

Putnam International Equity Fund

Prospectus

10 | 30 | 10

Fund summary	2
What are the fund's main investment strategies and related risks?	6
Who oversees and manages the fund?	10
How does the fund price its shares?	13
How do I buy fund shares?	14
How do I sell or exchange fund shares?	21
Policy on excessive short-term trading	23
Distribution plans and payments to dealers	26
Fund distributions and taxes	28
Financial highlights	30

Investment Category: Blend

This prospectus explains what you should know about this mutual fund before you invest. Please read it carefully.

These securities have not been approved or disapproved by the Securities and Exchange Commission nor has the Commission passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any statement to the contrary is a crime.

Putnam International Equity Fund Prospectus dated October 30, 2010

The sub-section *Your fund's management* in the *Fund summary* section is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following disclosure:

Investment advisor

Putnam Investment Management, LLC

Portfolio manager

Simon Davis, Head of International Equities, portfolio manager of the fund since 2011

The section *Who oversees and manages the fund?* is supplemented to reflect that Simon Davis is now primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund's portfolio.

Mr. Davis managed the fund from 2003 to 2008 and rejoined the fund in 2011. From 2000 to present, he has been employed by Putnam Management, currently as Head of International Equities and previously as Co-Chief Investment Officer, International Core Team, Director of International Equity Team and as a Senior Portfolio Manager.

Fund summary

Goal

Putnam International Equity Fund seeks capital appreciation.

Fees and expenses

The following table describes the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the fund. You may qualify for sales charge discounts if you and your family invest, or agree to invest in the future, at least \$50,000 in Putnam funds. More information about these and other discounts is available from your financial advisor and in *How do I buy fund shares?* beginning on page 14 of the fund's prospectus and in *How to buy shares* beginning on page II-1 of the fund's statement of additional information (SAI). Further information can also be found at putnam.com.

Shareholder fees *(fees paid directly from your investment)*

Share class	Maximum sales charge (load) imposed on purchases (as a percentage of offering price)	Maximum deferred sales charge (load) (as a percentage of original purchase price or redemption proceeds, whichever is lower)
Class A	5.75%	NONE*
Class B	NONE	5.00**
Class C	NONE	1.00%
Class M	3.50%	NONE*
Class R	NONE	NONE
Class Y	NONE	NONE

Annual fund operating expenses

*(expenses you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)****

Share class	Management fees	Distribution and service (12b-1) fees	Other expenses	Total annual fund operating expenses
Class A	0.71%	0.25%	0.44%	1.40%
Class B	0.71%	1.00%	0.44%	2.15%
Class C	0.71%	1.00%	0.44%	2.15%
Class M	0.71%	0.75%	0.44%	1.90%
Class R	0.71%	0.50%	0.44%	1.65%
Class Y	0.71%	N/A	0.44%	1.15%

* A deferred sales charge of 1.00% on class A shares and of 0.65% on class M shares may be imposed on certain redemptions of shares bought without an initial sales charge.

** This charge is phased out over six years.

*** Restated to reflect projected expenses under a new management contract effective 1/1/2010.

Example

The following hypothetical example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the fund with the cost of investing in other funds. It assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the fund for the time periods indicated and then, except as indicated, redeem all your shares at the end of those periods. It assumes a 5% return on your investment each year and that the fund's operating expenses remain the same. Your actual costs may be higher or lower.

Share class	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
Class A	\$709	\$993	\$1,297	\$2,158
Class B	\$718	\$973	\$1,354	\$2,292
Class B (no redemption)	\$218	\$673	\$1,154	\$2,292
Class C	\$318	\$673	\$1,154	\$2,483
Class C (no redemption)	\$218	\$673	\$1,154	\$2,483
Class M	\$536	\$926	\$1,340	\$2,494
Class R	\$168	\$520	\$897	\$1,955
Class Y	\$117	\$365	\$633	\$1,398

Portfolio turnover

The fund pays transaction-related costs when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when the fund's shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or the above example, affect fund performance. The fund's turnover rate in the most recent fiscal year was 96%.

Investments, risks, and performance

Investments

We invest mainly in common stocks (growth or value stocks or both) of midsize and large companies outside the United States that we believe have favorable investment potential. For example, we may purchase stocks of companies with stock prices that reflect a value lower than that which we place on the company. We may also consider other factors we believe will cause the stock price to rise. We invest mainly in developed countries, but may invest in emerging markets. We may consider, among other factors, a company's valuation, financial strength, competitive position in its industry, projected future earnings, cash flows and dividends when deciding whether to buy or sell investments. We may also use derivatives, such as futures, options, certain foreign currency contracts, warrants and swap contracts, for both hedging and non-hedging purposes.

Risks

It is important to understand that you can lose money by investing in the fund.

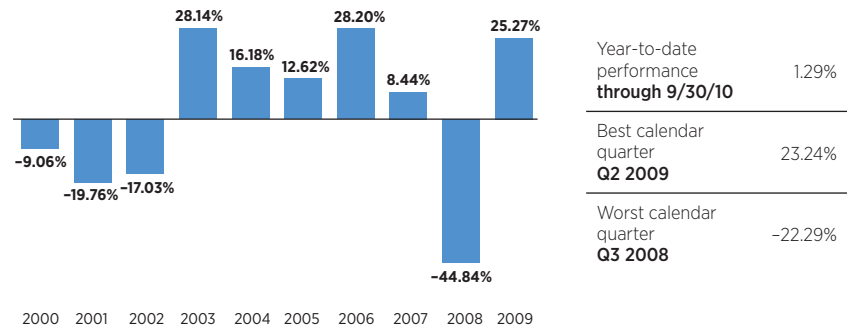
The prices of stocks in the fund's portfolio may fall or fail to rise over extended periods of time for a variety of reasons, including both general financial market conditions and factors related to a specific issuer or industry. Growth stocks may be more susceptible to earnings disappointments, and value stocks may fail to rebound. The value of international investments traded in foreign currencies may be adversely affected by fluctuations in exchange rates. International investments may carry risks associated with potentially less stable economies or governments, such as the risk of seizure by a foreign government, the imposition of currency or other restrictions, or high levels of inflation or deflation. International investments, particularly emerging-market investments, can be illiquid. Our use of derivatives may enhance these risks by, for example, increasing investment exposure or, in the case of many over-the-counter instruments, because of the potential inability to terminate or sell derivatives positions.

The fund may not achieve its goal, and it is not intended to be a complete investment program. An investment in the fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.

Performance

The performance information below gives some indication of the risks associated with an investment in the fund by showing the fund's performance year to year and over time. The bar chart does not reflect the impact of sales charges. If it did, performance would be lower. Please remember that past performance is not necessarily an indication of future results. Monthly performance figures for the fund are available at putnam.com.

Annual total returns for class A shares before sales charges



Average annual total returns after sales charges

(for periods ending 12/31/09)

Share class	1 year	5 years	10 years
Class A before taxes	18.04%	0.39%	-0.84%
Class A after taxes on distributions	18.00%	-0.58%	-1.56%
Class A after taxes on distributions and sale of fund shares	12.62%	0.51%	-0.70%
Class B before taxes	19.28%	0.51%	-1.00%
Class C before taxes	23.26%	0.82%	-1.00%
Class M before taxes	20.18%	0.35%	-1.11%
Class R before taxes	24.89%	1.32%	-0.50%
Class Y before taxes	25.48%	1.83%	0.00%
Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) EAFE Index (ND) (no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes other than withholding taxes on reinvested dividends)	31.78%	3.54%	1.17%

After-tax returns reflect the historical highest individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect state and local taxes. Actual after-tax returns depend on an investor's tax situation and may differ from those shown. After-tax returns are shown for class A shares only and will vary for other classes. These after-tax returns do not apply if you hold your fund shares through a 401(k) plan, an IRA, or another tax-advantaged arrangement.

