



Annual report

John Hancock U.S. Growth Fund

U.S. equity

March 31, 2023

A *message* to shareholders



Dear shareholder,

The U.S. stock market lost ground and experienced elevated volatility during the 12 months ended March 31, 2023. While economic growth remained in positive territory, the aggressive actions of the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) raised concerns that a recession and a concurrent slowdown in corporate earnings would occur in 2023. A variety of other events weighed on sentiment throughout the period, including the Russian invasion of Ukraine and China's extended zero-COVID policy in place until the close of 2022.

U.S. stocks advanced during the first quarter of 2023, despite the unexpected collapse of three regional banks. Although the bank news initially led to a steep market decline, stocks recovered when it became clear the industry's problems were contained, consumers were remaining resilient, and inflation was in line with expectations. The likelihood that a constrained lending environment would help slow economic growth and lead to stabilized interest rates further encouraged investors. The Fed proceeded with another increase in its target interest rate toward the end of the period.

In these uncertain times, your financial professional can assist with positioning your portfolio so that it's sufficiently diversified to help meet your long-term objectives and to withstand the inevitable bouts of market volatility along the way.

On behalf of everyone at John Hancock Investment Management, I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome new shareholders and thank existing shareholders for the continued trust you've placed in us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Arnott". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andrew" and last name "Arnott" clearly distinguishable.

Andrew G. Arnott

Global Head of Retail,
Manulife Investment Management

President and CEO,
John Hancock Investment Management
Head of Wealth and Asset Management,
United States and Europe

This commentary reflects the CEO's views as of this report's period end and are subject to change at any time. Diversification does not guarantee investment returns and does not eliminate risk of loss. All investments entail risks, including the possible loss of principal. For more up-to-date information, you can visit our website at jhinvestments.com.

John Hancock

U.S. Growth Fund

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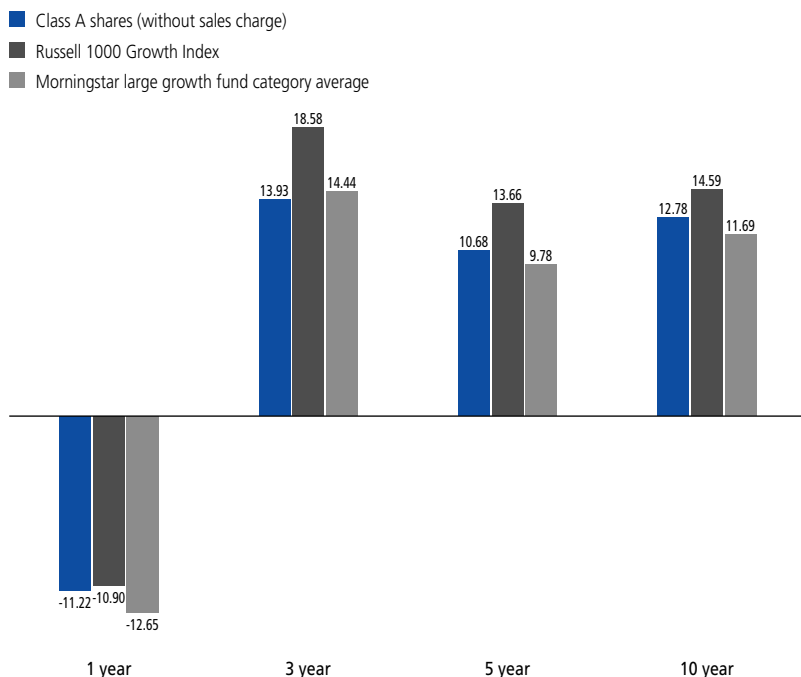
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Your fund at a glance

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The fund seeks long-term capital appreciation.

AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS AS OF 3/31/2023 (%)



The Russell 1000 Growth Index tracks the performance of publicly traded large-cap companies in the United States with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Index figures do not reflect expenses or sales charges, which would result in lower returns.

The fund's Morningstar category average is a group of funds with similar investment objectives and strategies and is the equal-weighted return of all funds per category. Morningstar places funds in certain categories based on their historical portfolio holdings. Figures from Morningstar, Inc. include reinvested distributions and do not take into account sales charges. Actual load-adjusted performance is lower.

The past performance shown here reflects reinvested distributions and the beneficial effect of any expense reductions, and does not guarantee future results. Performance of the other share classes will vary based on the difference in the fees and expenses of those classes. Shares will fluctuate in value and, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current month-end performance may be lower or higher than the performance cited, and can be found at jhinvestments.com or by calling 800-225-5291. For further information on the fund's objectives, risks, and strategy, see the fund's prospectus.

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS OVER THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS

The U.S. stock market posted negative returns

Amid a backdrop of high inflation and rising interest rates, the equity market struggled during the period.

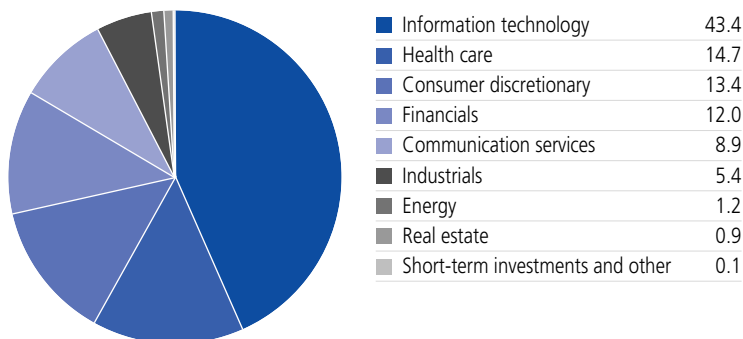
The fund underperformed its benchmark

The fund posted a loss and fell short of the Russell 1000 Growth Index largely due to stock picking in the consumer discretionary and real estate sectors.

Sector allocation aided performance

A large overweight in the financials sector and an underweight in consumer discretionary contributed to the fund's relative performance.

SECTOR COMPOSITION AS OF 3/31/2023 (% of net assets)



Notes about risk

The fund is subject to various risks as described in the fund's prospectus. Political tensions and armed conflicts, including the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and any resulting economic sanctions on entities and/or individuals of a particular country could lead such a country into an economic recession. The COVID-19 disease has resulted in significant disruptions to global business activity. A widespread health crisis such as a global pandemic could cause substantial market volatility, exchange-trading suspensions, and closures, which may lead to less liquidity in certain instruments, industries, sectors, or the markets, generally, and may ultimately affect fund performance. For more information, please refer to the "Principal risks" section of the prospectus.

Management’s discussion of fund performance

How did the U.S. equity market perform during the 12 months ended March 31, 2023?

The U.S. stock market suffered losses during the period. Stocks posted negative returns for most of 2022 amid a backdrop of record inflation and rising interest rates, but posted gains in the fourth quarter as investors were encouraged by milder inflation and expectations that the U.S. Federal Reserve would slow the pace of interest-rate hikes. The market continued to gain in the first quarter of 2023; however, volatility remained high, driven by concerns over the health of the banking sector following the failures of Silicon Valley Bank, Silvergate Capital Corp., and Signature Bank of New York (the fund didn’t hold positions in any of these banks).

How did the fund perform?

The fund produced a negative return that fell short of its benchmark. The biggest relative detractors were security selection in the consumer discretionary, real estate, and communication services sectors. A large underweight in consumer staples, an overweight in communication services, and an underweight in energy also hampered results. In contrast, the fund benefited from a large overweight in the financials sector, an underweight in consumer discretionary, and stock selection in industrials.

TOP 10 HOLDINGS AS OF 3/31/2023 (% of net assets)

Microsoft Corp.	12.1
Apple, Inc.	9.5
Alphabet, Inc., Class A	6.8
Amazon.com, Inc.	5.9
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	3.3
Mastercard, Inc., Class A	3.1
Visa, Inc., Class A	2.9
Eli Lilly & Company	2.5
Meta Platforms, Inc., Class A	2.1
Accenture PLC, Class A	1.9
TOTAL	50.1

Cash and cash equivalents are not included.

The fund's position in Amazon.com, Inc., meaningfully detracted. Shares of Amazon ended the period lower after the e-commerce giant reported third-quarter results in October that missed consensus estimates and issued a disappointing fourth-quarter revenue forecast. Another relative detractor was ZoomInfo

Technologies, Inc., a software and data company. Its shares fell in November after the firm's earnings report included financial guidance that disappointed the market. We sold the fund's holdings in ZoomInfo Technologies prior to period end. Also hampering results was the fund's underweight in NVIDIA Corp., a semiconductor company and maker of graphics chips whose shares gained sharply this period.

One notable relative contributor was the fund's lack of exposure to benchmark component Tesla, Inc., a manufacturer of electric vehicles and energy-storage systems. Its shares fell sharply this period after the company reported lower-than-expected third-quarter vehicle production and delivery numbers. Another notable contributor was an overweight in Ulta Beauty, Inc., an American chain of beauty stores whose shares rose on the company's strong earnings and growth across several of its product categories. Further adding to the fund's relative result was an out-of-benchmark position in Builders FirstSource, Inc., a manufacturer and supplier of building materials.

Did you make any changes to the fund prior to period end?

From a sector perspective, we increased the fund's exposure to consumer discretionary and healthcare and decreased its exposure to financials due to concerns over the failure of several banks during the period.

MANAGED BY

John A. Boselli, CFA

Tim N. Manning

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The views expressed in this report are exclusively those of the portfolio management team at Wellington Management Company LLP, and are subject to change. They are not meant as investment advice. Please note that the holdings discussed in this report may not have been held by the fund for the entire period. Portfolio composition is subject to review in accordance with the fund's investment strategy and may vary in the future. Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk.

