferral Plan) which allows the Trustees to defer the receipt of all or a portion of Trustees fees payable on or after July 1, 1995. The deferred fees remain invested in certain Putnam funds until distribution in accordance with the Deferral Plan.

The fund has adopted an unfunded noncontributory defined benefit pension plan (the Pension Plan) covering all Trustees of the fund who have served as a Trustee for at least five years and were first elected prior to 2004. Benefits under the Pension Plan are equal to 50% of the Trustee's average annual attendance and retainer fees for the three years ended December 31, 2005. The retirement benefit is payable during a Trustee's lifetime, beginning the year following retirement, for the number of years of service through December 31, 2006. Pension expense for the fund is included in Trustee compensation and expenses in the Statement of operations. Accrued pension liability is included in Payable for Trustee compensation and expenses in the Statement of assets and liabilities. The Trustees have terminated the Pension Plan with respect to any Trustee first elected after 2003.

The fund has adopted a distribution plan (the Plan) with respect to its class IB shares pursuant to Rule 12b–1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The purpose of the Plan is to compensate Putnam Retail Management Limited Partnership, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Putnam Investments, LLC, for services provided and expenses incurred in distributing shares of the fund. The Plan provides for payment by the fund to Putnam Retail Management Limited Partnership at an annual rate of up to 0.35% of the average net assets attributable to the fund's class IB shares. The Trustees have approved payment by the fund at an annual rate of 0.25% of the average net assets attributable to the fund's class IB shares. The expenses related to distribution fees during the reporting period are included in Distribution fees in the Statement of operations.

Note 3 — Purchases and sales of securities

During the reporting period, the cost of purchases and the proceeds from sales (including maturities) of investment securities (all short-term obligations) aggregated $14,147,992,165 and $14,159,788,696, respectively. The fund may purchase or sell investments from or to other Putnam funds in the ordinary course of business, which can reduce the fund's transaction costs, at prices determined in accordance with SEC requirements and policies approved by the Trustees. During the reporting period, purchases or sales from or to other Putnam funds, if any, did not represent more than 5% of the fund's total cost of purchases and/or total proceeds from sales.

Note 4 — Capital shares

At the close of the reporting period, there were an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest authorized. Subscriptions and redemptions are presented at the omnibus level. Transactions in capital shares were as follows:

	Class IA shares				Class IB shares			
	Year ended 12/31/21		Year ended 12/31/20		Year ended 12/31/21		Year ended 12/31/20	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Shares sold	20,749,519	$20,749,519	34,674,551	$34,674,551	8,135,740	$8,135,740	19,541,850	$19,541,850
Shares issued in connection with reinvestment of distributions	3,634	3,634	108,051	108,051	3,270	3,270	77,266	77,266
	20,753,153	20,753,153	34,782,602	34,782,602	8,139,010	8,139,010	19,619,116	19,619,116
Shares repurchased	(28,321,532)	(28,321,532)	(30,311,656)	(30,311,656)	(12,618,884)	(12,618,884)	(22,853,375)	(22,853,375)
Net increase (decrease)	**(7,568,379)**	**$(7,568,379)**	**4,470,946**	**$4,470,946**	**(4,479,874)**	**$(4,479,874)**	**(3,234,259)**	**$(3,234,259)**

Note 5 — Market, credit and other risks

In the normal course of business, the fund trades financial instruments and enters into financial transactions where risk of potential loss exists due to changes in the market (market risk) or failure of the contracting party to the transaction to perform (credit risk). The fund may be exposed to additional credit risk that an institution or other entity with which the fund has unsettled or open transactions will default.

On July 27, 2017, the United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA"), which regulates LIBOR, announced its intention to cease compelling banks to provide the quotations needed to sustain LIBOR after 2021. ICE Benchmark Administration, the administrator of LIBOR, ceased publication of most LIBOR settings on a representative basis at the end of 2021 and is expected to cease publication of a majority of U.S. dollar LIBOR settings on a representative basis after June 30, 2023. In addition, global regulators have announced that, with limited exceptions, no new LIBOR-based contracts should be entered into after 2021. LIBOR has historically been a common benchmark interest rate index used to make adjustments to variable-rate loans. It is used throughout global banking and financial industries to determine interest rates for a variety of financial instruments and borrowing arrangements. The transition process might lead to increased volatility and illiquidity in markets that rely on LIBOR to determine interest rates. It could also lead to a reduction in the value of some LIBOR-based investments and reduce the effectiveness of related transactions, such as hedges. While some LIBOR-based instruments may contemplate a scenario where LIBOR is no longer available by providing for an alternative rate-setting methodology, not all may have such provisions and there may be significant uncertainty regarding the effectiveness of any such alternative methodologies. Since the usefulness of LIBOR as a benchmark could deteriorate during the transition period, these effects could occur at any time.