Class B share performance does not reflect conversion to class A shares.

Your fund's management

Investment advisor

Putnam Investment Management, LLC

Portfolio manager

Joshua L. Byrne, Head of International Equities, portfolio manager of fund since 2000

Purchase and sale of fund shares

You can open an account, purchase and/or sell fund shares, or exchange them for shares of another Putnam fund by contacting your financial advisor or by calling Putnam Investor Services at 1-800-225-1581.

When opening an account, you must complete and mail a Putnam account application, along with a check made payable to the fund, to: Putnam Investor Services, P.O. Box 8383, Boston, MA 02266-8383. The minimum initial investment of \$500 is currently waived, although Putnam reserves the right to reject initial investments under \$500 at its discretion. There is no minimum for subsequent investments.

You can sell your shares back to the fund or exchange them for shares of another Putnam fund any day the New York Stock Exchange is open. Shares may be sold or exchanged by mail, by phone, or online at putnam.com. Some restrictions may apply.

Tax information

The fund normally distributes any net investment income and any net realized capital gains annually. These distributions will be taxed as ordinary income or as capital gains, unless the shares are held through a qualified retirement plan.

Financial intermediary compensation

If you purchase the fund through a broker/dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank or financial advisor), the fund and its related companies may pay that intermediary for the sale of fund shares and related services. Please bear in mind that these payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker/dealer or other intermediary to recommend the fund over another investment. Ask your advisor or visit your advisor's Web site for more information.

What are the fund's main investment strategies and related risks?

This section contains greater detail on the fund's main investment strategies and the related risks you would face as a fund shareholder. It is important to keep in mind that risk and reward generally go hand in hand; the higher the potential reward, the greater the risk. As mentioned in the fund summary, we pursue the fund's goal by investing mainly in stocks issued by companies outside the United States. To determine whether a company is located outside of the United States, we look at the following factors: where the company's securities trade, where the company is located or organized, or where the company derives a majority of its revenues or profits. Under normal circumstances, we invest at least 80% of the fund's net assets in equity investments. This policy may be changed only after 60 days' notice to shareholders.

- **Common stocks.** Common stock represents an ownership interest in a company. The value of a company's stock may fall as a result of factors directly relating to that company, such as decisions made by its management or lower demand for the company's products or services. A stock's value may also fall because of factors affecting not just the company, but also companies in the same industry or in a number of different industries, such as increases in production costs. From time to time, the fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in companies in one or more related industries or sectors, such as the financial sector, which would make the fund more vulnerable to adverse

developments affecting those industries or sectors. The value of a company's stock may also be affected by changes in financial markets that are relatively unrelated to the company or its industry, such as changes in interest rates or currency exchange rates. In addition, a company's stock generally pays dividends only after the company invests in its own business and makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of a company's stock will usually react more strongly than its bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Stocks of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than those of larger companies.

Growth stocks — Stocks of companies we believe are fast-growing may trade at a higher multiple of current earnings than other stocks. The value of such stocks may be more sensitive to changes in current or expected earnings than the values of other stocks. If our assessment of the prospects for a company's earnings growth is wrong, or if our judgment of how other investors will value the company's earnings growth is wrong, then the price of the company's stock may fall or not approach the value that we have placed on it.

Value stocks — Companies whose stock we believe is undervalued by the market may have experienced adverse business developments or may be subject to special risks that have caused their stocks to be out of favor. If our assessment of a company's prospects is wrong, or if other investors do not similarly recognize the value of the company, then the price of the company's stock may fall or may not approach the value that we have placed on it.

- **Foreign investments.** Foreign investments involve certain special risks, including:
 - Unfavorable changes in currency exchange rates: Foreign investments are typically issued and traded in foreign currencies. As a result, their values may be affected by changes in exchange rates between foreign currencies and the U.S. dollar.
 - Political and economic developments: Foreign investments may be subject to the risks of seizure by a foreign government, direct or indirect impact of sovereign debt default, imposition of restrictions on the exchange or export of foreign currency, and tax increases.
 - Unreliable or untimely information: There may be less information publicly available about a foreign company than about most U.S. companies, and foreign companies are usually not subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and practices as stringent as those in the United States.
 - Limited legal recourse: Legal remedies for investors may be more limited than the remedies available in the United States.

- Limited markets: Certain foreign investments may be less liquid (harder to buy and sell) and more volatile than U.S. investments, which means we may at times be unable to sell these foreign investments at desirable prices. For the same reason, we may at times find it difficult to value the fund's foreign investments.
- Trading practices: Brokerage commissions and other fees are generally higher for foreign investments than for U.S. investments. The procedures and rules governing foreign transactions and custody may also involve delays in payment, delivery or recovery of money or investments.

The risks of foreign investments are typically increased in less developed countries, which are sometimes referred to as emerging markets. For example, political and economic structures in these countries may be changing rapidly, which can cause instability. These countries are also more likely to experience high levels of inflation, deflation or currency devaluation, which could hurt their economies and securities markets. For these and other reasons, investments in emerging markets are often considered speculative.

Certain of these risks may also apply to some extent to U.S.-traded investments that are denominated in foreign currencies, investments in U.S. companies that are traded in foreign markets or investments in U.S. companies that have significant foreign operations.

- **Derivatives.** We may engage in a variety of transactions involving derivatives, such as futures, options, warrants and swap contracts. Derivatives are financial instruments whose value depends upon, or is derived from, the value of something else, such as one or more underlying investments, pools of investments, indexes or currencies. We may make use of "short" derivatives positions, the values of which move in the opposite direction from the price of the underlying investment, pool of investments, index or currency. We may use derivatives both for hedging and non-hedging purposes. For example, we may use foreign currency transactions to increase or decrease the fund's exposure to a particular currency or group of currencies. We may also use derivatives as a substitute for a direct investment in the securities of one or more issuers. However, we may also choose not to use derivatives, based on our evaluation of market conditions or the availability of suitable derivatives. Investments in derivatives may be applied toward meeting a requirement to invest in a particular kind of investment if the derivatives have economic characteristics similar to that investment.

Derivatives involve special risks and may result in losses. The successful use of derivatives depends on our ability to manage these sophisticated instruments. Some derivatives are "leveraged," which means that they provide the fund with investment exposure greater than the value of the fund's investment in the

derivatives. As a result, these derivatives may magnify or otherwise increase investment losses to the fund. The risk of loss from certain short derivatives positions is theoretically unlimited. The prices of derivatives may move in unexpected ways due to the use of leverage or other factors, especially in unusual market conditions, and may result in increased volatility.

Other risks arise from the potential inability to terminate or sell derivatives positions. A liquid secondary market may not always exist for the fund's derivatives positions at any time. In fact, many over-the-counter instruments (investments not traded on an exchange) will not be liquid. Over-the-counter instruments also involve the risk that the other party to the derivatives transaction will not meet its obligations. For further information about the risks of derivatives, see the SAI.

- **Other investments.** In addition to the main investment strategies described above, we may make other types of investments, such as investments in U.S. companies, preferred stocks, convertible securities and debt instruments. The fund may also loan its portfolio securities to earn income. These practices may be subject to other risks, as described in the SAI.
- **Alternative strategies.** At times we may judge that market conditions make pursuing the fund's usual investment strategies inconsistent with the best interests of its shareholders. We then may temporarily invest some or all of the fund's assets using alternative strategies that are mainly designed to limit losses, including investing solely in the United States. However, we may choose not to use these strategies for a variety of reasons, even in very volatile market conditions. These strategies may cause the fund to miss out on investment opportunities, and may prevent the fund from achieving its goal.
- **Changes in policies.** The Trustees may change the fund's goal, investment strategies and other policies without shareholder approval, except as otherwise indicated.
- **Portfolio turnover rate.** The fund's portfolio turnover rate measures how frequently the fund buys and sells investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100%, for example, would mean that the fund sold and replaced securities valued at 100% of the fund's assets within a one-year period. From time to time the fund may engage in frequent trading. Funds with high turnover may be more likely to realize capital gains that must be distributed to shareholders as taxable income. High turnover may also cause a fund to pay more brokerage commissions and other transaction costs, which may detract from performance. The fund's portfolio turnover rate and the amount of brokerage commissions it pays will vary over time based on market conditions.

