

## Summary prospectus

# John Hancock Balanced Fund

Before you invest, you may want to review the fund's prospectus, which contains more information about the fund and its risks. You can find the fund's prospectus and other information about the fund, including the Statement of Additional Information and most recent reports, online at [www.jhinvestments.com/prospectuses](http://www.jhinvestments.com/prospectuses). You can also get this information at no cost by calling 800-225-5291 (Class A and Class C) or 888-972-8696 (Class I and Class R suite) or by sending an email request to [info@jhinvestments.com](mailto:info@jhinvestments.com). The fund's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, both dated March 1, 2023, as may be supplemented, and most recent financial highlights information included in the shareholder report, dated October 31, 2022, are incorporated by reference into this summary prospectus.

**Tickers**

A: SVBAX C: SVBCX I: SVBIX R2: JBATX R4: JBAFX R5: JBAVX R6: JBAWX

**Investment objective**

To seek current income, long-term growth of capital and income and preservation of capital.

**Fees and expenses**

This table describes the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell shares of the fund. **You may pay other fees, such as brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries, which are not reflected in the tables and examples below.** You may qualify for sales charge discounts on Class A shares if you and your family invest, or agree to invest in the future, at least \$50,000 in the John Hancock family of funds. Intermediaries may have different policies and procedures regarding the availability of front-end sales charge waivers or contingent deferred sales charge (CDSC) waivers (See Appendix 1 - Intermediary sales charge waivers, which includes information about specific sales charge waivers applicable to the intermediaries identified therein). More information about these and other discounts is available from your financial professional and on pages 25 to 27 of the prospectus under "Sales charge reductions and waivers" or pages 123 to 127 of the fund's Statement of Additional Information under "Sales Charges on Class A and Class C Shares."

Shareholder fees (%) (fees paid directly from your investment)	A	C	I	R2	R4	R5	R6
Maximum front-end sales charge (load) on purchases, as a % of purchase price	4.50	None	None	None	None	None	None
Maximum deferred sales charge (load) as a % of purchase or sale price, whichever is less	1.00 (on certain purchases, including those of \$250,000 or more)	1.00	None	None	None	None	None
Small account fee (for fund account balances under \$1,000) (\$)	20	20	None	None	None	None	None

Annual fund operating expenses (%) (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)	A	C	I	R2	R4	R5	R6
Management fee	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57
Distribution and service (Rule 12b-1) fees	0.30	1.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
Other expenses							
Service plan fee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25 <sup>1</sup>	0.10	0.05	0.00
Additional other expenses	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Total other expenses	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.31	0.16	0.11	0.06
<b>Total annual fund operating expenses</b>	<b>1.04</b>	<b>1.74</b>	<b>0.74</b>	<b>1.13</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>0.63</b>
Contractual expense reimbursement <sup>2</sup>	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.11 <sup>3</sup>	-0.01	-0.01
<b>Total annual fund operating expenses after expense reimbursements</b>	<b>1.03</b>	<b>1.73</b>	<b>0.73</b>	<b>1.12</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>0.62</b>

<sup>1</sup> "Service plan fee" has been restated to reflect maximum allowable fees.

<sup>2</sup> The advisor contractually agrees to waive a portion of its management fee and/or reimburse expenses for the fund and certain other John Hancock funds according to an asset level breakpoint schedule that is based on the aggregate net assets of all the funds participating in the waiver or reimbursement, including the fund (the participating portfolios). This waiver equals, on an annualized basis, 0.0100% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$75 billion but is less than or equal to \$125 billion; 0.0125% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$125 billion but is less than or equal to \$150 billion; 0.0150% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$150 billion but is less than or equal to \$175 billion; 0.0175% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$175 billion but is less than or

## John Hancock Balanced Fund

equal to \$200 billion; 0.0200% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$200 billion but is less than or equal to \$225 billion; and 0.0225% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$225 billion. The amount of the reimbursement is calculated daily and allocated among all the participating portfolios in proportion to the daily net assets of each participating portfolio. During its most recent fiscal year, the fund's reimbursement amounted to 0.01% of the fund's average daily net assets. This agreement 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.

- 3 The distributor contractually agrees to limit its Rule 12b-1 fees for Class R4 shares to 0.15%. This agreement expires on February 28, 2024 unless renewed by mutual agreement of the fund and the distributor based upon a determination that this is appropriate under the circumstances at that time.