Beginning in January 2020, global financial markets have experienced, and may continue to experience, significant volatility resulting from the spread of a virus known as Covid–19. The outbreak of Covid–19 has resulted in travel and border restrictions, quarantines, supply chain disruptions, lower consumer demand, and general market uncertainty. The effects of Covid–19 have adversely affected, and may continue to adversely affect, the global economy, the economies of certain nations, and individual issuers, all of which may negatively impact the fund's performance.

Note 6 — Offsetting of financial and derivative assets and liabilities

The following table summarizes any derivatives, repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements, at the end of the reporting period, that are subject to an enforceable master netting agreement or similar agreement. For securities lending transactions or borrowing transactions associated with securities sold short, if any, see Note 1. For financial reporting purposes, the fund does not offset financial assets and financial liabilities that are subject to the master netting agreements in the Statement of assets and liabilities.

	BofA Securities, Inc.	Citigroup Global Markets, Inc.	Royal Bank of Canada	Total
Assets:				
Repurchase agreements**	$19,511,000	$19,400,000	$19,400,000	$58,311,000
Total Assets	**$19,511,000**	**$19,400,000**	**$19,400,000**	**$58,311,000**
Total Financial and Derivative Net Assets	**$19,511,000**	**$19,400,000**	**$19,400,000**	**$58,311,000**
Total collateral received (pledged)†##	$19,511,000	$19,400,000	$19,400,000	
Net amount	$—	$—	$—	
*Controlled collateral received (including TBA commitments)***	$—	$—	$—	$—
Uncontrolled collateral received	$19,901,220	$19,788,942	$19,788,082	$59,478,244
*Collateral (pledged) (including TBA commitments)***	$—	$—	$—	$—

** Included with Investments in securities on the Statement of assets and liabilities.

† Additional collateral may be required from certain brokers based on individual agreements.

Any over-collateralization of total financial and derivative net assets is not shown. Collateral may include amounts related to unsettled agreements.

Note 7 — New accounting pronouncements

In March 2020, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2020–04, Reference Rate Reform (Topic 848) — *Facilitation of the Effects of Reference Rate Reform on Financial Reporting*. The amendments in ASU 2020–04 provide optional temporary financial reporting relief from the effect of certain types of contract modifications due to the planned discontinuation of LIBOR and other interbank-offered based reference rates as of the end of 2021. The discontinuation of LIBOR was subsequently extended to June 30, 2023. ASU 2020–04 is effective for certain reference rate-related contract modifications that occur during the period March 12, 2020 through December 31, 2022. Management expects that the adoption of the guidance will not have a material impact on the fund's financial statements.