- **Portfolio holdings.** The SAI includes a description of the fund's policies with respect to the disclosure of its portfolio holdings. For more specific information on the fund's portfolio, you may visit the Putnam Investments website, putnam.com/individual, where the fund's top 10 holdings and related portfolio information may be viewed monthly beginning approximately 15 days after the end of each month, and full portfolio holdings may be viewed beginning on the last business day of the month after the end of each calendar quarter. This information will remain available on the website until the fund files a Form N-CSR or N-Q with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for the period that includes the date of the information, after which such information can be found on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

Who oversees and manages the fund?

The fund's Trustees

As a shareholder of a mutual fund, you have certain rights and protections, including representation by a Board of Trustees. The Putnam Funds' Board of Trustees oversees the general conduct of the fund's business and represents the interests of the Putnam fund shareholders. The Putnam Funds' Board of Trustees includes Trustees who are elected by shareholder vote at least once every five years and at least 75% of whom are independent (not an officer of the fund or affiliated with Putnam Investment Management, LLC (Putnam Management)).

The Trustees periodically review the fund's investment performance and the quality of other services such as administration, custody, and investor services. At least annually, the Trustees review the fees paid to Putnam Management and its affiliates for providing or overseeing these services, as well as the overall level of the fund's operating expenses. In carrying out their responsibilities, the Trustees are assisted by an administrative staff, auditors and legal counsel that are selected by the Trustees and are independent of Putnam Management and its affiliates.

Contacting the fund's Trustees

Address correspondence to:
The Putnam Funds Trustees
One Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109

The fund's investment manager

The Trustees have retained Putnam Management, which has managed mutual funds since 1937, to be the fund's investment manager, responsible for making investment decisions for the fund and managing the fund's other affairs and business. The basis for the Trustees' approval of the fund's management contract and the sub-management and sub-advisory contracts described below is discussed in the fund's annual report to shareholders dated June 30, 2010.

Under a new management contract approved by shareholders and effective January 1, 2010, the fund pays a monthly fee to Putnam Management at an annual rate (as a percentage of the fund's average net assets for the month) that varies based on the average of all of the determinations of the aggregate net assets of all open-end funds sponsored by Putnam Management (excluding Putnam Global Sector Fund, Putnam RetirementReady® Funds and Putnam Money Market Liquidity Fund), as determined at the close of each business day during the month.

In addition, beginning with the fund's thirteenth complete calendar month of operation under the management contract, the monthly management fee will consist of the monthly base fee plus or minus a performance adjustment for the month. The amount of the performance adjustment will be calculated monthly based on a performance adjustment rate that is equal to 0.03 multiplied by the difference between the fund's annualized performance (measured by the fund's class A shares) and the annualized performance of the benchmark index, the Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) EAFE Index (Net Dividends), each measured over the performance period. The minimum and maximum annualized performance adjustment rates are +/- 0.15%. The performance period will be the thirty-six month period then ended or, if the new management contract has not yet been effective for thirty-six complete calendar months, the period from the date the new management contract became effective to the end of the month for which the fee adjustment is being computed. Each month, the performance adjustment rate will be multiplied by the fund's average net assets over the performance period and the result will be divided by twelve. The resulting dollar amount will be added to, or subtracted from, the base fee for that month.

The monthly base fee is determined based on the fund's average net assets for the month, while the performance adjustment will be determined based on the fund's average net assets over the performance period of up to thirty-six months. This means it is possible that, if the fund underperforms

significantly over the performance period, and the fund's assets have declined significantly over that period, the negative performance adjustment may exceed the base fee. In this event, Putnam Management would make a payment to the fund.

Under the fund's prior management contract, the fund paid a quarterly management fee at a rate based solely on the average net assets of the fund, as determined at the close of each business day during the quarter.

Based on the fund's current management contract and the fund's prior management contract, the fund paid Putnam Management a management fee (after any applicable waivers) of 0.70% of average net assets for the fund's last fiscal year. Putnam Management's address is One Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109.

Putnam Management has retained its affiliate Putnam Investments Limited (PIL) to make investment decisions for such fund assets as may be designated from time to time for its management by Putnam Management. Putnam Management (and not the fund) will pay a quarterly sub-management fee to PIL for its services at the annual rate of 0.35% of the average aggregate net asset value of any fund assets managed by PIL. PIL, which provides a full range of international investment advisory services to institutional clients, is located at Cassini House, 57-59 St James's Street, London, England, SW1A 1LD.

Putnam Management and PIL have retained their affiliate The Putnam Advisory Company, LLC (PAC) to make investment decisions for such fund assets as may be designated from time to time for its management by Putnam Management or PIL, as applicable. Putnam Management or PIL, as applicable (and not the fund), will pay a quarterly sub-advisory fee to PAC for its services at the annual rate of 0.35% of the average aggregate net asset value of any fund assets managed by PAC. PAC, which provides financial services to institutions and individuals through separately-managed accounts and pooled investment vehicles, has its headquarters at One Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109, with additional investment management personnel located in Singapore.

Pursuant to these arrangements, Putnam investment professionals who are based in foreign jurisdictions may serve as portfolio managers of the fund or provide other investment services, consistent with local regulations.

• **Portfolio manager.** The officer of Putnam Management identified below is primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund's portfolio.

Portfolio manager	Joined fund	Employer	Positions over past five years
Joshua L. Byrne	2000	Putnam Management 1992 – Present	Head of International Equities Previously, Co-CIO International Core and Senior Portfolio Manager

The SAI provides information about this individual's compensation, other accounts managed by this individual and this individual's ownership of securities in the fund.

How does the fund price its shares?

The price of the fund's shares is based on its net asset value (NAV). The NAV per share of each class equals the total value of its assets, less its liabilities, divided by the number of its outstanding shares. Shares are only valued as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) each day the exchange is open.

The fund values its investments for which market quotations are readily available at market value. It values all other investments and assets at their fair value, which may differ from recent market prices. For example, the fund may value a stock at its fair value when the relevant exchange closes early or trading in the stock is suspended. It may also value a stock at fair value if recent transactions in the stock have been very limited or if, in the case of a security traded on a market that closes before the NYSE closes, material information about the issuer becomes available after the close of the relevant market.

The fund translates prices for its investments quoted in foreign currencies into U.S. dollars at current exchange rates, which are generally determined as of 3:00 p.m. Eastern time each day the NYSE is open. As a result, changes in the value of those currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar may affect the fund's NAV. Because foreign markets may be open at different times than the NYSE, the value of the fund's shares may change on days when shareholders are not able to buy or sell them. Many securities markets and exchanges outside the U.S. close before the close of the NYSE and therefore the closing prices for securities in such markets or on such exchanges may not fully reflect events that occur after such close but before the close of the NYSE. As a result, the fund has adopted fair value pricing procedures, which, among other things, require the fund to assess the fair value of foreign equity securities if there has been a movement in the U.S. market that exceeds a specified threshold. Although the threshold may be revised from time to time and the number of days on which fair value prices will

be used will depend on market activity, it is possible that fair value prices will be used by the fund to a significant extent. As noted above, the value determined for an investment using the fund's fair value pricing procedures may differ from recent market prices for the investment.