### Expense example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. Please see below a hypothetical example showing the expenses of a \$10,000 investment for the time periods indicated and then, except as shown below, assuming you sell all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example assumes a 5% average annual return and that fund expenses will not change over the periods. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

Expenses(\$)	A	C		I	R2	R4	R5	R6
		Sold	Not Sold					
1 year	550	276	176	75	114	89	68	63
3 years	765	547	547	236	358	301	217	201
5 years	997	943	943	410	621	531	378	350
10 years	1,663	1,866	1,866	917	1,374	1,191	846	785

### Portfolio turnover

The fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, affect the fund's performance. During its most recent fiscal year, the fund's portfolio turnover rate was 61% of the average value of its portfolio.

### Principal investment strategies

Under normal market conditions, the fund invests at least 25% of assets in equity securities and at least 25% of assets in senior debt securities. The fund allocates its investments among a diversified mix of debt and equity securities, including securities of other investment companies that invest in debt and equity securities.

For the equity portfolio, the manager looks for companies that appear to be undervalued compared to their historical valuations relative to the market. The manager uses fundamental financial analysis and proprietary financial models to identify companies of any size that are selling at a discount as measured by ratios such as price-to-book, price-to-earnings, and price-to-sales.

The manager then looks for a positive catalyst in a company's near-term outlook that it believes will accelerate earnings or improve value of the company's assets. These positive catalysts may include, but are not limited to, new, improved, or unique products or services; new or rapidly expanding markets for the company's products; new management; changes in the economic, financial, political, or regulatory environment affecting the company; or a business strategy not recognized by the marketplace. The manager also considers an issuer's dividend-paying prospects and overall financial strength.

The manager considers environmental, social, and/or governance (ESG) factors, alongside other relevant factors, as part of its investment process. ESG factors may include, but are not limited to, matters regarding board diversity, climate change policies, and supply chain and human rights policies. The ESG characteristics utilized in the fund's investment process may change over time and one or more characteristics may not be relevant with respect to all issuers that are eligible fund investments.

The fund's debt portfolio is intended to enhance current income and provide added stability. The fund may invest in bonds of any maturity. The fund's bond investments are primarily rated investment-grade (rated BBB or above by S&P Global Ratings (S&P) or Baa or above by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. (Moody's) and unrated equivalents). Up to 20% of assets may be invested in below-investment-grade bonds (i.e., junk bonds) rated as low as C by S&P or Moody's and their unrated equivalents. The fund's investment policies are based on credit ratings at the time of purchase.

Although the fund invests primarily in U.S. securities, it may invest up to 35% of assets in foreign securities. The fund may invest up to 50% of assets in mortgage-backed securities. The fund may trade securities actively.

The fund may engage in derivatives transactions to a limited extent. Derivatives may be used to reduce risk and/or obtain efficient market exposure, and may include futures contracts, options, and foreign currency forward contracts.

## Principal risks

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An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Many factors affect performance, and fund shares will fluctuate in price, meaning you could lose money. The fund's investment strategy may not produce the intended results.

The fund's main risks are listed below in alphabetical order, not in order of importance. *Before investing, be sure to read the additional descriptions of these risks beginning on page 6 of the prospectus.*

**Credit and counterparty risk.** The issuer or guarantor of a fixed-income security, the counterparty to an over-the-counter derivatives contract, or a borrower of fund securities may not make timely payments or otherwise honor its obligations. A downgrade or default affecting any of the fund's securities could affect the fund's performance.

**Economic and market events risk.** Events in the U.S. and global financial markets, including actions taken by the U.S. Federal Reserve or foreign central banks to stimulate or stabilize economic growth, may at times result in unusually high market volatility, which could negatively impact performance. Reduced liquidity in credit and fixed-income markets could adversely affect issuers worldwide. Banks and financial services companies could suffer losses if interest rates rise or economic conditions deteriorate.

**Equity securities risk.** The price of equity securities may decline due to changes in a company's financial condition or overall market conditions. Securities the manager believes are undervalued may never realize their full potential value, and in certain markets value stocks may underperform the market as a whole.