A look at performance

TOTAL RETURNS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

	Average annual total returns (%) with maximum sales charge			Cumulative total returns (%) with maximum sales charge	
	1-year	5-year	10-year	5-year	10-year
Class A	-15.66	9.55	12.21	57.80	216.39
Class C ¹	-12.71	9.86	12.06	60.04	212.22
Class I ²	-11.05	10.95	13.08	68.14	241.99
Class R2 ^{1,2}	-11.36	10.53	12.67	64.98	229.61
Class R4 ^{1,2}	-11.13	10.83	12.90	67.20	236.49
Class R6 ^{1,2}	-10.91	11.08	13.12	69.11	243.05
Class NAV ²	-10.96	11.09	13.24	69.18	246.80
Index [†]	-10.90	13.66	14.59	89.69	290.43

Performance figures assume all distributions are reinvested. Figures reflect the maximum sales charge on Class A shares of 5% and the applicable contingent deferred sales charge (CDSC) on Class C shares. Class C shares sold within one year of purchase are subject to a 1% CDSC. Sales charges are not applicable to Class I, Class R2, Class R4, Class R6, and Class NAV shares.

The expense ratios of the fund, both net (including any fee waivers and/or expense limitations) and gross (excluding any fee waivers and/or expense limitations), are set forth according to the most recent publicly available prospectuses for the fund and may differ from those disclosed in the Financial highlights tables in this report. Net expenses reflect contractual fee waivers and expense limitations in effect until July 31, 2023 and are subject to change. Had the contractual fee waivers and expense limitations not been in place, gross expenses would apply. The expense ratios are as follows:

	Class A	Class C	Class I	Class R2	Class R4	Class R6	Class NAV
Gross (%)	0.96	1.71	0.71	1.11	0.96	0.61	0.60
Net (%)	0.96	1.71	0.71	1.10	0.85	0.60	0.59

Please refer to the most recent prospectuses and annual or semiannual report for more information on expenses and any expense limitation arrangements for each class.

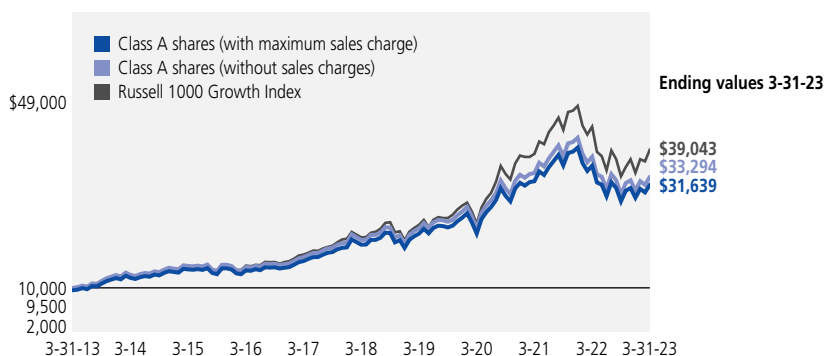
The returns reflect past results and should not be considered indicative of future performance. The return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Due to market volatility and other factors, the fund's current performance may be higher or lower than the performance shown. For current to the most recent month-end performance data, please call 800-225-5291 or visit the fund's website at jhinvestments.com.

The performance table above and the chart on the next page do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on fund distributions or the redemption of fund shares. The fund's performance results reflect any applicable fee waivers or expense reductions, without which the expenses would increase and results would have been less favorable.

[†] Index is the Russell 1000 Growth Index.

See the following page for footnotes.

This chart and table show what happened to a hypothetical \$10,000 investment in John Hancock U.S. Growth Fund for the share classes and periods indicated, assuming all distributions were reinvested. For comparison, we've shown the same investment in the Russell 1000 Growth Index.



	Start date	With maximum sales charge (\$)	Without sales charge (\$)	Index (\$)
Class C ^{1,3}	3-31-13	31,222	31,222	39,043
Class I ²	3-31-13	34,199	34,199	39,043
Class R2 ^{1,2}	3-31-13	32,961	32,961	39,043
Class R4 ^{1,2}	3-31-13	33,649	33,649	39,043
Class R6 ^{1,2}	3-31-13	34,305	34,305	39,043
Class NAV ²	3-31-13	34,680	34,680	39,043

The Russell 1000 Growth Index tracks the performance of publicly traded large-cap companies in the United States with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Index figures do not reflect expenses or sales charges, which would result in lower returns.

Footnotes related to performance pages

¹ Class C shares were first offered on 8-28-14; Class R2, Class R4, and Class R6 shares were first offered on 3-27-15. Returns prior to these dates are those of Class A shares that have not been adjusted for class-specific expenses; otherwise, returns would vary.

² For certain types of investors, as described in the fund's prospectuses.

³ The contingent deferred sales charge is not applicable.

Your expenses

These examples are intended to help you understand your ongoing operating expenses of investing in the fund so you can compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds.

Understanding fund expenses

As a shareholder of the fund, you incur two types of costs:

- **Transaction costs**, which include sales charges (loads) on purchases or redemptions (varies by share class), minimum account fee charge, etc.
- **Ongoing operating expenses**, including management fees, distribution and service fees (if applicable), and other fund expenses.

We are presenting only your ongoing operating expenses here.

Actual expenses/actual returns

The first line of each share class in the table on the following page is intended to provide information about the fund's actual ongoing operating expenses, and is based on the fund's actual return. It assumes an account value of \$1,000.00 on October 1, 2022, with the same investment held until March 31, 2023.

Together with the value of your account, you may use this information to estimate the operating expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value at March 31, 2023, by \$1,000.00, then multiply it by the "expenses paid" for your share class from the table. For example, for an account value of \$8,600.00, the operating expenses should be calculated as follows:

Example

$$\left[\frac{\text{My account value}}{\$8,600.00} / \$1,000.00 = 8.6 \right] \times \$ \left[\begin{array}{c} \text{"expenses paid"} \\ \text{from table} \end{array} \right] = \text{My actual expenses}$$

Hypothetical example for comparison purposes

The second line of each share class in the table on the following page allows you to compare the fund's ongoing operating expenses with those of any other fund. It provides an example of the fund's hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on each class's actual expense ratio and an assumed 5% annualized return before expenses (which is not the class's actual return). It assumes an account value of \$1,000.00 on October 1, 2022, with the same investment held until March 31, 2023. Look in any other fund shareholder report to find its hypothetical example and you will be able to compare these expenses. Please remember that these hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Remember, these examples do not include any transaction costs, therefore, these examples will not help you to determine the relative total costs of owning different funds. If transaction costs were included, your expenses would have been higher. See the prospectuses for details regarding transaction costs.

SHAREHOLDER EXPENSE EXAMPLE CHART

		Account value on 10-1-2022	Ending value on 3-31-2023	Expenses paid during period ended 3-31-2023 ¹	Annualized expense ratio
Class A	Actual expenses/actual returns	\$1,000.00	\$1,123.30	\$5.24	0.99%
	Hypothetical example	1,000.00	1,020.00	4.99	0.99%
Class C	Actual expenses/actual returns	1,000.00	1,119.00	9.19	1.74%
	Hypothetical example	1,000.00	1,016.30	8.75	1.74%
Class I	Actual expenses/actual returns	1,000.00	1,124.00	3.92	0.74%
	Hypothetical example	1,000.00	1,021.20	3.73	0.74%
Class R2	Actual expenses/actual returns	1,000.00	1,122.40	5.93	1.12%
	Hypothetical example	1,000.00	1,019.30	5.64	1.12%
Class R4	Actual expenses/actual returns	1,000.00	1,124.00	4.50	0.85%
	Hypothetical example	1,000.00	1,020.70	4.28	0.85%
Class R6	Actual expenses/actual returns	1,000.00	1,125.00	3.34	0.63%
	Hypothetical example	1,000.00	1,021.80	3.18	0.63%
Class NAV	Actual expenses/actual returns	1,000.00	1,125.00	3.28	0.62%
	Hypothetical example	1,000.00	1,021.80	3.13	0.62%

¹ Expenses are equal to the annualized expense ratio, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182/365 (to reflect the one-half year period).

Fund's investments

AS OF 3-31-23

	Shares	Value
Common stocks 99.9%		\$994,715,234
(Cost \$737,543,361)		
Communication services 8.9%		88,093,494
Interactive media and services 8.9%		
Alphabet, Inc., Class A (A)	648,547	67,273,780
Meta Platforms, Inc., Class A (A)	98,234	20,819,714
Consumer discretionary 13.4%		132,867,537
Broadline retail 7.2%		
Amazon.com, Inc. (A)	568,666	58,737,511
Etsy, Inc. (A)	115,791	12,891,012
Hotels, restaurants and leisure 3.5%		
Airbnb, Inc., Class A (A)	114,719	14,271,044
DraftKings, Inc., Class A (A)	571,446	11,063,195
Hyatt Hotels Corp., Class A (A)	86,866	9,710,750
Household durables 1.3%		
Lennar Corp., A Shares	116,861	12,283,260
Specialty retail 1.4%		
Ulta Beauty, Inc. (A)	25,493	13,910,765
Energy 1.2%		11,937,978
Energy equipment and services 1.2%		
Schlumberger, Ltd.	243,136	11,937,978
Financials 12.0%		119,852,437
Capital markets 3.6%		
Ares Management Corp., Class A	178,245	14,872,763
Morgan Stanley	113,397	9,956,257
MSCI, Inc.	20,727	11,600,695
Consumer finance 1.3%		
American Express Company	80,547	13,286,228
Financial services 6.0%		
Mastercard, Inc., Class A	84,092	30,559,874
Visa, Inc., Class A	128,434	28,956,730
Insurance 1.1%		
Arch Capital Group, Ltd. (A)	156,474	10,619,890
Health care 14.7%		146,434,863
Biotechnology 2.8%		
United Therapeutics Corp. (A)	52,330	11,719,827
Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (A)	50,785	16,000,830
Health care equipment and supplies 1.1%		
Hologic, Inc. (A)	138,148	11,148,544