How do I buy fund shares?

Opening an account

You can open a fund account and purchase class A, B, C, and M shares by contacting your financial representative or Putnam Investor Services at 1-800-225-1581 and obtaining a Putnam account application. The completed application, along with a check made payable to the fund, must then be returned to Putnam Investor Services at the following address:

Putnam Investor Services
P.O. Box 8383
Boston, MA 02266-8383

You can open a fund account with as little as \$500. The minimum investment is waived if you make regular investments weekly, semi-monthly or monthly through automatic deductions from your bank checking or savings account. Although Putnam is currently waiving the minimum, it reserves the right to reject initial investments under the minimum at its discretion.

The fund sells its shares at the offering price, which is the NAV plus any applicable sales charge (class A and class M shares only). Your financial representative or Putnam Investor Services generally must receive your completed buy order before the close of regular trading on the NYSE for your shares to be bought at that day's offering price.

If you participate in a retirement plan that offers the fund, please consult your employer for information on how to purchase shares of the fund through the plan, including any restrictions or limitations that may apply.

Mutual funds must obtain and verify information that identifies investors opening new accounts. If the fund is unable to collect the required information, Putnam Investor Services may not be able to open your fund account. Investors must provide their full name, residential or business address, Social Security or tax identification number, and date of birth. Entities, such as trusts, estates, corporations and partnerships, must also provide other identifying information. Putnam Investor Services may share identifying information with third parties for the purpose of verification. If Putnam Investor Services cannot verify identifying information after opening your account, the fund reserves the right to close your account.

Also, the fund may periodically close to new purchases of shares or refuse any order to buy shares if the fund determines that doing so would be in the best interests of the fund and its shareholders.

While the fund no longer issues certificates for fund shares, previously issued share certificates remain valid.

Purchasing additional shares

Once you have an existing account, you can make additional investments at any time in any amount in the following ways:

- **Through a financial representative.** Your representative will be responsible for furnishing all necessary documents to Putnam Investor Services and may charge you for his or her services.
- **Through Putnam's Systematic Investing Program.** You can make regular investments weekly, semi-monthly or monthly through automatic deductions from your bank checking or savings account.
- **Via the Internet or phone.** If you have an existing Putnam fund account and you have completed and returned an Electronic Investment Authorization Form, you can buy additional shares online at putnam.com or by calling Putnam Investor Services at 1-800-225-1581.
- **By mail.** You may also request a book of investment stubs for your account. Complete an investment stub and write a check for the amount you wish to invest, payable to the fund. Return the check and investment stub to Putnam Investor Services.
- **By wire transfer.** You may buy fund shares by bank wire transfer of same-day funds. Please call Putnam Investor Services at 1-800-225-1581 for wiring instructions. Any commercial bank can transfer same-day funds by wire. The fund will normally accept wired funds for investment on the day received if they are received by the fund's designated bank before the close of regular trading on the NYSE. Your bank may charge you for wiring same-day funds. Although the fund's designated bank does not currently charge you for receiving same-day funds, it reserves the right to charge for this service. You cannot buy shares for tax-qualified retirement plans by wire transfer.

Which class of shares is best for me?

This prospectus offers you four classes of fund shares: A, B, C and M. Qualified employee-benefit plans may also choose class R shares, and certain investors described below may also choose class Y shares. Each share class represents investments in the same portfolio of securities, but each class has its own sales charge and expense structure, allowing you and your financial representative to choose the class that best suits your investment needs. When you purchase

shares of a fund, you must choose a share class. Deciding which share class best suits your situation depends on a number of factors that you should discuss with your financial representative, including:

- **How long you expect to hold your investment.** Class B shares charge a contingent deferred sales charge (CDSC) on redemptions that is phased out over the first six years; class C shares charge a CDSC on redemptions in the first year.
- **How much you intend to invest.** While investments of less than \$100,000 can be made in any share class, classes A and M offer sales charge discounts starting at \$50,000.
- **Total expenses associated with each share class.** As shown in the section entitled *Fund summary — Fees and expenses*, each share class offers a different combination of up-front and ongoing expenses. Generally, the lower the up-front sales charge, the greater the ongoing expenses.

Here is a summary of the differences among the classes of shares

Class A shares

- Initial sales charge of up to 5.75%
- Lower sales charges available for investments of \$50,000 or more
- No deferred sales charge (except that a deferred sales charge of 1.00% may be imposed on certain redemptions of shares bought without an initial sales charge)
- Lower annual expenses, and higher dividends, than class B, C or M shares because of lower 12b-1 fees.

Class B shares

- No initial sales charge; your entire investment goes to work immediately
- Deferred sales charge of up to 5.00% if shares are sold within six years of purchase
- Higher annual expenses, and lower dividends, than class A or M shares because of higher 12b-1 fees
- Convert automatically to class A shares after eight years, thereby reducing future 12b-1 fees
- Orders for class B shares of one or more Putnam funds will be refused when the total value of the purchase, plus existing account balances that are eligible to be linked under a right of accumulation for purchases of class A shares (as described below), is \$100,000 or more. Investors considering cumulative purchases of \$100,000 or more should consider whether class A shares would be more advantageous and consult their financial representative.

Class C shares

- No initial sales charge; your entire investment goes to work immediately
- Deferred sales charge of 1.00% if shares are sold within one year of purchase
- Higher annual expenses, and lower dividends, than class A or M shares because of higher 12b-1 fees
- No conversion to class A shares, so future 12b-1 fees do not decline over time
- Orders for class C shares of one or more Putnam funds, other than class C shares sold to qualified employee-benefit plans, will be refused when the total value of the purchase, plus existing account balances that are eligible to be linked under a right of accumulation for purchases of class A shares (as described below), is \$1,000,000 or more. Investors considering cumulative purchases of \$1,000,000 or more should consider whether class A shares would be more advantageous and consult their financial representative.

Class M shares

- Initial sales charge of up to 3.50%
- Lower sales charges available for investments of \$50,000 or more
- No deferred sales charge (except that a deferred sales charge of 0.65% may be imposed on certain redemptions of shares bought without an initial sales charge)
- Lower annual expenses, and higher dividends, than class B or C shares because of lower 12b-1 fees
- Higher annual expenses, and lower dividends, than class A shares because of higher 12b-1 fees
- No conversion to class A shares, so future 12b-1 fees do not decline over time
- Orders for class M shares of one or more Putnam funds, other than class M shares sold to qualified employee-benefit plans, will be refused when the total value of the purchase, plus existing account balances that are eligible to be linked under a right of accumulation for purchases of class M shares (as described below), is \$1,000,000 or more. Investors considering cumulative purchases of \$1,000,000 or more should consider whether class A shares would be more advantageous and consult their financial representative.

Class R shares (available to qualified plans only)

- No initial sales charge; your entire investment goes to work immediately
- No deferred sales charge
- Lower annual expenses, and higher dividends, than class B, C or M shares because of lower 12b-1 fees
- Higher annual expenses, and lower dividends, than class A shares because of higher 12b-1 fees
- No conversion to class A shares, so future 12b-1 fees do not decline over time.

Class Y shares (available only to investors listed below)

The following investors may purchase class Y shares if approved by Putnam:

- qualified retirement plans that are clients of third-party administrators (including affiliates of Putnam) that have entered into agreements with Putnam and offer institutional share class pricing (no sales charge or 12b-1 fee);
- bank trust departments and trust companies that have entered into agreements with Putnam and offer institutional share class pricing to their clients;
- corporate IRAs administered by Putnam, if another retirement plan of the sponsor is eligible to purchase class Y shares;
- college savings plans that qualify for tax-exempt treatment under Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code;
- other Putnam funds and Putnam investment products;
- investors purchasing shares through an asset-based fee program which regularly offers institutional share classes and which is sponsored by a registered broker-dealer or other financial institution that has entered into an agreement with Putnam;
- clients of a financial representative who are charged a fee for consulting or similar services;
- corporations, endowments and foundations that have entered into an arrangement with Putnam; and
- fee-paying clients of a registered investment advisor (RIA) who initially invests for clients an aggregate of at least \$100,000 in Putnam funds through a fund “supermarket” or other mutual fund trading platform sponsored by a broker-dealer or trust company of which the RIA is not an affiliated or associated person and which has entered into an agreement with Putnam.