About the Trustees

Name Year of birth Position held	Principal occupations during past five years	Other directorships	
Independent Trustees			
Liaquat Ahamed Born 1952 Trustee since 2012	Author; won Pulitzer Prize for *Lords of Finance: The Bankers Who Broke the World.*	Chairman of the Sun Valley Writers Conference, a literary not-for-profit organization, and a Trustee of the Journal of Philosophy.	
Ravi Akhoury Born 1947 Trustee since 2009	Private investor	Director of English Helper, Inc., a private software company; Trustee of the Rubin Museum, serving on the Investment Committee; and previously a Director of RAGE Frameworks, Inc.	
Barbara M. Baumann Born 1955 Trustee since 2010	President of Cross Creek Energy Corporation, a strategic consultant to domestic energy firms and direct investor in energy projects.	Director of Devon Energy Corporation, a publicly traded independent natural gas and oil exploration and production company; Director of National Fuel Gas Company, a publicly traded energy company that engages in the production, gathering, transportation, distribution, and marketing of natural gas; Senior Advisor to the energy private equity firm First Reserve; Director of Ascent Resources, LLC, a private independent exploration and production company; Director of Texas American Resources Company II, a private, independent oil and gas exploration and production company; member of the Finance Committee of the Children's Hospital of Colorado; member of the Investment Committee of the Board of The Denver Foundation; and previously a Director of publicly traded companies Buckeye Partners LP, UNS Energy Corporation, CVR Energy Company, and SM Energy Corporation.	
Katinka Domotorffy Born 1975 Trustee since 2012	Voting member of the Investment Committees of the Anne Ray Foundation and Margaret A. Cargill Foundation, part of the Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies.	Director of the Great Lakes Science Center and of College Now Greater Cleveland.	
Catharine Bond Hill Born 1954 Trustee since 2017	Managing Director of Ithaka S+R, a not-for-profit service that helps the academic community navigate economic and technological change. From 2006 to 2016, the 10th president of Vassar College.	Director of Yale-NUS College and Trustee of Yale University.	
Paul L. Joskow Born 1947 Trustee since 1997	The Elizabeth and James Killian Professor of Economics, Emeritus at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). From 2008 to 2017, the President of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, a philanthropic institution focused primarily on research and education on issues related to science, technology, and economic performance.	Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, a non-profit biomedical research institute; a Director of Exelon Corporation, an energy company focused on power services; and a member Emeritus of the Board of Advisors of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.	
Kenneth R. Leibler Born 1949 Trustee since 2006 Vice Chair from 2016 to 2018, and Chair since 2018	Vice Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Trustees of Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Boston. Member of the Investment Committee of the Boston Arts Academy Foundation.	Director of Eversource Corporation, which operates New England's largest energy delivery system; previously the Chairman of the Boston Options Exchange, an electronic market place for the trading of listed derivatives securities; previously the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Boston Stock Exchange; and previously the President and Chief Operating Officer of the American Stock Exchange.	
George Putnam, III Born 1951 Trustee since 1984	Chairman of New Generation Research, Inc., a publisher of financial advisory and other research services, and President of New Generation Advisors, LLC, a registered investment adviser to private funds.	Director of The Boston Family Office, LLC, a registered investment advisor; a Trustee of the Gloucester Marine Genomics Institute; previously a Trustee of the Marine Biological Laboratory; and previously a Trustee of Epiphany School.	

Name Year of birth Position held	Principal occupations during past five years	Other directorships	
Manoj P. Singh Born 1952 Trustee since 2017	Until 2015, Chief Operating Officer and Global Managing Director at Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, Ltd., a global professional services organization, serving on the Deloitte U.S. Board of Directors and the boards of Deloitte member firms in China, Mexico, and Southeast Asia.	Director of Abt Associates, a global research firm working in the fields of health, social and environmental policy, and international development; Trustee of Carnegie Mellon University; Director of Pratham USA, an organization dedicated to children's education in India; member of the advisory board of Altimetrik, a business transformation and technology solutions firm; and Director of DXC Technology, a global IT services and consulting company.	
Mona K. Sutphen Born 1967 Trustee since 2020	Senior Advisor at The Vistria Group, a private investment firm focused on middle-market companies in the healthcare, education, and financial services industries. From 2014 to 2018, Partner at Macro Advisory Partners, a global consulting firm.	Director of Unitek Learning, a private nursing and medical services education provider in the United States; Director of Pattern Energy Group LP, a private renewable energy company; previous Director of Pattern Energy, a publicly traded renewable energy company; Board Member, International Rescue Committee; Co-Chair of the Board of Human Rights First; Trustee of Mount Holyoke College; and member of the Advisory Board for the Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.	

Interested Trustee

Robert L. Reynolds* Born 1952 Trustee since 2008 and President and Chief Executive Officer of Putnam Investments since 2008	President and Chief Executive Officer of Putnam Investments; member of Putnam Investments' Board of Directors; and Chair of Great-West Lifeco U.S. LLC. Prior to 2019, also President and Chief Executive Officer of Great-West Financial, a financial services company that provides retirement savings plans, life insurance, and annuity and executive benefits products, and of Great-West Lifeco U.S. LLC, a holding company that owns Putnam Investments and Great-West Financial, and a member of Great-West Financial's Board of Directors.	Director of the Concord Museum; Director of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; Director of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Association Foundation; Chairman of the Boston Advisory Board of the American Ireland Fund; National Council Co-Chairman of the American Enterprise Institute; Executive Committee Member of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce; member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Center for Capital Markets Competitiveness; Chairman of the Massachusetts High Technology Council; member of the Chief Executives Club of Boston; member of the Massachusetts General Hospital President's Council; and previously the Chairman of the Massachusetts Competitive Partnership.	