	Shares	Value
Health care (continued)		
Health care providers and services 6.8%		
Elevance Health, Inc.	24,929	\$11,462,603
Humana, Inc.	26,169	12,704,003
McKesson Corp.	28,246	10,056,988
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	69,990	33,076,574
Pharmaceuticals 4.0%		
Eli Lilly & Company	73,151	25,121,516
Merck & Company, Inc.	142,344	15,143,978
Industrials 5.4%		54,073,071
Building products 2.2%		
Builders FirstSource, Inc. (A)	140,239	12,450,418
Johnson Controls International PLC	162,439	9,782,077
Ground transportation 2.2%		
Knight-Swift Transportation Holdings, Inc.	164,036	9,281,157
Uber Technologies, Inc. (A)	407,112	12,905,450
Professional services 1.0%		
EXL Service Holdings, Inc. (A)	59,655	9,653,969
Information technology 43.4%		432,458,285
Electronic equipment, instruments and components 2.4%		
Flex, Ltd. (A)	455,268	10,475,717
Jabil, Inc.	153,013	13,489,626
IT services 4.7%		
Accenture PLC, Class A	67,002	19,149,842
Gartner, Inc. (A)	55,716	18,150,601
GoDaddy, Inc., Class A (A)	127,716	9,926,088
Semiconductors and semiconductor equipment 10.1%		
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. (A)	162,504	15,927,017
Analog Devices, Inc.	72,039	14,207,532
KLA Corp.	37,381	14,921,374
Microchip Technology, Inc.	193,495	16,211,011
NVIDIA Corp.	35,649	9,902,223
NXP Semiconductors NV	78,211	14,584,396
ON Semiconductor Corp. (A)	175,761	14,468,646
Software 16.7%		
Microsoft Corp.	418,459	120,641,727
Palo Alto Networks, Inc. (A)	67,353	13,453,088
Salesforce, Inc. (A)	86,403	17,261,591
ServiceNow, Inc. (A)	32,305	15,012,780
Technology hardware, storage and peripherals 9.5%		
Apple, Inc.	574,136	94,675,026

		Shares	Value
Real estate 0.9%			\$8,997,569
Real estate management and development 0.9%			
CBRE Group, Inc., Class A (A)		123,576	8,997,569
	Yield (%)	Shares	Value
Short-term investments 0.1%			\$408,199
(Cost \$408,199)			
Short-term funds 0.1%			408,199
State Street Institutional U.S. Government Money Market Fund, Premier Class		4.6799(B)	408,199
Total investments (Cost \$737,951,560) 100.0%			\$995,123,433
Other assets and liabilities, net 0.0%			405,063
Total net assets 100.0%			\$995,528,496

The percentage shown for each investment category is the total value of the category as a percentage of the net assets of the fund.

Security Abbreviations and Legend

(A) Non-income producing security.

(B) The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield as of 3-31-23.

At 3-31-23, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$739,096,684. Net unrealized appreciation aggregated to \$256,026,749, of which \$267,811,865 related to gross unrealized appreciation and \$11,785,116 related to gross unrealized depreciation.

Financial statements

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES 3-31-23

Assets	
Unaffiliated investments, at value (Cost \$737,951,560)	\$995,123,433
Dividends and interest receivable	423,697
Receivable for fund shares sold	988,391
Receivable for securities lending income	85
Other assets	171,495
Total assets	996,707,101
Liabilities	
Payable for investments purchased	8,784
Payable for fund shares repurchased	949,568
Payable to affiliates	
Accounting and legal services fees	37,364
Transfer agent fees	74,475
Distribution and service fees	258
Trustees' fees	86
Other liabilities and accrued expenses	108,070
Total liabilities	1,178,605
Net assets	\$995,528,496
Net assets consist of	
Paid-in capital	\$716,643,608
Total distributable earnings (loss)	278,884,888
Net assets	\$995,528,496
Net asset value per share	
Based on net asset value and shares outstanding - the fund has an unlimited number of shares authorized with no par value	
Class A (\$546,808,208 ÷ 29,884,645 shares) ¹	\$18.30
Class C (\$19,316,029 ÷ 1,127,693 shares) ¹	\$17.13
Class I (\$261,796,457 ÷ 14,026,773 shares)	\$18.66
Class R2 (\$1,261,139 ÷ 68,475 shares)	\$18.42
Class R4 (\$14,285 ÷ 766 shares)	\$18.65
Class R6 (\$121,173,699 ÷ 6,453,071 shares)	\$18.78
Class NAV (\$45,158,679 ÷ 2,405,567 shares)	\$18.77
Maximum offering price per share	
Class A (net asset value per share ÷ 95%) ²	\$19.26

¹ Redemption price per share is equal to net asset value less any applicable contingent deferred sales charge.

² On single retail sales of less than \$50,000. On sales of \$50,000 or more and on group sales the offering price is reduced.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS For the year ended 3-31-23

Investment income	
Dividends	\$9,529,525
Interest	104,020
Securities lending	85
Less foreign taxes withheld	(27,384)
Total investment income	9,606,246
Expenses	
Investment management fees	5,662,601
Distribution and service fees	1,615,739
Accounting and legal services fees	156,331
Transfer agent fees	986,327
Trustees' fees	22,255
Custodian fees	135,751
State registration fees	141,563
Printing and postage	75,680
Professional fees	83,529
Other	53,542
Total expenses	8,933,318
Less expense reductions	(74,977)
Net expenses	8,858,341
Net investment income	747,905
Realized and unrealized gain (loss)	
Net realized gain (loss) on	
Unaffiliated investments	24,561,988
Affiliated investments	272
	24,562,260
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of	
Unaffiliated investments	(168,714,240)
	(168,714,240)
Net realized and unrealized loss	(144,151,980)
Decrease in net assets from operations	\$(143,404,075)

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Year ended 3-31-23	Year ended 3-31-22
Increase (decrease) in net assets		
From operations		
Net investment income (loss)	\$747,905	\$(3,971,566)
Net realized gain	24,562,260	158,059,282
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(168,714,240)	(19,833,844)
Increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(143,404,075)	134,253,872
Distributions to shareholders		
From earnings		
Class A	(52,473,465)	(94,881,817)
Class C	(2,139,626)	(4,787,408)
Class I	(23,364,807)	(53,794,432)
Class R2	(123,707)	(211,758)
Class R4	(1,417)	(570)
Class R6	(11,875,722)	(20,223,435)
Class NAV	(4,145,376)	(7,440,684)
Total distributions	(94,124,120)	(181,340,104)
From fund share transactions	(13,096,826)	(4,662,273)
Total decrease	(250,625,021)	(51,748,505)
Net assets		
Beginning of year	1,246,153,517	1,297,902,022
End of year	\$995,528,496	\$1,246,153,517

Financial highlights

CLASS A SHARES Period ended	3-31-23	3-31-22	3-31-21	3-31-20	3-31-19
Per share operating performance					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$22.99	\$23.96	\$16.24	\$16.23	\$17.94
Net investment income (loss) ¹	(0.01)	(0.10)	(0.07)	0.01	(0.01)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(2.76)	2.75	8.40	— ²	2.22
Total from investment operations	(2.77)	2.65	8.33	0.01	2.21
Less distributions					
From net investment income	—	—	—	—	(0.03)
From net realized gain	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.61)	—	(3.89)
Total distributions	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.61)	—	(3.92)
Net asset value, end of period	\$18.30	\$22.99	\$23.96	\$16.24	\$16.23
Total return (%)^{3,4}	(11.22)	10.06	51.37	0.06	12.22
Ratios and supplemental data					
Net assets, end of period (in millions)	\$547	\$670	\$653	\$458	\$404
Ratios (as a percentage of average net assets):					
Expenses before reductions	0.99	0.96	1.01	1.01	1.10
Expenses including reductions	0.98	0.96	1.00	1.00	1.09
Net investment income (loss)	(0.04)	(0.40)	(0.31)	0.03	(0.07)
Portfolio turnover (%)	103	91	101	91 ⁵	88 ⁶

¹ Based on average daily shares outstanding.

² Less than \$0.005 per share.

³ Total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the applicable periods.

⁴ Does not reflect the effect of sales charges, if any.

⁵ Excludes in-kind transactions and merger activity.

⁶ Excludes in-kind transactions.

CLASS C SHARES Period ended	3-31-23	3-31-22	3-31-21	3-31-20	3-31-19
Per share operating performance					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$21.84	\$23.08	\$15.77	\$15.88	\$17.71
Net investment loss ¹	(0.14)	(0.28)	(0.23)	(0.12)	(0.14)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(2.65)	2.66	8.15	0.01	2.20
Total from investment operations	(2.79)	2.38	7.92	(0.11)	2.06
Less distributions					
From net realized gain	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.61)	—	(3.89)
Net asset value, end of period	\$17.13	\$21.84	\$23.08	\$15.77	\$15.88
Total return (%)^{2,3}	(11.93)	9.25	50.29	(0.69)	11.44
Ratios and supplemental data					
Net assets, end of period (in millions)	\$19	\$30	\$35	\$23	\$12
Ratios (as a percentage of average net assets):					
Expenses before reductions	1.74	1.71	1.76	1.76	1.85
Expenses including reductions	1.73	1.71	1.75	1.75	1.84
Net investment loss	(0.78)	(1.15)	(1.07)	(0.72)	(0.85)
Portfolio turnover (%)	103	91	101	91 ⁴	88 ⁵

¹ Based on average daily shares outstanding.

² Total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the applicable periods.

³ Does not reflect the effect of sales charges, if any.

⁴ Excludes in-kind transactions and merger activity.

⁵ Excludes in-kind transactions.

CLASS I SHARES Period ended	3-31-23	3-31-22	3-31-21	3-31-20	3-31-19
Per share operating performance					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$23.35	\$24.23	\$16.38	\$16.36	\$18.05
Net investment income (loss) ¹	0.04	(0.04)	(0.01)	0.05	0.04
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(2.81)	2.78	8.49	(0.01)	2.23
Total from investment operations	(2.77)	2.74	8.48	0.04	2.27
Less distributions					
From net investment income	—	—	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.07)
From net realized gain	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.61)	—	(3.89)
Total distributions	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.63)	(0.02)	(3.96)
Net asset value, end of period	\$18.66	\$23.35	\$24.23	\$16.38	\$16.36
Total return (%)²	(11.05)	10.33	51.84	0.26	12.55
Ratios and supplemental data					
Net assets, end of period (in millions)	\$262	\$347	\$408	\$321	\$115
Ratios (as a percentage of average net assets):					
Expenses before reductions	0.74	0.71	0.76	0.76	0.87
Expenses including reductions	0.73	0.71	0.75	0.75	0.86
Net investment income (loss)	0.21	(0.16)	(0.06)	0.28	0.25
Portfolio turnover (%)	103	91	101	91 ³	88 ⁴

¹ Based on average daily shares outstanding.