Trust companies or bank trust departments that purchased class Y shares for trust accounts may transfer them to the beneficiaries of the trust accounts, who may continue to hold them or exchange them for class Y shares of other Putnam funds. Defined contribution plans (including corporate IRAs) that purchased class Y shares under prior eligibility criteria may continue to purchase class Y shares.

- No initial sales charge; your entire investment goes to work immediately
- No deferred sales charge
- Lower annual expenses, and higher dividends, than class A, B, C, M or R shares because of no 12b-1 fees.

Initial sales charges for class A and M shares

Amount of purchase at offering price (\$)	Class A sales charge as a percentage of*:		Class M sales charge as a percentage of*:	
	Net amount invested	Offering price**	Net amount invested	Offering price**
Under 50,000	6.10%	5.75%	3.63%	3.50%
50,000 but under 100,000	4.71	4.50	2.56	2.50
100,000 but under 250,000	3.63	3.50	1.52	1.50
250,000 but under 500,000	2.56	2.50	1.01	1.00
500,000 but under 1,000,000	2.04	2.00	1.01	1.00
1,000,000 and above	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

* Because of rounding in the calculation of offering price and the number of shares purchased, actual sales charges you pay may be more or less than these percentages.

** Offering price includes sales charge.

Reducing your class A or class M sales charge

The fund offers two principal ways for you to qualify for discounts on initial sales charges on class A and class M shares, often referred to as “breakpoint discounts”:

- **Right of accumulation.** You can add the amount of your current purchases of class A or class M shares of the fund and other Putnam funds to the value of your existing accounts in the fund and other Putnam funds. Individuals can also include purchases by, and accounts owned by, their spouse and minor children, including accounts established through different financial representatives. For your current purchases, you will pay the initial sales charge applicable to the total value of the linked accounts and purchases, which may be lower than the sales charge otherwise applicable to each of your current purchases. Shares of Putnam money market funds, other than money market fund shares acquired by exchange from other Putnam funds, are not included for purposes of the right of accumulation.

To calculate the total value of your existing accounts and any linked accounts, the fund will use the higher of (a) the current maximum public offering price of those shares or (b) if you purchased the shares after December 31, 2007, the initial value of the total purchases, or, if you held the shares on December 31, 2007, the market value at maximum public offering price on that date, in either case, less the market value on the applicable redemption date of any of those shares that you have redeemed.

- **Statement of intention.** A statement of intention is a document in which you agree to make purchases of class A or class M shares in a specified amount within a period of 13 months. For each purchase you make under the statement of intention, you will pay the initial sales charge applicable to the total amount you have agreed to purchase. While a statement of intention is not a binding obligation on you, if you do not purchase the full amount of shares

within 13 months, the fund will redeem shares from your account in an amount equal to the difference between the higher initial sales charge you would have paid in the absence of the statement of intention and the initial sales charge you actually paid.

Account types that may be linked with each other to obtain breakpoint discounts using the methods described above include:

- Individual accounts
- Joint accounts
- Accounts established as part of a retirement plan and IRA accounts (some restrictions may apply)
- Shares of Putnam funds owned through accounts in the name of your dealer or other financial intermediary (with documentation identifying beneficial ownership of shares)
- Accounts held as part of a Section 529 college savings plan managed by Putnam Management (some restrictions may apply)

In order to obtain a breakpoint discount, you should inform your financial representative at the time you purchase shares of the existence of other accounts or purchases that are eligible to be linked for the purpose of calculating the initial sales charge. The fund or your financial representative may ask you for records or other information about other shares held in your accounts and linked accounts, including accounts opened with a different financial representative. Restrictions may apply to certain accounts and transactions. Further details about breakpoint discounts can be found on Putnam Investments' website at putnam.com/individual by selecting *Investment Choices*, then *Mutual Funds*, then *Pricing policies*, and in the SAI.

- **Additional reductions and waivers of sales charges.** In addition to the breakpoint discount methods described above, sales charges may be reduced or waived under certain circumstances and for certain categories of investors. For instance, an employer-sponsored retirement plan is eligible to purchase class A shares without sales charges if its plan administrator or dealer of record has entered into an agreement with Putnam Retail Management or it invests at least \$1 million in class A shares of the fund or other Putnam funds. Information about reductions and waivers of sales charges, including deferred sales charges, is included in the SAI. You may consult your financial representative or Putnam Retail Management for assistance.

How do I sell or exchange fund shares?

You can sell your shares back to the fund or exchange them for shares of another Putnam fund any day the NYSE is open, either through your financial representative or directly to the fund. Payment for redemption may be delayed until the fund collects the purchase price of shares, which may be up to 10 calendar days after the purchase date.

Regarding exchanges, not all Putnam funds offer all classes of shares or may be open to new investors. If you exchange shares otherwise subject to a deferred sales charge, the transaction will not be subject to the deferred sales charge. When you redeem the shares acquired through the exchange, however, the redemption may be subject to the deferred sales charge, depending upon when you originally purchased the shares. The deferred sales charge will be computed using the schedule of any fund into or from which you have exchanged your shares that would result in your paying the highest deferred sales charge applicable to your class of shares. For purposes of computing the deferred sales charge, the length of time you have owned your shares will be measured from the date of original purchase and will not be affected by any subsequent exchanges among funds.

- **Selling or exchanging shares through your financial representative.** Your representative must receive your request in proper form before the close of regular trading on the NYSE for you to receive that day's NAV, less any applicable deferred sales charge. Your representative will be responsible for furnishing all necessary documents to Putnam Investor Services on a timely basis and may charge you for his or her services.
- **Selling or exchanging shares directly with the fund.** Putnam Investor Services must receive your request in proper form before the close of regular trading on the NYSE in order to receive that day's NAV, less any applicable deferred sales charge.
- **By mail.** Send a letter of instruction signed by all registered owners or their legal representatives to Putnam Investor Services. If you have certificates for the shares you want to sell or exchange, you must return them unendorsed with your letter of instruction.
- **By telephone.** You may use Putnam's telephone redemption privilege to redeem shares valued at less than \$100,000 unless you have notified Putnam Investor Services of an address change within the preceding 15 days, in which case other requirements may apply. Unless you indicate otherwise on the account application, Putnam Investor Services will be authorized to accept redemption instructions received by telephone. A telephone exchange

privilege is currently available for amounts up to \$500,000. Sale or exchange of shares by telephone is not permitted if there are certificates for your shares. The telephone redemption and exchange privileges may be modified or terminated without notice.

- **Via the Internet.** You may also exchange shares via the Internet at putnam.com/individual.
- **Shares held through your employer's retirement plan.** For information on how to sell or exchange shares of the fund that were purchased through your employer's retirement plan, including any restrictions and charges that the plan may impose, please consult your employer.
- **Additional requirements.** In certain situations, for example, if you sell shares with a value of \$100,000 or more, the signatures of all registered owners or their legal representatives must be guaranteed by a bank, broker-dealer or certain other financial institutions. In addition, Putnam Investor Services usually requires additional documents for the sale of shares by a corporation, partnership, agent or fiduciary, or surviving joint owner. For more information concerning Putnam's signature guarantee and documentation requirements, contact Putnam Investor Services.