**ESG integration risk.** The manager considers ESG factors that it deems relevant or additive, along with other material factors and analysis, when managing the fund. ESG factors may include, but are not limited to, matters regarding board diversity, climate change policies, and supply chain and human rights policies. The manager may consider these ESG factors on all or a meaningful portion of the fund's investments. Incorporating ESG criteria and making investment decisions based on certain ESG characteristics, as determined by the manager, carries the risk that the fund may perform differently, including underperforming, funds that do not utilize ESG criteria, or funds that utilize different ESG criteria.

**Fixed-income securities risk.** A rise in interest rates typically causes bond prices to fall. The longer the average maturity or duration of the bonds held by a fund, the more sensitive it will likely be to interest-rate fluctuations. An issuer may not make all interest payments or repay all or any of the principal borrowed. Changes in a security's credit quality may adversely affect fund performance.

**Foreign securities risk.** Less information may be publicly available regarding foreign issuers, including foreign government issuers. Foreign securities may be subject to foreign taxes and may be more volatile than U.S. securities. Currency fluctuations and political and economic developments may adversely impact the value of foreign securities. If applicable, depositary receipts are subject to most of the risks associated with investing in foreign securities directly because the value of a depositary receipt is dependent upon the market price of the underlying foreign equity security. Depositary receipts are also subject to liquidity risk.

**Hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions risk.** Hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions may increase a fund's volatility and could produce disproportionate losses, potentially more than the fund's principal investment. Risks of these transactions are different from and possibly greater than risks of investing directly in securities and other traditional instruments. Under certain market conditions, derivatives could become harder to value or sell and may become subject to liquidity risk (i.e., the inability to enter into closing transactions). Derivatives and other strategic transactions that the fund intends to utilize include: foreign currency forward contracts, futures contracts, and options. Foreign currency forward contracts, futures contracts, and options generally are subject to counterparty risk. Derivatives associated with foreign currency transactions are subject to currency risk.

**High portfolio turnover risk.** Trading securities actively and frequently can increase transaction costs (thus lowering performance) and taxable distributions.

**Investment company securities risk.** The fund may invest in securities of other investment companies. Fund shareholders indirectly bear their proportionate share of the expenses of each such investment company. The total return on such investments will be reduced by the operating expenses and fees of such other investment companies, including advisory fees.

**Large company risk.** Larger companies may grow more slowly than smaller companies or be slower to respond to business developments. Large-capitalization securities may underperform the market as a whole.

**Liquidity risk.** The extent (if at all) to which a security may be sold or a derivative position closed without negatively impacting its market value may be impaired by reduced market activity or participation, legal restrictions, or other economic and market impediments. Liquidity risk may be magnified in rising interest rate environments due to higher than normal redemption rates. Widespread selling of fixed-income securities to satisfy redemptions during periods of reduced demand may adversely impact the price or salability of such securities. Periods of heavy redemption could cause the fund to sell assets at a loss or depressed value, which could negatively affect performance. Redemption risk is heightened during periods of declining or illiquid markets.

**Lower-rated and high-yield fixed-income securities risk.** Lower-rated and high-yield fixed-income securities (junk bonds) are subject to greater credit quality risk, risk of default, and price volatility than higher-rated fixed-income securities, may be considered speculative, and can be difficult to resell.

**Mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities risk.** Mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities are subject to different combinations of prepayment, extension, interest-rate, and other market risks. Factors that impact the value of these securities include interest rate changes, the reliability of available information, credit quality or enhancement, and market perception.

**Operational and cybersecurity risk.** Cybersecurity breaches may allow an unauthorized party to gain access to fund assets, customer data, or proprietary information, or cause a fund or its service providers to suffer data corruption or lose operational functionality. Similar incidents affecting issuers of a fund's securities may negatively impact performance. Operational risk may arise from human error, error by third parties, communication errors, or technology failures, among other causes.

**Small and mid-sized company risk.** Small and mid-sized companies are generally less established and may be more volatile than larger companies. Small and/or mid-capitalization securities may underperform the market as a whole.