² Total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the applicable periods.

³ Excludes in-kind transactions and merger activity.

⁴ Excludes in-kind transactions.

CLASS R2 SHARES Period ended	3-31-23	3-31-22	3-31-21	3-31-20	3-31-19
Per share operating performance					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$23.16	\$24.15	\$16.38	\$16.40	\$18.08
Net investment loss ¹	(0.03)	(0.14)	(0.10)	(0.02)	(0.04)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(2.79)	2.77	8.48	— ²	2.25
Total from investment operations	(2.82)	2.63	8.38	(0.02)	2.21
Less distributions					
From net investment income	—	—	—	—	— ²
From net realized gain	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.61)	—	(3.89)
Total distributions	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.61)	—	(3.89)
Net asset value, end of period	\$18.42	\$23.16	\$24.15	\$16.38	\$16.40
Total return (%)³	(11.36)	9.89	51.24	(0.12)	12.13
Ratios and supplemental data					
Net assets, end of period (in millions)	\$1	\$2	\$1	\$1	\$1
Ratios (as a percentage of average net assets):					
Expenses before reductions	1.12	1.10	1.14	1.15	1.25
Expenses including reductions	1.11	1.09	1.13	1.14	1.25
Net investment loss	(0.16)	(0.54)	(0.45)	(0.11)	(0.22)
Portfolio turnover (%)	103	91	101	91 ⁴	88 ⁵

¹ Based on average daily shares outstanding.

² Less than \$0.005 per share.

³ Total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the applicable periods.

⁴ Excludes in-kind transactions and merger activity.

⁵ Excludes in-kind transactions.

CLASS R4 SHARES Period ended	3-31-23	3-31-22	3-31-21	3-31-20	3-31-19
Per share operating performance					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$23.36	\$24.25	\$16.41	\$16.39	\$18.08
Net investment income (loss) ¹	0.02	(0.05)	(0.03)	0.03	0.01
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(2.81)	2.78	8.48	— ²	2.24
Total from investment operations	(2.79)	2.73	8.45	0.03	2.25
Less distributions					
From net investment income	—	—	— ²	(0.01)	(0.05)
From net realized gain	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.61)	—	(3.89)
Total distributions	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.61)	(0.01)	(3.94)
Net asset value, end of period	\$18.65	\$23.36	\$24.25	\$16.41	\$16.39
Total return (%)³	(11.13)	10.27	51.59	0.17	12.36
Ratios and supplemental data					
Net assets, end of period (in millions)	\$— ⁴	\$— ⁴	\$— ⁴	\$1	\$1
Ratios (as a percentage of average net assets):					
Expenses before reductions	0.95	0.89	1.00	1.00	1.10
Expenses including reductions	0.84	0.79	0.89	0.89	1.00
Net investment income (loss)	0.12	(0.23)	(0.14)	0.15	0.03
Portfolio turnover (%)	103	91	101	91 ⁵	88 ⁶

¹ Based on average daily shares outstanding.

² Less than \$0.005 per share.

³ Total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the applicable periods.

⁴ Less than \$500,000.

⁵ Excludes in-kind transactions and merger activity.

⁶ Excludes in-kind transactions.

CLASS R6 SHARES Period ended	3-31-23	3-31-22	3-31-21	3-31-20	3-31-19
Per share operating performance					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$23.45	\$24.30	\$16.42	\$16.39	\$18.08
Net investment income (loss) ¹	0.06	(0.01)	0.01	0.07	0.05
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(2.81)	2.78	8.51	— ²	2.24
Total from investment operations	(2.75)	2.77	8.52	0.07	2.29
Less distributions					
From net investment income	—	—	(0.03)	(0.04)	(0.09)
From net realized gain	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.61)	—	(3.89)
Total distributions	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.64)	(0.04)	(3.98)
Net asset value, end of period	\$18.78	\$23.45	\$24.30	\$16.42	\$16.39
Total return (%)³	(10.91)	10.43	51.96	0.38	12.68
Ratios and supplemental data					
Net assets, end of period (in millions)	\$121	\$145	\$147	\$99	\$15
Ratios (as a percentage of average net assets):					
Expenses before reductions	0.63	0.61	0.65	0.65	0.75
Expenses including reductions	0.63	0.60	0.64	0.64	0.74
Net investment income (loss)	0.32	(0.05)	0.04	0.37	0.29
Portfolio turnover (%)	103	91	101	91 ⁴	88 ⁵

¹ Based on average daily shares outstanding.

² Less than \$0.005 per share.

³ Total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the applicable periods.

⁴ Excludes in-kind transactions and merger activity.

⁵ Excludes in-kind transactions.

CLASS NAV SHARES Period ended	3-31-23	3-31-22	3-31-21	3-31-20	3-31-19
Per share operating performance					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$23.45	\$24.29	\$16.41	\$16.38	\$18.07
Net investment income (loss) ¹	0.06	(0.01)	0.01	0.07	0.03
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(2.82)	2.79	8.51	— ²	2.26
Total from investment operations	(2.76)	2.78	8.52	0.07	2.29
Less distributions					
From net investment income	—	—	(0.03)	(0.04)	(0.09)
From net realized gain	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.61)	—	(3.89)
Total distributions	(1.92)	(3.62)	(0.64)	(0.04)	(3.98)
Net asset value, end of period	\$18.77	\$23.45	\$24.29	\$16.41	\$16.38
Total return (%)³	(10.96)	10.48	52.01	0.39	12.69
Ratios and supplemental data					
Net assets, end of period (in millions)	\$45	\$52	\$54	\$40	\$— ⁴
Ratios (as a percentage of average net assets):					
Expenses before reductions	0.62	0.60	0.64	0.64	0.74
Expenses including reductions	0.62	0.59	0.63	0.63	0.73
Net investment income (loss)	0.33	(0.04)	0.06	0.41	0.18
Portfolio turnover (%)	103	91	101	91 ⁵	88 ⁶

¹ Based on average daily shares outstanding.

² Less than \$0.005 per share.

³ Total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the applicable periods.

⁴ Less than \$500,000.

⁵ Excludes in-kind transactions and merger activity.

⁶ Excludes in-kind transactions.

Notes to financial statements

Note 1 — Organization

John Hancock U.S. Growth Fund (the fund) is a series of John Hancock Funds III (the Trust), an open-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust and registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). The investment objective of the fund is to seek long-term capital appreciation.

The fund may offer multiple classes of shares. The shares currently outstanding are detailed in the Statement of assets and liabilities. Class A and Class C shares are offered to all investors. Class I shares are offered to institutions and certain investors. Class R2 and Class R4 shares are available only to certain retirement and 529 plans. Class R6 shares are only available to certain retirement plans, institutions and other investors. Class NAV shares are offered to John Hancock affiliated funds of funds, retirement plans for employees of John Hancock and/or Manulife Financial Corporation, and certain 529 plans. Class C shares convert to Class A shares eight years after purchase (certain exclusions may apply). Shareholders of each class have exclusive voting rights to matters that affect that class. The distribution and service fees, if any, and transfer agent fees for each class may differ.

Note 2 — Significant accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (US GAAP), which require management to make certain estimates and assumptions as of the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates and those differences could be significant. The fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of US GAAP.

Events or transactions occurring after the end of the fiscal period through the date that the financial statements were issued have been evaluated in the preparation of the financial statements. The following summarizes the significant accounting policies of the fund:

Security valuation. Investments are stated at value as of the scheduled close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), normally at 4:00 P.M., Eastern Time. In case of emergency or other disruption resulting in the NYSE not opening for trading or the NYSE closing at a time other than the regularly scheduled close, the net asset value (NAV) may be determined as of the regularly scheduled close of the NYSE pursuant to the Advisor's Valuation Policies and Procedures.

In order to value the securities, the fund uses the following valuation techniques: Equity securities, including exchange-traded or closed-end funds, are typically valued at the last sale price or official closing price on the exchange or principal market where the security trades. In the event there were no sales during the day or closing prices are not available, the securities are valued using the last available bid price. Investments by the fund in open-end mutual funds are valued at their respective NAVs each business day.

In certain instances, the Pricing Committee of the Advisor may determine to value equity securities using prices obtained from another exchange or market if trading on the exchange or market on which prices are typically obtained did not open for trading as scheduled, or if trading closed earlier than scheduled, and trading occurred as normal on another exchange or market.

Other portfolio securities and assets, for which reliable market quotations are not readily available, are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by the Pricing Committee following procedures established by the Advisor and adopted by the Board of Trustees. The frequency with which these fair valuation procedures are used cannot be predicted and fair value of securities may differ significantly from the value that would have been used had a ready market for such securities existed.

The fund uses a three tier hierarchy to prioritize the pricing assumptions, referred to as inputs, used in valuation techniques to measure fair value. Level 1 includes securities valued using quoted prices in active markets for identical securities, including registered investment companies. Level 2 includes securities valued using other significant observable inputs. Observable inputs may include quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates,

prepayment speeds and credit risk. Prices for securities valued using these inputs are received from independent pricing vendors and brokers and are based on an evaluation of the inputs described. Level 3 includes securities valued using significant unobservable inputs when market prices are not readily available or reliable, including the Advisor's assumptions in determining the fair value of investments. Factors used in determining value may include market or issuer specific events or trends, changes in interest rates and credit quality. The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risks associated with investing in those securities. Changes in valuation techniques and related inputs may result in transfers into or out of an assigned level within the disclosure hierarchy.

As of March 31, 2023, all investments are categorized as Level 1 under the hierarchy described above.

Real estate investment trusts. The fund may invest in real estate investment trusts (REITs). Distributions from REITs may be recorded as income and subsequently characterized by the REIT at the end of their fiscal year as a reduction of cost of investments and/or as a realized gain. As a result, the fund will estimate the components of distributions from these securities. Such estimates are revised when the actual components of the distributions are known.

Security transactions and related investment income. Investment security transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily NAV calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is accrued as earned. Dividend income is recorded on ex-date, except for dividends of certain foreign securities where the dividend may not be known until after the ex-date. In those cases, dividend income, net of withholding taxes, is recorded when the fund becomes aware of the dividends. Non-cash dividends, if any, are recorded at the fair market value of the securities received. Gains and losses on securities sold are determined on the basis of identified cost and may include proceeds from litigation.