The fund also reserves the right to revise or terminate the exchange privilege, limit the amount or number of exchanges or reject any exchange. The fund into which you would like to exchange may also reject your exchange. These actions may apply to all shareholders or only to those shareholders whose exchanges Putnam Management determines are likely to have a negative effect on the fund or other Putnam funds. Consult Putnam Investor Services before requesting an exchange. Ask your financial representative or Putnam Investor Services for prospectuses of other Putnam funds. Some Putnam funds are not available in all states.

Deferred sales charges for class B, class C and certain class A and class M shares

If you sell (redeem) class B shares within six years of purchase, you will generally pay a deferred sales charge according to the following schedule:

Year after purchase	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
Charge	5%	4%	3%	3%	2%	1%	0%

A deferred sales charge of 1.00% will apply to class C shares if redeemed within one year of purchase. Unless otherwise agreed with Putnam Retail Management, class A shares that are part of a purchase of \$1 million or more (other than by a qualified retirement plan) will be subject to a 1.00% deferred sales charge if redeemed within nine months of purchase. A deferred sales charge of 0.65% may apply to class M shares purchased without a sales charge for certain rollover IRA accounts if redeemed within one year of purchase.

Deferred sales charges will be based on the lower of the shares' cost and current NAV. Shares not subject to any charge will be redeemed first, followed by shares held longest. You may sell shares acquired by reinvestment of distributions without a charge at any time.

- **Payment information.** The fund generally sends you payment for your shares the business day after your request is received. Under unusual circumstances, the fund may suspend redemptions, or postpone payment for more than seven days, as permitted by federal securities law. You will not receive interest on uncashed redemption checks.
- **Redemption by the fund.** If you own fewer shares than the minimum set by the Trustees (presently 20 shares), the fund may redeem your shares without your permission and send you the proceeds after providing you with at least 60 days' notice to attain the minimum. To the extent permitted by applicable law, the fund may also redeem shares if you own more than a maximum amount set by the Trustees. There is presently no maximum, but the Trustees could set a maximum that would apply to both present and future shareholders.

Policy on excessive short-term trading

- **Risks of excessive short-term trading.** Excessive short-term trading activity may reduce the fund's performance and harm all fund shareholders by interfering with portfolio management, increasing the fund's expenses and diluting the fund's net asset value. Depending on the size and frequency of short-term trades in the fund's shares, the fund may experience increased cash volatility, which could require the fund to maintain undesirably large cash positions or buy or sell portfolio securities it would not have bought or sold otherwise. The need to execute additional portfolio transactions due to these cash flows may also increase the fund's brokerage and administrative costs and, for investors in taxable accounts, may increase the taxable distributions received from the fund.

Because the fund invests primarily in foreign securities, its performance may be adversely impacted and the interests of longer-term shareholders may be diluted as a result of time-zone arbitrage, a short-term trading practice that seeks to exploit changes in the value of the fund's investments that result from events occurring after the close of the foreign markets on which the investments trade, but prior to the later close of trading on the NYSE, the time as of which the fund determines its net asset value. If an arbitrageur is successful, he or she may dilute the interests of other shareholders by trading shares at prices that do not fully reflect their fair value.

When the fund invests in securities that may trade infrequently or may be more difficult to value, such as securities of smaller companies, it may be susceptible to trading by short-term traders who seek to exploit perceived price inefficiencies in the fund's investments. In addition, the market for these securities of smaller companies may at times show "market momentum," in which positive or negative performance may continue from one day to the next for reasons unrelated to the fundamentals of the issuer. Short-term traders may seek to capture this momentum by trading frequently in the fund's shares, which will reduce the fund's performance and may dilute the interests of other shareholders. Because securities of smaller companies may be less liquid than securities of larger companies, the fund may also be unable to buy or sell these securities at desirable prices when the need arises (for example, in response to volatile cash flows caused by short-term trading). Similar risks may apply if the fund holds other types of less liquid securities, including below investment grade bonds.

- **Fund policies.** In order to protect the interests of long-term shareholders of the fund, Putnam Management and the fund's Trustees have adopted policies and procedures intended to discourage excessive short-term trading. The fund seeks to discourage excessive short-term trading by using fair value pricing procedures to value investments under some circumstances. In addition, Putnam Management monitors activity in those shareholder accounts about which it possesses the necessary information in order to detect excessive short-term trading patterns and takes steps to deter excessive short-term traders.
- **Account monitoring.** Putnam Management's Compliance Department currently uses multiple reporting tools to monitor activity in retail customer accounts for which Putnam Investor Services maintains records. This review is based on the fund's internal parameters for detecting excessive short-term trading, which consider the number of "round trip" transactions above a specified dollar amount within a specified period of time. These parameters may change from time to time. If a monitored account engages in short-term trading that Putnam Management or the fund considers to be excessive or inappropriate, Putnam Management will issue the investor and his or her financial intermediary, if any, a written warning. Continued excessive short-term trading activity by an investor or intermediary that has received a warning may lead to the termination of the exchange privilege. The fund also reserves the right to terminate the exchange privilege without a warning. In addition, Putnam Management will also communicate instances of excessive short-term trading to the compliance staff of an investor's broker, if one is identified.

- **Account restrictions.** In addition to enforcing these exchange parameters, Putnam Management and the fund reserve the right to reject or restrict purchases or exchanges for any reason. Putnam Management or the fund may determine that an investor's trading activity is excessive or otherwise potentially harmful based on various factors, including an investor's or financial intermediary's trading history in the fund, other Putnam funds or other investment products, and may aggregate activity in multiple accounts under common ownership or control. If the fund identifies an investor or intermediary as a potential excessive trader, it may, among other things, require further trades to be submitted by mail rather than by phone or over the Internet, impose limitations on the amount, number, or frequency of future purchases or exchanges, or temporarily or permanently bar the investor or intermediary from investing in the fund or other Putnam funds. The fund may take these steps in its discretion even if the investor's activity may not have been detected by the fund's current monitoring parameters.
- **Limitations on the fund's policies.** There is no guarantee that the fund will be able to detect excessive short-term trading in all accounts. For example, Putnam Management currently does not have access to sufficient information to identify each investor's trading history, and in certain circumstances there are operational or technological constraints on its ability to enforce the fund's policies. In addition, even when Putnam Management has sufficient information, its detection methods may not capture all excessive short-term trading.

In particular, many purchase, redemption and exchange orders are received from financial intermediaries that hold omnibus accounts with the fund. Omnibus accounts, in which shares are held in the name of an intermediary on behalf of multiple beneficial owners, are a common form of holding shares among retirement plans and financial intermediaries such as brokers, advisers and third-party administrators. The fund is generally not able to identify trading by a particular beneficial owner within an omnibus account, which makes it difficult or impossible to determine if a particular shareholder is engaging in excessive short-term trading. Putnam Management monitors aggregate cash flows in omnibus accounts on an ongoing basis. If high cash flows or other information indicate that excessive short-term trading may be taking place, Putnam Management will contact the financial intermediary, plan sponsor or recordkeeper that maintains accounts for the underlying beneficial owner and attempt to identify and remedy any excessive trading. However, the fund's ability to monitor and deter excessive short-term traders in omnibus accounts ultimately depends on the capabilities and cooperation of these third-party financial firms. A financial intermediary or plan sponsor may impose different or additional limits on short-term trading.

Distribution plans and payments to dealers

Putnam funds are distributed primarily through dealers (including any broker, dealer, bank, bank trust department, registered investment advisor, financial planner, retirement plan administrator, and any other institution having a selling, services, or any similar agreement with Putnam Retail Management or one of its affiliates). In order to pay for the marketing of fund shares and services provided to shareholders, the fund has adopted distribution and service (12b-1) plans, which increase the annual operating expenses you pay each year in certain share classes, as shown in the table of annual fund operating expenses in the section *Fund summary — Fees and expenses*. Putnam Retail Management and its affiliates also make additional payments to dealers that do not increase your fund expenses, as described below.

