

# BTS Tactical Fixed Income VIT Fund Q4 | Dec 31st, 2023

Class 1 Shares: Class 2 Shares: **66537U 379 66537U 361** 

#### About BTS

BTS Asset Management (BTS) serves as the investment adviser to the fund. Founded in 1979, BTS Asset Management is one of the oldest nontraditional risk managers, managing traditional assets with a nontraditional approach.

### BTS:

Seeks to provide defensive capital preservation and total return.

#### **Portfolio Management**

Vilis Pasts, Co-Portfolio Manager Matthew Pasts, CMT, Co-Portfolio Manager Isaac Braley, Co-Portfolio Manager



### Fund Performance as of 12/31/2023

	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Since Inception 04/29/2013
BTS Tactical Fixed Income VIT Fund Class 1 Shares	2.02%	2.02%	-4.24%	-1.29%	0.23%	-0.04%
BTS Tactical Fixed Income VIT Fund Class 2 Shares		1.53%	-4.76%	-1.89%	-0.25%	-0.48%
Bloomberg Agg Bond Index		5.28%	-3.26%	1.15%	1.82%	1.41%

BTS Tactical Fixed Income VIT Fund Class 1 Shares — Expense Ratio: 1.88% BTS Tactical Fixed Income VIT Fund Class 2 Shares — Expense Ratio: 2.38%

The performance data quoted here represents past performance. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted above. Investment return and principle value will fluctuate, so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. A Fund's performance, especially for very short periods of time, should not be the sole factor in making your investment decisions. For performance information current to the most recent monthend, please call toll-free 1-877-287-9820. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Performance for periods less than one year are not annualized.

(1) The Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index is comprised of government securities, mortgage-backed securities, asset-backed securities and corporate securities with maturities of one year or more to simulate the universe of bonds in the market. Investors cannot directly invest in an index; unmanaged index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses or sales charges.

Investment products are not FDIC insured, do not have a bank guarantee, and may lose value.

The Fund is an Investment vehicle for variable annuity contracts and may be subject to fees or expenses that are typically charged by these contracts. Please review the insurance contract prospectus for further description of these fees and expenses. This product is available as a sub-account investment to a variable annuity contract only and is not offered directly to the general public.

# **Bond Sector Results Can Vary Greatly**

As shown in the table at right, the returns for major bond sectors can vary by large percentages year to year.

- Obviously, being invested in the bond sector producing the highest returns, or out of bonds entirely if none of the sectors are producing positive returns, can increase total returns substantially over time.
- ◆ In fact, if you were invested in the best performing sector in each of the 15 years shown in the table below, <u>your</u> <u>compounded average annual growth rate would have been</u> 11.28%¹!
- ◆ On the other hand, if you were invested in the worst performing sector in each of the 15 years, <u>your</u> <u>compounded average annual growth rate would have been</u> <u>-3.49</u>%²!

Most investors lump all bonds together and do not realize the varying returns that they may offer.

- BTS believes focusing on a set of core and satellite bond investments with low correlation to one another offers significant upside potential, but the more important upside is that there is a place to allocate assets when most traditional investments are losing value.
- That means that we are willing to allocate our portfolio to 100% cash if we believe that full safety is needed.
- Non-tactical buy and hold approaches may be risky and may not be appropriate for most baby-boomers.

Year	Domestic High Yield Bond Sector <sup>3</sup>	U.S. Govt Bond Sector⁴	U.S. Short-Term T-Bill Sector⁵
2023	13.45%	4.09%	5.14%
2022	-11.19%	-12.32%	1.52%
2021	5.28%	-2.28%	0.04%
2020	7.11%	7.94%	0.54%
2019	14.32%	6.83%	2.21%
2018	-2.08%	0.88%	1.82%
2017	7.50%	2.30%	0.82%
2016	17.13%	1.05%	0.26%
2015	-4.47%	0.86%	0.03%
2014	2.45%	4.92%	0.02%
2013	7.44%	-2.60%	0.05%
2012	15.81%	2.02%	0.08%
2011	4.98%	9.02%	0.07%
2010	15.12%	5.52%	0.13%
2009	58.21%	-2.20%	0.15%
2008	-26.16%	12.39%	1.77%

Note: This table is for illustrative purposes only and does not represent the future performance of any specific investment option, nor imply actual allocation recommendations. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

- 1,2 The results are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to represent the past and future performance of any BTS Program.
- <sup>3</sup> Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Total Return updated through 12/31/2023. The U.S. Corporate High Yield Index measures the market of USD-denominated, non-investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bonds. Securities are classified as high yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch, and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below, excluding emerging market debt.
- <sup>4</sup> **Bloomberg US Government Bond Index** updated through 12/31/2023. The U.S. Government Index is comprised of the U.S. Treasury and U.S. Agency Indices. The U.S. Government Index includes Treasuries (public obligations of the U.S. Treasury that have remaining maturities of more than one year) and U.S. agency debentures (publicly issued debt of U.S. Government agencies, quasi-federal corporations, and corporate or foreign debt guaranteed by the U.S. Government). The U.S. Government Index is a component of the U.S. Government/Credit Index and the U.S. Aggregate Index.
- <sup>5</sup> **Bloomberg 1-3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index** updated through 12/31/2023. The 1-3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill index includes all publicly issued zero-coupon U.S. Treasury Bills that have a remaining maturity of less than 3 months and more than 1 month, are rated investment grade, and have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value. In addition, the securities must be denominated in U.S. dollars and must be fixed rate and non-convertible.

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the BTS Tactical Fixed Income VIT Fund. This and other information about the Fund is contained in the prospectus and should be read carefully before investing. The prospectus can be obtained on our web site, <a href="www.btsfunds.com">www.btsfunds.com</a>, by calling toll free 1-877-287-9820 (1-877-BTS-9820), or by calling your financial representative. The BTS Tactical Fixed Income VIT Fund is distributed by Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, Member FINRA/SIPC. BTS Asset Management, Inc. is not affiliated with Northern Lights Distributors, LLC.

#### **Important Risk Information**

The Fund is an Investment vehicle for variable annuity contracts and may be subject to fees or expenses that are typically charged by these contracts. Please review the insurance contract prospectus for further description of these fees and expenses. This product is available as a sub-account investment to a variable annuity contract only and is not offered directly to the general public. Variable subaccounts involve risk, including possible loss of principal.

The Fund may invest in derivatives. Even a small investment in options may give rise to leverage risk, and can have a significant impact on the Fund's performance. Derivatives are subject to credit risk and liquidity risk. The Fund invests in fixed income securities, derivatives on fixed income securities or Underlying Funds that invest in fixed income securities. The value of the Fund will fluctuate with changes in interest rates. Defaults by fixed income issuers in which the Fund invests could also harm performance. Lower-quality bonds known as "high yield" or "junk" bonds, present greater risk than bonds of higher quality, including an increased risk of default. An economic downturn or period of rising interest rates could adversely affect the market for these bonds and reduce the Fund's ability to sell its bonds. The lack of a liquid market for these bonds could decrease the Fund's share price.

Investors cannot directly invest in an index and unmanaged index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses, or sales charges.



Not FDIC Insured. May Lose Value. No Bank Guarantee.

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