Securities lending. The fund may lend its securities to earn additional income. The fund receives collateral from the borrower in an amount not less than the market value of the loaned securities. The fund may invest its cash collateral in John Hancock Collateral Trust (JHCT), an affiliate of the fund, which has a floating NAV and is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as an investment company. JHCT is a prime money market fund and invests in short-term money market investments. The fund will receive the benefit of any gains and bear any losses generated by JHCT with respect to the cash collateral.

The fund has the right to recall loaned securities on demand. If a borrower fails to return loaned securities when due, then the lending agent is responsible and indemnifies the fund for the lent securities. The lending agent uses the collateral received from the borrower to purchase replacement securities of the same issue, type, class and series of the loaned securities. If the value of the collateral is less than the purchase cost of replacement securities, the lending agent is responsible for satisfying the shortfall but only to the extent that the shortfall is not due to any decrease in the value of JHCT.

Although the risk of loss on securities lent is mitigated by receiving collateral from the borrower and through lending agent indemnification, the fund could experience a delay in recovering securities or could experience a lower than expected return if the borrower fails to return the securities on a timely basis. During the existence of the loan, the fund will receive from the borrower amounts equivalent to any dividends, interest or other distributions on the loaned securities, as well as interest on such amounts. The fund receives compensation for lending its securities by retaining a portion of the return on the investment of the collateral and compensation from fees earned from borrowers of the securities. Securities lending income received by the fund is net of fees retained by the securities lending agent. Net income received from JHCT is a component of securities lending income as recorded on the Statement of operations. As of March 31, 2023, there were no securities on loan.

Foreign taxes. The fund may be subject to withholding tax on income, capital gains or repatriations imposed by certain countries, a portion of which may be recoverable. Foreign taxes are accrued based upon the fund's understanding of the tax rules and rates that exist in the foreign markets in which it invests. Taxes are accrued

based on gains realized by the fund as a result of certain foreign security sales. In certain circumstances, estimated taxes are accrued based on unrealized appreciation of such securities. Investment income is recorded net of foreign withholding taxes.

Overdraft. The fund may have the ability to borrow from banks for temporary or emergency purposes, including meeting redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely sale of securities. Pursuant to the fund’s custodian agreement, the custodian may loan money to the fund to make properly authorized payments. The fund is obligated to repay the custodian for any overdraft, including any related costs or expenses. The custodian may have a lien, security interest or security entitlement in any fund property that is not otherwise segregated or pledged, to the extent of any overdraft, and to the maximum extent permitted by law.

Line of credit. The fund and other affiliated funds have entered into a syndicated line of credit agreement with Citibank, N.A. as the administrative agent that enables them to participate in a \$1 billion unsecured committed line of credit. Excluding commitments designated for a certain fund and subject to the needs of all other affiliated funds, the fund can borrow up to an aggregate commitment amount of \$750 million, subject to asset coverage and other limitations as specified in the agreement. A commitment fee payable at the end of each calendar quarter, based on the average daily unused portion of the line of credit, is charged to each participating fund based on a combination of fixed and asset-based allocations and is reflected in Other expenses on the Statement of operations. For the year ended March 31, 2023, the fund had no borrowings under the line of credit. Commitment fees for the year ended March 31, 2023 were \$6,396.

Expenses. Within the John Hancock group of funds complex, expenses that are directly attributable to an individual fund are allocated to such fund. Expenses that are not readily attributable to a specific fund are allocated among all funds in an equitable manner, taking into consideration, among other things, the nature and type of expense and the fund’s relative net assets. Expense estimates are accrued in the period to which they relate and adjustments are made when actual amounts are known.

Class allocations. Income, common expenses and realized and unrealized gains (losses) are determined at the fund level and allocated daily to each class of shares based on the net assets of the class. Class-specific expenses, such as distribution and service fees, if any, and transfer agent fees, for all classes, are charged daily at the class level based on the net assets of each class and the specific expense rates applicable to each class.

Federal income taxes. The fund intends to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company by complying with the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code and will not be subject to federal income tax on taxable income that is distributed to shareholders. Therefore, no federal income tax provision is required.

As of March 31, 2023, the fund had no uncertain tax positions that would require financial statement recognition, derecognition or disclosure. The fund’s federal tax returns are subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service for a period of three years.

Distribution of income and gains. Distributions to shareholders from net investment income and net realized gains, if any, are recorded on the ex-date. The fund generally declares and pays dividends annually. Capital gain distributions, if any, are typically distributed annually.

The tax character of distributions for the years ended March 31, 2023 and 2022 was as follows:

	March 31, 2023	March 31, 2022
Ordinary income	—	\$44,902,603
Long-term capital gains	\$94,124,120	136,437,501
Total	\$94,124,120	\$181,340,104

Distributions paid by the fund with respect to each class of shares are calculated in the same manner, at the same time and in the same amount, except for the effect of class level expenses that may be applied differently to each class. As of March 31, 2023, the components of distributable earnings on a tax basis consisted of \$749,960 of undistributed ordinary income and \$22,108,179 of undistributed long-term capital gains.

Such distributions and distributable earnings, on a tax basis, are determined in conformity with income tax regulations, which may differ from US GAAP. Distributions in excess of tax basis earnings and profits, if any, are reported in the fund’s financial statements as a return of capital.

Capital accounts within the financial statements are adjusted for permanent book-tax differences. These adjustments have no impact on net assets or the results of operations. Temporary book-tax differences, if any, will reverse in a subsequent period. Book-tax differences are primarily attributable to wash sale loss deferrals.

Note 3 — Guarantees and indemnifications

Under the Trust’s organizational documents, its Officers and Trustees are indemnified against certain liabilities arising out of the performance of their duties to the Trust, including the fund. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the fund enters into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The fund’s maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the fund that have not yet occurred. The risk of material loss from such claims is considered remote.

Note 4 — Fees and transactions with affiliates

John Hancock Investment Management LLC (the Advisor) serves as investment advisor for the fund. John Hancock Investment Management Distributors LLC (the Distributor), an affiliate of the Advisor, serves as principal underwriter of the fund. The Advisor and the Distributor are indirect, principally owned subsidiaries of John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.), which in turn is a subsidiary of Manulife Financial Corporation.

Management fee. The fund has an investment management agreement with the Advisor under which the fund pays a daily management fee to the Advisor equivalent on an annual basis to the sum of: (a) 0.600% of the first \$500 million of the fund’s aggregate net assets; (b) 0.550% of the next \$1.0 billion of the fund’s aggregate net assets; and (c) 0.530% of the fund’s aggregate net assets in excess of \$1.5 billion. Aggregate net assets include the net assets of the fund and Manulife U.S. Diversified Growth Equity Fund, a series trust of The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company. The advisor has a subadvisory agreement with Wellington Management Company LLP. The fund is not responsible for payment of the subadvisory fees.

The Advisor has contractually agreed to waive a portion of its management fee and/or reimburse expenses for certain funds of the John Hancock group of funds complex, including the fund (the participating portfolios). This waiver is based upon aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios. The amount of the reimbursement is calculated daily and allocated among all the participating portfolios in proportion to the daily net assets of each fund. During the year ended March 31, 2023, this waiver amounted to 0.01% of the fund’s average daily net assets. This arrangement expires on July 31, 2024, unless renewed by mutual agreement of the fund and the Advisor based upon a determination that this is appropriate under the circumstances at that time.

For the year ended March 31, 2023, the expense reductions described above amounted to the following:

Class	Expense reduction	Class	Expense reduction
Class A	\$40,833	Class R6	\$9,110
Class C	1,689	Class NAV	3,269
Class I	19,974	Total	\$74,968
Class R2	93		

Expenses waived or reimbursed in the current fiscal period are not subject to recapture in future fiscal periods.

The investment management fees, including the impact of the waivers and reimbursements as described above, incurred for the year ended March 31, 2023, were equivalent to a net annual effective rate of 0.55% of the fund's average daily net assets.

Accounting and legal services. Pursuant to a service agreement, the fund reimburses the Advisor for all expenses associated with providing the administrative, financial, legal, compliance, accounting and recordkeeping services to the fund, including the preparation of all tax returns, periodic reports to shareholders and regulatory reports, among other services. These expenses are allocated to each share class based on its relative net assets at the time the expense was incurred. These accounting and legal services fees incurred, for the year ended March 31, 2023, amounted to an annual rate of 0.02% of the fund's average daily net assets.

Distribution and service plans. The fund has a distribution agreement with the Distributor. The fund has adopted distribution and service plans for certain classes as detailed below pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, to pay the Distributor for services provided as the distributor of shares of the fund. In addition, under a service plan for certain classes as detailed below, the fund pays for certain other services. The fund may pay up to the following contractual rates of distribution and service fees under these arrangements, expressed as an annual percentage of average daily net assets for each class of the fund's shares:

Class	Rule 12b-1 Fee	Service fee
Class A	0.25%	—
Class C	1.00%	—
Class R2	0.25%	0.25%
Class R4	0.25%	0.10%

The fund's Distributor has contractually agreed to waive 0.10% of Rule12b-1 fees for Class R4 shares. The current waiver agreement expires on July 31, 2023, unless renewed by mutual agreement of the fund and the Distributor based upon a determination that this is appropriate under the circumstances at the time. This contractual waiver amounted to \$9 for Class R4 shares for the year ended March 31, 2023.

Sales charges. Class A shares are assessed up-front sales charges, which resulted in payments to the Distributor amounting to \$174,409 for the year ended March 31, 2023. Of this amount, \$28,743 was retained and used for printing prospectuses, advertising, sales literature and other purposes and \$145,666 was paid as sales commissions to broker-dealers.

Class A and Class C shares may be subject to contingent deferred sales charges (CDSCs). Certain Class A shares purchased, including those that are acquired through purchases of \$1 million or more, and redeemed within one year of purchase are subject to a 1.00% sales charge. Class C shares that are redeemed within one year of purchase are subject to a 1.00% CDSC. CDSCs are applied to the lesser of the current market value at the time of redemption or the original purchase cost of the shares being redeemed. Proceeds from CDSCs are used to compensate the Distributor for providing distribution-related services in connection with the sale of these shares. During the year ended March 31, 2023, CDSCs received by the Distributor amounted to \$445 and \$524 for Class A and Class C shares, respectively.