- **Distribution and service (12b-1) plans.** The fund's 12b-1 plans provide for payments at annual rates (based on average net assets) of up to 0.35% on class A shares and 1.00% on class B, class C, class M and class R shares. The Trustees currently limit payments on class A, class M and class R shares to 0.25%, 0.75% and 0.50% of average net assets, respectively. Because these fees are paid out of the fund's assets on an ongoing basis, they will increase the cost of your investment. The higher fees for class B, class C, class M and class R shares may cost you more over time than paying the initial sales charge for class A shares. Because class C and class M shares, unlike class B shares, do not convert to class A shares, class C and class M shares may cost you more over time than class B shares. Class R shares will generally be less expensive than class B shares for shareholders who are eligible to purchase either class. Class Y shares, for shareholders who are eligible to purchase them, will be less expensive than other classes of shares because they do not bear sales charges or 12b-1 fees.
- **Payments to dealers.** If you purchase your shares through a dealer, your dealer generally receives payments from Putnam Retail Management representing some or all of the sales charges and distribution and service (12b-1) fees, if any, shown in the tables under the heading *Fund summary — Fees and expenses* at the front of this prospectus.

Putnam Retail Management and its affiliates also pay additional compensation to selected dealers in recognition of their marketing support and/or program servicing (each of which is described in more detail below). These payments may create an incentive for a dealer firm or its representatives to recommend or offer shares of the fund or other Putnam funds to its customers. These additional payments are made by Putnam Retail Management and its affiliates and do not increase the amount paid by you or the fund as shown under the heading *Fund summary — Fees and expenses*.

The additional payments to dealers by Putnam Retail Management and its affiliates are generally based on one or more of the following factors: average net assets of a fund attributable to that dealer, sales or net sales of a fund attributable to that dealer, or reimbursement of ticket charges (fees that a dealer firm charges its representatives for effecting transactions in fund shares), or on the basis of a negotiated lump sum payment for services provided.

Marketing support payments, which are generally available to most dealers engaging in significant sales of Putnam fund shares, are not expected, with certain limited exceptions, to exceed 0.085% of the average assets of Putnam's retail mutual funds attributable to that dealer on an annual basis. These payments are made for marketing support services provided by the dealers, including business planning assistance, educating dealer personnel about the Putnam funds and shareholder financial planning needs, placement on the dealer's preferred or recommended fund company list, and access to sales meetings, sales representatives and management representatives of the dealer.

Program servicing payments, which are paid in some instances to dealers in connection with investments in the fund by retirement plans and other investment programs, are not expected, with certain limited exceptions, to exceed 0.20% of the total assets in the program on an annual basis. These payments are made for program services provided by the dealer, including participant recordkeeping, reporting, or transaction processing, as well as services rendered in connection with fund/investment selection and monitoring, employee enrollment and education, plan balance rollover or separation, or other similar services.

- **Other payments.** Putnam Retail Management and its affiliates may make other payments (including payments in connection with educational seminars or conferences) or allow other promotional incentives to dealers to the extent permitted by SEC and NASD (as adopted by FINRA) rules and by other applicable laws and regulations. Certain dealers also receive additional payments from the fund's transfer agent in recognition of subaccounting or other services they provide to shareholders or plan participants who invest in the fund or other Putnam funds through their retirement plan. These payments are not expected, with certain exceptions for affiliated and unaffiliated entities noted in the SAI, to exceed 0.13% of the total assets of such shareholders or plan participants in the fund or other Putnam funds on an annual basis. See the discussion in the SAI under the heading *Management — Investor Servicing Agent* for more details.

You can find a list of all dealers to which Putnam made marketing support and/or program servicing payments in 2009 in the SAI, which is on file with the SEC and is also available on Putnam's website at putnam.com. You can also find other details in the SAI about the payments made by Putnam Retail Management and its affiliates and the services provided by your dealer. Your dealer may charge you fees or commissions in addition to those disclosed in this prospectus. You can also ask your dealer about any payments it receives from Putnam Retail Management and its affiliates and any services your dealer provides, as well as about fees and/or commissions it charges.

Fund distributions and taxes

The fund normally distributes any net investment income and any net realized capital gains annually. You may choose to reinvest distributions from net investment income, capital gains or both in additional shares of this fund or other Putnam funds, or you may receive them in cash in the form of a check or an electronic deposit to your bank account. If you do not select an option when you open your account, all distributions will be reinvested. If you choose to receive distributions in cash, but correspondence from the fund or Putnam Investor Services is returned as "undeliverable," the distribution option on your account may be converted to reinvest future distributions in the fund. You will not receive interest on uncashed distribution checks.

For shares purchased through your employer's retirement plan, the terms of the plan will govern how the plan may receive distributions from the fund. Generally, periodic distributions from the fund to the plan are reinvested in additional fund shares, although the plan may permit you to receive fund distributions from net investment income in cash while reinvesting capital gains distributions in additional shares or to receive all fund distributions in cash. If you do not select another option, all distributions will be reinvested in additional fund shares.

For federal income tax purposes, distributions of net investment income are generally taxable to you as ordinary income. Taxes on distributions of capital gains are determined by how long the fund owned the investments that generated them, rather than by how long you have owned your shares. Properly designated distributions of gains from investments that the fund owned for more than one year are generally taxable as long-term capital gains. Distributions of gains from investments that the fund owned for one year or less are generally taxable to you as ordinary income. For taxable years beginning before January 1, 2010, properly designated distributions of "qualified dividend income" are taxable at the rate applicable to long-term capital gains provided that both you and the fund meet certain holding period and other

requirements. At this point it is unclear whether Congress will extend the treatment of certain dividends as “qualified dividend income” that is taxed at the long-term capital gain rate for one or more tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2011. Distributions are taxable in the manner described in this paragraph whether you receive them in cash or reinvest them in additional shares of this fund or other Putnam funds.

Distributions by the fund to retirement plans that qualify for tax-exempt treatment under federal income tax laws will not be taxable. Special tax rules apply to investments through such plans. You should consult your tax advisor to determine the suitability of the fund as an investment through such a plan and the tax treatment of distributions (including distributions of amounts attributable to an investment in the fund) from such a plan.

Unless you are investing through a tax-deferred retirement account (such as an IRA), you should consider avoiding a purchase of fund shares shortly before the fund makes a distribution, because doing so may cost you money in taxes. Distributions are taxable to you even if they are paid from income or gains earned by the fund before your investment (and thus were included in the price you paid). Contact your financial representative or Putnam to find out the distribution schedule for your fund.

The fund’s investments in foreign securities may be subject to foreign withholding taxes. In that case, the fund’s return on those investments would be decreased. If the fund meets certain requirements relating to its asset holdings, shareholders generally will be entitled to claim a credit or deduction with respect to foreign taxes. In addition, the fund’s investment in foreign securities or foreign currencies may increase or accelerate the fund’s recognition of ordinary income and may affect the timing or amount of the fund’s distributions.

The fund’s use of derivatives, if any, may affect the amount, timing and character of distributions to shareholders and, therefore, may increase the amount of taxes payable by shareholders.

Any gain resulting from the sale or exchange of your shares generally also will be subject to tax.

The above is a general summary of the tax implications of investing in the fund. Please refer to the SAI for further details. You should consult your tax advisor for more information on your own tax situation, including possible foreign, state and local taxes.

Financial highlights

The financial highlights tables are intended to help you understand the fund's recent financial performance. Certain information reflects financial results for a single fund share. The total returns represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the fund, assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions. This information has been derived from the fund's financial statements, which have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. Its report and the fund's financial statements are included in the fund's annual report to shareholders, which is available upon request.