## Past performance

The following information illustrates the variability of the fund's returns and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the fund by showing changes in the fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the fund's average annual returns compared with a broad-based market index. Past performance (before and after taxes) does not indicate future results. The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index and the 60% S&P 500 Index/40% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index represent broad measures of the U.S. stock and bond markets and show how the fund's performance compares against the returns of similar investments. All figures assume dividend reinvestment. Performance information is updated daily, monthly, and quarterly and may be obtained at our website, [jhinvestments.com](http://jhinvestments.com), or by calling 800-225-5291 (Class A and Class C), Monday to Thursday, 8:00 A.M.—7:00 P.M., and Friday, 8:00 A.M.—6:00 P.M., Eastern time, or 888-972-8696 (Class I and Class R suite) between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Eastern time, on most business days.

Please note that after-tax returns (shown for Class A shares only) reflect the highest individual federal marginal income-tax rate in effect as of the date provided and do not reflect any state or local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns may be different. After-tax returns are not relevant to shares held in an IRA, 401(k), or other tax-advantaged investment plan. After-tax returns for other share classes would vary. The returns for Class A shares have been adjusted to reflect the reduction in the maximum sales charge from 5.00% to 4.50%, effective August 1, 2019.

### Calendar year total returns (%)—Class A (sales charges are not reflected in the bar chart and returns would have been lower if they were)

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
19.39	8.24	-1.90	8.08	13.92	-4.95	21.28	15.97	14.50	-15.78



**Best quarter:** 2020, Q2, 14.79%

**Worst quarter:** 2022, Q2, -11.87%

### Average annual total returns (%)—as of 12/31/22

	1 year	5 year	10 year
Class A (before tax)	-19.58	4.25	6.75
after tax on distributions	-19.96	3.35	5.65
after tax on distributions, with sale	-11.46	3.10	5.11
Class C	-17.20	4.47	6.50
Class I	-15.51	5.53	7.58
Class R2	-15.86	5.12	7.19
Class R4	-15.65	5.37	7.42
Class R5	-15.47	5.58	7.63
Class R6	-15.44	5.64	7.69
S&P 500 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes)	-18.11	9.42	12.56
Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes)	-13.01	0.02	1.06
60% S&P 500 Index/40% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes)	-15.79	5.96	8.08

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## Investment management

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**Investment advisor** John Hancock Investment Management LLC

**Subadvisor** Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC

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## Portfolio management

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The following individuals are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund's portfolio.

**Susan A. Curry**

*Managing Director and Portfolio Manager*

Managed the fund since 2019

**Jeffrey N. Given, CFA**

*Senior Managing Director and Senior Portfolio*

*Manager*

Managed the fund since 2006

**Michael J. Scanlon, Jr., CFA**

*Managing Director and Lead Portfolio*

*Manager*

Managed the fund since 2015

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## Purchase and sale of fund shares

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The minimum initial investment requirement for Class A and Class C shares is \$1,000 (\$250 for group investments), except that there is no minimum for certain group retirement plans, certain fee-based or wrap accounts, or certain other eligible investment product platforms. The minimum initial investment requirement for Class I shares is \$250,000, except that the fund may waive the minimum for any category of investors at the fund's sole discretion. There are no minimum initial investment requirements for Class R2, Class R4, or Class R5 shares. The minimum initial investment requirement for Class R6 shares is \$1 million, except that there is no minimum for: qualified and nonqualified plan investors; certain eligible qualifying investment product platforms; Trustees, employees of the advisor or its affiliates, employees of the subadvisor, members of the fund's portfolio management team and the spouses and children (under age 21) of the aforementioned. There are no subsequent minimum investment requirements.

Class A, Class C, Class I, and Class R6 shares may be redeemed on any business day by mail: John Hancock Signature Services, Inc., P.O. Box 219909, Kansas City, MO 64121-9909; or for most account types through our website: [jhinvestments.com](http://jhinvestments.com); or by telephone: 800-225-5291 (Class A and Class C); 888-972-8696 (Class I and Class R6). Class R2, Class R4, and Class R5 shares may be redeemed on any business day by contacting your retirement plan administrator or recordkeeper.

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## Taxes

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The fund's distributions are taxable, and will be taxed as ordinary income and/or capital gains, unless you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or individual retirement account. Withdrawals from such tax-deferred arrangements may be subject to tax at a later date.

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## Payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries

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If you purchase the fund through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank, registered investment advisor, financial planner, or retirement plan administrator), the fund and its related companies may pay the broker-dealer or other intermediary for the sale of fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your salesperson to recommend the fund over another investment. These payments are not applicable to Class R6 shares. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.







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