Transfer agent fees. The John Hancock group of funds has a complex-wide transfer agent agreement with John Hancock Signature Services, Inc. (Signature Services), an affiliate of the Advisor. The transfer agent fees paid to Signature Services are determined based on the cost to Signature Services (Signature Services Cost) of providing recordkeeping services. It also includes out-of-pocket expenses, including payments made to third-parties for recordkeeping services provided to their clients who invest in one or more John Hancock funds. In addition, Signature Services Cost may be reduced by certain fees that Signature Services receives in connection with retirement and small accounts. Signature Services Cost is calculated monthly and allocated, as applicable, to five categories of share classes: Retail Share and Institutional Share Classes of Non-Municipal Bond Funds, Class R6

Shares, Retirement Share Classes and Municipal Bond Share Classes. Within each of these categories, the applicable costs are allocated to the affected John Hancock affiliated funds and/or classes, based on the relative average daily net assets.

Class level expenses. Class level expenses for the year ended March 31, 2023 were as follows:

Class	Distribution and service fees	Transfer agent fees
Class A	\$1,381,441	\$636,804
Class C	228,201	26,337
Class I	—	311,354
Class R2	6,069	120
Class R4	28	1
Class R6	—	11,711
Total	\$1,615,739	\$986,327

Trustee expenses. The fund compensates each Trustee who is not an employee of the Advisor or its affiliates. The costs of paying Trustee compensation and expenses are allocated to the fund based on its net assets relative to other funds within the John Hancock group of funds complex.

Interfund lending program. Pursuant to an Exemptive Order issued by the SEC, the fund, along with certain other funds advised by the Advisor or its affiliates, may participate in an interfund lending program. This program provides an alternative credit facility allowing the fund to borrow from, or lend money to, other participating affiliated funds. At period end, no interfund loans were outstanding. The fund's activity in this program during the period for which loans were outstanding was as follows:

Borrower or Lender	Weighted Average Loan Balance	Days Outstanding	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Interest Income (Expense)
Lender	\$5,166,667	6	3.026%	\$2,606

Note 5 — Fund share transactions

Transactions in fund shares for the years ended March 31, 2023 and 2022 were as follows:

	Year Ended 3-31-23		Year Ended 3-31-22	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Class A shares				
Sold	1,802,319	\$34,073,217	1,212,772	\$30,823,365
Distributions reinvested	3,096,748	51,498,951	3,762,581	92,785,993
Repurchased	(4,163,977)	(79,567,057)	(3,076,018)	(77,793,440)
Net increase	735,090	\$6,005,111	1,899,335	\$45,815,918
Class C shares				
Sold	76,383	\$1,375,885	80,525	\$1,960,557
Distributions reinvested	137,042	2,137,853	203,317	4,769,820
Repurchased	(472,717)	(8,404,996)	(401,076)	(9,639,707)
Net decrease	(259,292)	\$(4,891,258)	(117,234)	\$(2,909,330)

	Year Ended 3-31-23		Year Ended 3-31-22	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Class I shares				
Sold	4,226,606	\$80,874,177	2,338,632	\$59,285,230
Distributions reinvested	1,376,354	23,329,193	2,145,580	53,682,403
Repurchased	(6,429,940)	(125,779,097)	(6,480,524)	(164,709,542)
Net decrease	(826,980)	\$(21,575,727)	(1,996,312)	\$(51,741,909)
Class R2 shares				
Sold	8,565	\$170,572	5,359	\$133,531
Distributions reinvested	6,625	110,964	8,525	211,758
Repurchased	(11,523)	(215,716)	(4,701)	(110,252)
Net increase	3,667	\$65,820	9,183	\$235,037
Class R4 shares				
Sold	559	\$10,468	10	\$270
Distributions reinvested	23	392	23	570
Repurchased	—	—	(12)	(324)
Net increase	582	\$10,860	21	\$516
Class R6 shares				
Sold	1,245,396	\$24,849,817	970,782	\$25,301,012
Distributions reinvested	696,523	11,875,722	805,073	20,223,435
Repurchased	(1,675,915)	(32,375,118)	(1,629,093)	(41,748,773)
Net increase	266,004	\$4,350,421	146,762	\$3,775,674
Class NAV shares				
Sold	206,786	\$4,035,518	217,307	\$5,705,814
Distributions reinvested	243,131	4,145,376	296,324	7,440,684
Repurchased	(268,244)	(5,242,947)	(501,469)	(12,984,677)
Net increase	181,673	\$2,937,947	12,162	\$161,821
Total net increase (decrease)	100,744	\$(13,096,826)	(46,083)	\$(4,662,273)

Affiliates of the fund owned 71% and 100% of shares of Class R4 and Class NAV, respectively, on March 31, 2023. Such concentration of shareholders' capital could have a material effect on the fund if such shareholders redeem from the fund.

Note 6 — Purchase and sale of securities

Purchases and sales of securities, other than short-term investments, amounted to \$1,052,455,737 and \$1,159,270,458, respectively, for the year ended March 31, 2023.

Note 7 — Industry or sector risk

The fund may invest a large percentage of its assets in one or more particular industries or sectors of the economy. If a large percentage of the fund's assets are economically tied to a single or small number of industries or sectors of the economy, the fund will be less diversified than a more broadly diversified fund, and it may cause the fund to

underperform if that industry or sector underperforms. In addition, focusing on a particular industry or sector may make the fund’s NAV more volatile. Further, a fund that invests in particular industries or sectors is particularly susceptible to the impact of market, economic, regulatory and other factors affecting those industries or sectors.

Note 8 — Investment in affiliated underlying funds

The fund may invest in affiliated underlying funds that are managed by the Advisor and its affiliates. Information regarding the fund’s fiscal year to date purchases and sales of the affiliated underlying funds as well as income and capital gains earned by the fund, if any, is as follows:

Affiliate	Ending share amount	Beginning value	Cost of purchases	Proceeds from shares sold	Realized gain (loss)	Change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	Dividends and distributions		Ending value
							Income distributions received	Capital gain distributions received	
John Hancock Collateral Trust*	—	—	\$14,759,250	\$(14,759,522)	\$272	—	\$85	—	—

* Refer to the Securities lending note within Note 2 for details regarding this investment.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Trustees of John Hancock Funds III and Shareholders of John Hancock U.S. Growth Fund

Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the fund's investments, of John Hancock U.S. Growth Fund (one of the funds constituting John Hancock Funds III, referred to hereafter the "Fund") as of March 31, 2023, the related statement of operations for the year ended March 31, 2023, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period ended March 31, 2023, including the related notes, and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period ended March 31, 2023 (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 March 31, 2023, 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 March 31, 2023 and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period ended March 31, 2023 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 March 31, 2023 by correspondence with the custodian and transfer agent. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Boston, Massachusetts

May 4, 2023

We have served as the auditor of one or more investment companies in the John Hancock group of funds since 1988.

Tax information

(Unaudited)

For federal income tax purposes, the following information is furnished with respect to the distributions of the fund, if any, paid during its taxable year ended March 31, 2023.

The fund reports the maximum amount allowable of its net taxable income as eligible for the corporate dividends-received deduction.

The fund reports the maximum amount allowable of its net taxable income as qualified dividend income as provided in the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003.

The fund reports the maximum amount allowable as Section 163(j) Interest Dividends.

The fund paid \$94,124,120 in long term capital gain dividends.

The fund reports the maximum amount allowable of its Section 199A dividends as defined in Proposed Treasury Regulation §1.199A-3(d).

Eligible shareholders will be mailed a 2023 Form 1099-DIV in early 2024. This will reflect the tax character of all distributions paid in calendar year 2023.

Please consult a tax advisor regarding the tax consequences of your investment in the fund.

STATEMENT REGARDING LIQUIDITY RISK MANAGEMENT

Operation of the Liquidity Risk Management Program

This section describes the operation and effectiveness of the Liquidity Risk Management Program (LRMP) established in accordance with Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the Liquidity Rule). The Board of Trustees (the Board) of each Fund in the John Hancock Group of Funds (each a Fund and collectively, the Funds) that is subject to the requirements of the Liquidity Rule has appointed John Hancock Investment Management LLC and John Hancock Variable Trust Advisers LLC (together, the Advisor) to serve as Administrator of the LRMP with respect to each of the Funds, including John Hancock U.S. Growth Fund, subject to the oversight of the Board. In order to provide a mechanism and process to perform the functions necessary to administer the LRMP, the Advisor established the Liquidity Risk Management Committee (the Committee). The Fund's subadvisor, Wellington Management Company LLP (the Subadvisor) executes the day-to-day investment management and security-level activities of the Fund in accordance with the requirements of the LRMP, subject to the supervision of the Advisor and the Board.

The Committee receives monthly reports and holds quarterly in person meetings to: (1) review the day-to-day operations of the LRMP; (2) monitor current market and liquidity conditions and assess liquidity risks; (3) review and approve month-end liquidity classifications; (4) monitor illiquid investment levels against the 15% limit on illiquid investments and established Highly Liquid Investment Minimums (HLIMs), if any; (5) review quarterly testing and determinations, as applicable; (6) review redemption-in-kind activities; and (7) review other LRMP related material. The Advisor also conducts daily, monthly, quarterly, and annual quantitative and qualitative assessments of each subadvisor to a Fund that is subject to the requirements of the Liquidity Rule and is a part of the LRMP to monitor investment performance issues, risks and trends. In addition, the Advisor may conduct ad-hoc reviews and meetings with subadvisors as issues and trends are identified, including potential liquidity issues. The Committee also monitors global events, such as the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine and related U.S. imposed sanctions on the Russian government, companies and oligarchs, and other amendments to the Office of Foreign Assets Control sanctioned company lists, that could impact the markets and liquidity of portfolio investments and their classifications. In addition, the Committee monitors macro events and assesses their potential impact on liquidity brought on by fear of contagion (e.g. regional banking crisis).