*Mr. Reynolds is an "interested person" (as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940) of the fund and Putnam Investments. He is President and Chief Executive Officer of Putnam Investments, as well as the President of your fund and each of the other Putnam funds.

The address of each Trustee is 100 Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110.

As of December 31, 2021, there were 100 Putnam funds. All Trustees serve as Trustees of all Putnam funds.

Each Trustee serves for an indefinite term, until his or her resignation, retirement at age 75, removal, or death.

Officers

In addition to Robert L. Reynolds, the other officers of the fund are shown below:

James F. Clark *(Born 1974)*
Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer
Since 2016
Chief Compliance Officer and Chief Risk Officer, Putnam Investments, and Chief Compliance Officer, Putnam Management

Nancy E. Florek *(Born 1957)*
Vice President, Director of Proxy Voting and Corporate Governance, Assistant Clerk, and Assistant Treasurer
Since 2000

Michael J. Higgins *(Born 1976)*
Vice President, Treasurer, and Clerk
Since 2010

Jonathan S. Horwitz *(Born 1955)*
Executive Vice President, Principal Executive Officer, and Compliance Liaison
Since 2004

Richard T. Kircher *(Born 1962)*
Vice President and BSA Compliance Officer
Since 2019
Assistant Director, Operational Compliance, Putnam Investments and Putnam Retail Management

Susan G. Malloy *(Born 1957)*
Vice President and Assistant Treasurer
Since 2007
Head of Accounting and Middle Office Services, Putnam Investments and Putnam Management

Denere P. Poulack *(Born 1968)*
Assistant Vice President, Assistant Clerk, and Assistant Treasurer
Since 2004

Janet C. Smith *(Born 1965)*
Vice President, Principal Financial Officer, Principal Accounting Officer, and Assistant Treasurer
Since 2007
Head of Fund Administration Services, Putnam Investments and Putnam Management

Stephen J. Tate *(Born 1974)*
Vice President and Chief Legal Officer
Since 2021
General Counsel, Putnam Investments, Putnam Management, and Putnam Retail Management

Mark C. Trenchard *(Born 1962)*
Vice President
Since 2002
Director of Operational Compliance, Putnam Investments and Putnam Retail Management

The principal occupations of the officers for the past five years have been with the employers as shown above, although in some cases they have held different positions with such employers. The address of each officer is 100 Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110.

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Other important information

Proxy voting

Putnam is committed to managing our mutual funds in the best interests of our shareholders. The Putnam funds' proxy voting guidelines and procedures, as well as information regarding how your fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the 12-month period ended June 30, 2021, are available in the Individual Investors section of putnam.com and on the Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) website at www.sec.gov. If you have questions about finding forms on the SEC's website, you may call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. You may also obtain the Putnam funds' proxy voting guidelines and procedures at no charge by calling Putnam's Shareholder Services at 1-800-225-1581.

Fund portfolio holdings

The fund files monthly portfolio information with the SEC on Form N-MFP. The fund's Form N-MFP reports are available on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. For information on the fund's portfolio, you may also visit the Putnam Investments website, putnam.com/individual/annuities, where the fund's portfolio holdings and related portfolio information may be viewed monthly beginning no later than five business days after the end of each month.

Fund information

Investment Manager
Putnam Investment Management, LLC
100 Federal Street
Boston, MA 02110

Investment Sub-Advisor
Putnam Investments Limited
16 St James's Street
London, England SW1A 1ER

Marketing Services
Putnam Retail Management
Limited Partnership
100 Federal Street
Boston, MA 02110

Investor Servicing Agent
Putnam Investments
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 219697
Kansas City, MO 64121-9697
1-800-225-1581

Custodian
State Street Bank and Trust Company

Legal Counsel
Ropes & Gray LLP

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

The fund's Statement of Additional Information contains additional information about the fund's Trustees and is available without charge upon request by calling 1-800-225-1581.