The Committee provided the Board at a meeting held on March 28-30, 2023 with a written report which addressed the Committee's assessment of the adequacy and effectiveness of the implementation and operation of the LRMP and any material changes to the LRMP. The report, which covered the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, included an assessment of important aspects of the LRMP including, but not limited to: (1) Security-level liquidity classifications; (2) Fund-level liquidity risk assessment; (3) Reasonably Anticipated Trade Size (RATS) determination; (4) HLIM determination and daily monitoring; (5) Daily compliance with the 15% limit on illiquid investments; (6) Operation of the Fund's Redemption-In-Kind Procedures; and (7) Review of liquidity management facilities.

The report provided an update on Committee activities over the previous year. Additionally, the report included a discussion of notable changes and enhancements to the LRMP implemented during 2022 and key initiatives for 2023.

The report also covered material liquidity matters which occurred or were reported during this period applicable to the Fund, if any, and the Committee's actions to address such matters.

The report stated, in relevant part, that during the period covered by the report:

- The Fund's investment strategy remained appropriate for an open-end fund structure;
- The Fund was able to meet requests for redemption without significant dilution of remaining shareholders' interests in the Fund;

- The Fund did not experience any breaches of the 15% limit on illiquid investments, or any applicable HLIM, that would require reporting to the Securities and Exchange Commission;
- The Fund continued to qualify as a Primarily Highly Liquid Fund under the Liquidity Rule and therefore is not required to establish a HLIM; and
- The Chief Compliance Officer's office, as a part of their annual Rule 38a-1 assessment of the Fund's policies and procedures, reviewed the LRMP's control environment and deemed it to be operating effectively and in compliance with the Board approved procedures.

Adequacy and Effectiveness

Based on the annual review and assessment conducted by the Committee, the Committee has determined that the LRMP and its controls have been implemented and are operating in a manner that is adequately and effectively managing the liquidity risk of the Fund.

Trustees and Officers

This chart provides information about the Trustees and Officers who oversee your John Hancock fund. Officers elected by the Trustees manage the day-to-day operations of the fund and execute policies formulated by the Trustees.

Independent Trustees

Name, year of birth Position(s) held with Trust Principal occupation(s) and other directorships during past 5 years	Trustee of the Trust since ¹	Number of John Hancock funds overseen by Trustee
Hassell H. McClellan, Born: 1945	2012	186
<i>Trustee and Chairperson of the Board</i>		
Director/Trustee, Virtus Funds (2008-2020); Director, The Barnes Group (2010-2021); Associate Professor, The Wallace E. Carroll School of Management, Boston College (retired 2013). Trustee (since 2005) and Chairperson of the Board (since 2017) of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex.		
James R. Boyle, Born: 1959	2015	183
<i>Trustee</i>		
Board Member, United of Omaha Life Insurance Company (since 2022). Board Member, Mutual of Omaha Investor Services, Inc. (since 2022). Foresters Financial, Chief Executive Officer (2018–2022) and board member (2017–2022). Manulife Financial and John Hancock, more than 20 years, retiring in 2012 as Chief Executive Officer, John Hancock and Senior Executive Vice President, Manulife Financial. Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (2005–2014 and since 2015).		
William H. Cunningham,² Born: 1944	2006	184
<i>Trustee</i>		
Professor, University of Texas, Austin, Texas (since 1971); former Chancellor, University of Texas System and former President of the University of Texas, Austin, Texas; Director (since 2006), Lincoln National Corporation (insurance); Director, Southwest Airlines (since 2000). Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 1986).		
Noni L. Ellison,* Born: 1971	2022	183
<i>Trustee</i>		
Senior Vice President, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, Tractor Supply Company (rural lifestyle retailer) (since 2021); General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer & Corporate Secretary, Carestream Dental, L.L.C.(2017–2021); Associate General Counsel & Assistant Corporate Secretary, W.W. Grainger, Inc. (global industrial supplier) (2015–2017); Board Member, Goodwill of North Georgia, 2018 (FY2019)–2020 (FY2021); Board Member, Howard University School of Law Board of Visitors (since 2021); Board Member, University of Chicago Law School Board of Visitors (since 2016); Board member, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta Foundation Board (2021–present). Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2022).		
Grace K. Fey, Born: 1946	2012	186
<i>Trustee</i>		
Chief Executive Officer, Grace Fey Advisors (since 2007); Director and Executive Vice President, Frontier Capital Management Company (1988–2007); Director, Fiduciary Trust (since 2009). Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2008).		
Dean C. Garfield,* Born: 1968	2022	183
<i>Trustee</i>		
Vice President, Netflix, Inc. (since 2019); President & Chief Executive Officer, Information Technology Industry Council (2009–2019); NYU School of Law Board of Trustees (since 2021); Member, U.S. Department of Transportation, Advisory Committee on Automation (since 2021); President of the United States Trade Advisory Council (2010–2018); Board Member, College for Every Student (2017–2021); Board Member, The Seed School of Washington, D.C. (2012–2017). Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2022).		

Independent Trustees (continued)

Name, year of birth Position(s) held with Trust Principal occupation(s) and other directorships during past 5 years	Trustee of the Trust since ¹	Number of John Hancock funds overseen by Trustee
Deborah C. Jackson, Born: 1952	2008	185
<i>Trustee</i> President, Cambridge College, Cambridge, Massachusetts (since 2011); Board of Directors, Amwell Corporation (since 2020); Board of Directors, Massachusetts Women's Forum (2018-2020); Board of Directors, National Association of Corporate Directors/New England (2015-2020); Chief Executive Officer, American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay (2002–2011); Board of Directors of Eastern Bank Corporation (since 2001); Board of Directors of Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation (since 2001); Board of Directors of Boston Stock Exchange (2002–2008); Board of Directors of Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare (health benefits company) (2007–2011). Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2008).		
Patricia Lizarraga,^{2,*} Born: 1966	2022	183
<i>Trustee</i> Founder, Chief Executive Officer, Hypatia Capital Group (advisory and asset management company) (since 2007); Independent Director, Audit Committee Chair, and Risk Committee Member, Credicorp, Ltd. (since 2017); Independent Director, Audit Committee Chair, Banco De Credito Del Peru (since 2017); Trustee, Museum of Art of Lima (since 2009). Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2022).		
Steven R. Pruchansky, Born: 1944	2006	183
<i>Trustee and Vice Chairperson of the Board</i> Managing Director, Pru Realty (since 2017); Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Greenscapes of Southwest Florida, Inc. (2014-2020); Director and President, Greenscapes of Southwest Florida, Inc. (until 2000); Member, Board of Advisors, First American Bank (until 2010); Managing Director, Jon James, LLC (real estate) (since 2000); Partner, Right Funding, LLC (2014-2017); Director, First Signature Bank & Trust Company (until 1991); Director, Mast Realty Trust (until 1994); President, Maxwell Building Corp. (until 1991). Trustee (since 1992), Chairperson of the Board (2011–2012), and Vice Chairperson of the Board (since 2012) of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex.		
Frances G. Rathke,² Born: 1960	2020	183
<i>Trustee</i> Director, Audit Committee Chair, Oatly Group AB (plant-based drink company) (since 2021); Director, Audit Committee Chair and Compensation Committee Member, Green Mountain Power Corporation (since 2016); Director, Treasurer and Finance & Audit Committee Chair, Flynn Center for Performing Arts (since 2016); Director and Audit Committee Chair, Planet Fitness (since 2016); Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, Keurig Green Mountain, Inc. (2003-retired 2015). Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2020).		
Gregory A. Russo, Born: 1949	2008	183
<i>Trustee</i> Director and Audit Committee Chairman (2012-2020), and Member, Audit Committee and Finance Committee (2011-2020), NCH Healthcare System, Inc. (holding company for multi-entity healthcare system); Director and Member (2012-2018), and Finance Committee Chairman (2014-2018), The Moorings, Inc. (nonprofit continuing care community); Global Vice Chairman, Risk & Regulatory Matters, KPMG LLP (KPMG) (2002–2006); Vice Chairman, Industrial Markets, KPMG (1998–2002). Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2008).		

Non-Independent Trustees³

Name, year of birth Position(s) held with Trust Principal occupation(s) and other directorships during past 5 years	Trustee of the Trust since ¹	Number of John Hancock funds overseen by Trustee
Andrew G. Arnott, Born: 1971	2017	184

President and Non-Independent Trustee

Global Head of Retail for Manulife (since 2022); Head of Wealth and Asset Management, United States and Europe, for John Hancock and Manulife (since 2018); Director and Executive Vice President, John Hancock Investment Management LLC (since 2005, including prior positions); Director and Executive Vice President, John Hancock Variable Trust Advisers LLC (since 2006, including prior positions); President, John Hancock Investment Management Distributors LLC (since 2004, including prior positions); President of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2007, including prior positions). Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2017).

Marianne Harrison, ^ Born: 1963	2018	183
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Non-Independent Trustee

President and CEO, John Hancock (since 2017); President and CEO, Manulife Canadian Division (2013–2017); Member, Board of Directors, Boston Medical Center (since 2021); Member, Board of Directors, CAE Inc. (since 2019); Member, Board of Directors, MA Competitive Partnership Board (since 2018); Member, Board of Directors, American Council of Life Insurers (ACLI) (since 2018); Member, Board of Directors, Communitech, an industry-led innovation center that fosters technology companies in Canada (2017-2019); Member, Board of Directors, Manulife Assurance Canada (2015-2017); Board Member, St. Mary's General Hospital Foundation (2014-2017); Member, Board of Directors, Manulife Bank of Canada (2013-2017); Member, Standing Committee of the Canadian Life & Health Assurance Association (2013-2017); Member, Board of Directors, John Hancock USA, John Hancock Life & Health, John Hancock New York (2012–2013 and since 2017). Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2018).

Paul Lorentz, † Born: 1968	2022	183
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Non-Independent Trustee

Global Head, Manulife Wealth and Asset Management (since 2017); General Manager, Manulife, Individual Wealth Management and Insurance (2013–2017); President, Manulife Investments (2010–2016). Trustee of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2022).

Principal officers who are not Trustees

Name, year of birth Position(s) held with Trust Principal occupation(s) during past 5 years	Current Position(s) with the Trust since
Charles A. Rizzo, Born: 1957	2007

Chief Financial Officer

Vice President, John Hancock Financial Services (since 2008); Senior Vice President, John Hancock Investment Management LLC and John Hancock Variable Trust Advisers LLC (since 2008); Chief Financial Officer of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2007).

Salvatore Schiavone, Born: 1965	2010
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Treasurer

Assistant Vice President, John Hancock Financial Services (since 2007); Vice President, John Hancock Investment Management LLC and John Hancock Variable Trust Advisers LLC (since 2007); Treasurer of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2007, including prior positions).

Principal officers who are not Trustees (continued)

Name, year of birth Position(s) held with Trust Principal occupation(s) during past 5 years	Current Position(s) with the Trust since
Christopher (Kit) Sechler, Born: 1973 <i>Secretary and Chief Legal Officer</i> Vice President and Deputy Chief Counsel, John Hancock Investment Management (since 2015); Assistant Vice President and Senior Counsel (2009–2015), John Hancock Investment Management; Assistant Secretary of John Hancock Investment Management LLC and John Hancock Variable Trust Advisers LLC (since 2009); Chief Legal Officer and Secretary of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2009, including prior positions).	2018
Trevor Swanberg, Born: 1979 <i>Chief Compliance Officer</i> Chief Compliance Officer, John Hancock Investment Management LLC and John Hancock Variable Trust Advisers LLC (since 2020); Deputy Chief Compliance Officer, John Hancock Investment Management LLC and John Hancock Variable Trust Advisers LLC (2019–2020); Assistant Chief Compliance Officer, John Hancock Investment Management LLC and John Hancock Variable Trust Advisers LLC (2016–2019); Vice President, State Street Global Advisors (2015–2016); Chief Compliance Officer of various trusts within the John Hancock Fund Complex (since 2016, including prior positions). The business address for all Trustees and Officers is 200 Berkeley Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116-5023. The Statement of Additional Information of the fund includes additional information about members of the Board of Trustees of the Trust and is available without charge, upon request, by calling 800-225-5291.	2020

¹ Each Trustee holds office until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified, or until the Trustee's death, retirement, resignation, or removal. Mr. Boyle has served as Trustee at various times prior to the date listed in the table.

² Member of the Audit Committee.

³ The Trustee is a Non-Independent Trustee due to current or former positions with the Advisor and certain affiliates.

^{*} Elected to serve as Independent Trustee effective as of September 9, 2022.

[^] Ms. Harrison is retiring effective May 1, 2023.

[†] Elected to serve as Non-Independent Trustee effective as of September 9, 2022.

More information

Trustees

Hassell H. McClellan, *Chairperson*
Steven R. Pruchansky, *Vice Chairperson*
Andrew G. Arnott[†]
James R. Boyle
William H. Cunningham^{*}
Grace K. Fey
Noni L. Ellison[^]
Dean C. Garfield[^]
Marianne Harrison^{†, #}
Deborah C. Jackson
Patricia Lizarraga^{†, ^}
Paul Lorentz[†]
Frances G. Rathke^{*}
Gregory A. Russo

Officers

Andrew G. Arnott
President
Charles A. Rizzo
Chief Financial Officer
Salvatore Schiavone
Treasurer
Christopher (Kit) Sechler
Secretary and Chief Legal Officer
Trevor Swanberg
Chief Compliance Officer

[†] Non-Independent Trustee

^{*} Member of the Audit Committee

[^] Elected to serve as Independent Trustee effective as of September 9, 2022.

[#] Ms. Harrison is retiring effective May 1, 2023.

^{*} Elected to serve as Non-Independent Trustee effective as of September 9, 2022.

The fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, as well as the fund proxy voting record for the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30, are available free of charge on the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) website at sec.gov or on our website.

All of the fund's holdings as of the end of the third month of every fiscal quarter are filed with the SEC on Form N-PORT within 60 days of the end of the fiscal quarter. The fund's Form N-PORT filings are available on our website and the SEC's website, sec.gov.

We make this information on your fund, as well as **monthly portfolio holdings**, and other fund details available on our website at jhinvestments.com or by calling 800-225-5291.

You can also contact us:

800-225-5291
jhinvestments.com

Regular mail:
John Hancock Signature Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 219909
Kansas City, MO 64121-9909

Express mail:
John Hancock Signature Services, Inc.
430 W 7th Street
Suite 219909
Kansas City, MO 64105-1407

Investment advisor

John Hancock Investment Management LLC

Subadvisor

Wellington Management Company LLP

Portfolio Managers

John A. Boselli, CFA
Timothy N. Manning

Principal distributor

John Hancock Investment Management Distributors LLC

Custodian

State Street Bank and Trust Company

Transfer agent

John Hancock Signature Services, Inc.

Legal counsel

K&L Gates LLP

Independent registered public accounting firm

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

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Direct shareholders

If you receive statements directly through John Hancock Investment Management and would like to participate in eDelivery, go to jhinvestments.com/login. To log in to your account, click on the "Log in" button on the page's top right corner. In the "Access your investments account" area, go to the "Individual retirement or mutual fund account" section and select the option that applies to you. Please be aware that you may be required to provide your account number and certain personal account information.

You may revoke your consent at any time by simply visiting jhinvestments.com/login and following the instructions above. You may also revoke consent by calling 800-225-5291 or by writing to us at the following address: John Hancock Signature Services, Inc., P.O. Box 219909, Kansas City, MO 64121-9909. We reserve the right to deliver documents to you on paper at any time should the need arise.

Brokerage account shareholders

If you receive statements directly from your bank or broker and would like to participate in eDelivery, go to icsdelivery/live or contact your financial representative.

Get your questions answered by using our shareholder resources

ONLINE

- Visit **jhinvestments.com** to access a range of resources for individual investors, from account details and fund information to forms and our latest insight on the markets and economy.
- Use our **Fund Compare** tool to compare thousands of funds and ETFs across dozens of risk and performance metrics—all powered by Morningstar.
- Visit our online **Tax Center**, where you'll find helpful taxpayer resources all year long, including tax forms, planning guides, and other fund-specific information.
- Follow us on **Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn** to get the latest updates on the markets and what's trending now.

BY PHONE

Call our customer service representatives at 800-225-5291, Monday to Thursday, 8:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M., and Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Eastern time. We're here to help!

John Hancock family of funds

U.S. EQUITY FUNDS

Blue Chip Growth
Classic Value
Disciplined Value
Disciplined Value Mid Cap
Equity Income
Financial Industries
Fundamental All Cap Core
Fundamental Large Cap Core
Mid Cap Growth
New Opportunities
Regional Bank
Small Cap Core
Small Cap Growth
Small Cap Value
U.S. Global Leaders Growth
U.S. Growth

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY FUNDS

Disciplined Value International
Emerging Markets
Emerging Markets Equity
Fundamental Global Franchise
Global Environmental Opportunities
Global Equity
Global Shareholder Yield
Global Thematic Opportunities
International Dynamic Growth
International Growth
International Small Company

FIXED-INCOME FUNDS

Bond
California Municipal Bond
Emerging Markets Debt
Floating Rate Income
Government Income
High Yield
High Yield Municipal Bond
Income
Investment Grade Bond
Money Market
Municipal Opportunities
Opportunistic Fixed Income
Short Duration Bond
Short Duration Municipal Opportunities
Strategic Income Opportunities

ALTERNATIVE FUNDS

Alternative Asset Allocation
Diversified Macro
Infrastructure
Multi-Asset Absolute Return
Real Estate Securities
Seaport Long/Short

A fund's investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses should be considered carefully before investing. The prospectus contains this and other important information about the fund. To obtain a prospectus, contact your financial professional, call John Hancock Investment Management at 800-225-5291, or visit our website at jhinvestments.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing or sending money.

EXCHANGE-TRADED FUNDS

John Hancock Corporate Bond ETF
John Hancock International High Dividend ETF
John Hancock Mortgage-Backed Securities ETF
John Hancock Multifactor Developed International ETF
John Hancock Multifactor Emerging Markets ETF
John Hancock Multifactor Large Cap ETF
John Hancock Multifactor Mid Cap ETF
John Hancock Multifactor Small Cap ETF
John Hancock Preferred Income ETF
John Hancock U.S. High Dividend ETF

ASSET ALLOCATION/TARGET DATE FUNDS

Balanced
Multi-Asset High Income
Lifestyle Blend Portfolios
Lifetime Blend Portfolios
Multimanager Lifestyle Portfolios
Multimanager Lifetime Portfolios
Preservation Blend Portfolios

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND GOVERNANCE FUNDS

ESG Core Bond
ESG International Equity
ESG Large Cap Core

CLOSED-END FUNDS

Asset-Based Lending
Financial Opportunities
Hedged Equity & Income
Income Securities Trust
Investors Trust
Preferred Income
Preferred Income II
Preferred Income III
Premium Dividend
Tax-Advantaged Dividend Income
Tax-Advantaged Global Shareholder Yield

John Hancock ETF shares are bought and sold at market price (not NAV), and are not individually redeemed from the fund. Brokerage commissions will reduce returns.

John Hancock ETFs are distributed by Foreside Fund Services, LLC, and are subadvised by Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC or Dimensional Fund Advisors LP. Foreside is not affiliated with John Hancock Investment Management Distributors LLC, Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC or Dimensional Fund Advisors LP.

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A trusted brand

John Hancock Investment Management is a premier asset manager with a heritage of financial stewardship dating back to 1862. Helping our shareholders pursue their financial goals is at the core of everything we do. It's why we support the role of professional financial advice and operate with the highest standards of conduct and integrity.

A better way to invest

We serve investors globally through a unique multimanager approach: We search the world to find proven portfolio teams with specialized expertise for every strategy we offer, then we apply robust investment oversight to ensure they continue to meet our uncompromising standards and serve the best interests of our shareholders.

Results for investors

Our unique approach to asset management enables us to provide a diverse set of investments backed by some of the world's best managers, along with strong risk-adjusted returns across asset classes.

"A trusted brand" is based on a survey of 6,651 respondents conducted by Medallia between 3/18/20 and 5/13/20.



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