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

INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:					LESS DISTRIBUTIONS:		
Period ended	Net asset value, beginning of period	Net investment income (loss) ^a	Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	Total from investment operations	From net investment income	From net realized gain on investments	From return of capital
Class A							
June 30, 2010	\$15.75	.19	.29	.48	(.42)	—	(.01)
June 30, 2009	24.68	.38	(9.38)	(9.00)	—	—	—
June 30, 2008	34.90	.48	(4.40)	(3.92)	(1.06)	(5.24)	—
June 30, 2007	28.82	.35	7.89	8.24	(.70)	(1.46)	—
June 30, 2006	23.39	.45 ^{i,j}	5.51	5.96	(.53)	—	—
Class B							
June 30, 2010	\$14.91	.04	.28	.32	(.26)	—	(.01)
June 30, 2009	23.55	.24	(8.95)	(8.71)	—	—	—
June 30, 2008	33.50	.18	(4.15)	(3.97)	(.74)	(5.24)	—
June 30, 2007	27.71	.09	7.60	7.69	(.44)	(1.46)	—
June 30, 2006	22.49	.21 ^{i,j}	5.33	5.54	(.32)	—	—
Class C							
June 30, 2010	\$15.24	.05	.29	.34	(.30)	—	(.01)
June 30, 2009	24.07	.25	(9.15)	(8.90)	—	—	—
June 30, 2008	34.16	.24	(4.30)	(4.06)	(.79)	(5.24)	—
June 30, 2007	28.25	.11	7.73	7.84	(.47)	(1.46)	—
June 30, 2006	22.93	.23 ^{i,j}	5.42	5.65	(.33)	—	—
Class M							
June 30, 2010	\$15.35	.10	.28	.38	(.34)	—	(.01)
June 30, 2009	24.18	.29	(9.19)	(8.90)	—	—	—
June 30, 2008	34.30	.31	(4.32)	(4.01)	(.87)	(5.24)	—
June 30, 2007	28.35	.19	7.76	7.95	(.54)	(1.46)	—
June 30, 2006	23.00	.30 ^{i,j}	5.44	5.74	(.39)	—	—
Class R							
June 30, 2010	\$15.52	.15	.29	.44	(.38)	—	(.01)
June 30, 2009	24.40	.35	(9.30)	(8.95)	—	—	—
June 30, 2008	34.59	.42	(4.38)	(3.96)	(.99)	(5.24)	—
June 30, 2007	28.61	.33	7.77	8.10	(.66)	(1.46)	—
June 30, 2006	23.25	.53 ^{i,j}	5.33	5.86	(.50)	—	—
Class Y							
June 30, 2010	\$15.94	.22	.31	.53	(.46)	—	(.01)
June 30, 2009	24.92	.41	(9.46)	(9.05)	—	—	—
June 30, 2008	35.18	.58	(4.46)	(3.88)	(1.14)	(5.24)	—
June 30, 2007	29.03	.45	7.94	8.39	(.78)	(1.46)	—
June 30, 2006	23.55	.53 ^{i,j}	5.54	6.07	(.59)	—	—

See notes to financial highlights at the end of this section.

			RATIOS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:					
Total distributions	Redemption fees ^b	Non-recurring reimbursements	Net asset value, end of period	Total return at net asset value (%) ^c	Net assets, end of period (in thousands)	Ratio of expenses to average net assets (%) ^d	Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets (%)	Portfolio turnover (%)
(.43)	—	— ^{b,f}	\$15.80	2.67	\$1,087,233	1.42	1.07	95.66
—	—	.07 ^{g,h}	15.75	(36.18)	1,364,234	1.35 ^e	2.27 ^e	82.09
(6.30)	—	—	24.68	(12.73)	3,246,278	1.19 ^e	1.63 ^e	73.98
(2.16)	—	—	34.90	29.51	4,223,621	1.25 ^e	1.11 ^e	94.85
(.53)	—	—	28.82	25.70	3,601,661	1.19 ^{e,i}	1.69 ^{e,i,j}	83.10
(.27)	—	— ^{b,f}	\$14.96	1.89	\$70,933	2.17	.21	95.66
—	—	.07 ^{g,h}	14.91	(36.69)	134,905	2.10 ^e	1.45 ^e	82.09
(5.98)	—	—	23.55	(13.38)	478,126	1.94 ^e	.62 ^e	73.98
(1.90)	—	—	33.50	28.56	1,013,822	2.00 ^e	.29 ^e	94.85
(.32)	—	—	27.71	24.77	1,162,723	1.94 ^{e,i}	.81 ^{e,i,j}	83.10
(.31)	—	— ^{b,f}	\$15.27	1.92	\$76,281	2.17	.31	95.66
—	—	.07 ^{g,h}	15.24	(36.68)	93,839	2.10 ^e	1.56 ^e	82.09
(6.03)	—	—	24.07	(13.39)	211,371	1.94 ^e	.82 ^e	73.98
(1.93)	—	—	34.16	28.55	300,684	2.00 ^e	.37 ^e	94.85
(.33)	—	—	28.25	24.77	264,090	1.94 ^{e,i}	.87 ^{e,i,j}	83.10
(.35)	—	— ^{b,f}	\$15.38	2.15	\$25,387	1.92	.57	95.66
—	—	.07 ^{g,h}	15.35	(36.52)	29,707	1.85 ^e	1.81 ^e	82.09
(6.11)	—	—	24.18	(13.20)	66,502	1.69 ^e	1.07 ^e	73.98
(2.00)	—	—	34.30	28.89	96,237	1.75 ^e	.61 ^e	94.85
(.39)	—	—	28.35	25.12	86,932	1.69 ^{e,i}	1.14 ^{e,i,j}	83.10
(.39)	—	— ^{b,f}	\$15.57	2.46	\$3,537	1.67	.82	95.66
—	—	.07 ^{g,h}	15.52	(36.39)	3,648	1.60 ^e	2.18 ^e	82.09
(6.23)	—	—	24.40	(12.96)	5,128	1.44 ^e	1.45 ^e	73.98
(2.12)	—	—	34.59	29.23	5,504	1.50 ^e	1.05 ^e	94.85
(.50)	—	—	28.61	25.42	3,354	1.44 ^{e,i}	1.95 ^{e,i,j}	83.10
(.47)	—	— ^{b,f}	\$16.00	2.95	\$87,194	1.17	1.21	95.66
—	—	.07 ^{g,h}	15.94	(36.04)	127,746	1.10 ^e	2.25 ^e	82.09
(6.38)	—	—	24.92	(12.49)	1,312,695	.94 ^e	1.94 ^e	73.98
(2.24)	—	—	35.18	29.85	1,613,443	1.00 ^e	1.40 ^e	94.85
(.59)	—	—	29.03	26.05	1,253,655	.94 ^{e,i}	1.95 ^{e,i,j}	83.10

Financial highlights (Continued)

- Per share net investment income (loss) has been determined on the basis of the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period.
- Amount represents less than \$0.01 per share.
- Total return assumes dividend reinvestment and does not reflect the effect of sales charges.
- Includes amounts paid through expense offset and brokerage/services arrangements.
- Reflects an involuntary contractual expense limitation and/or waivers of certain fund expenses in connection with investments in Putnam Prime Money Market Fund in effect during the period. As a result of such limitation and/or waivers, the expenses of each class reflect a reduction of the following amounts:

	Percentage of average net assets
June 30, 2009	0.01%
June 30, 2008	<0.01
June 30, 2007	<0.01
June 30, 2006	<0.01

- Reflects a non-recurring reimbursement pursuant to a settlement between the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) and Prudential Securities, Inc., which amounted to less than \$0.01 per share outstanding as of March 30, 2010.
- Reflects a non-recurring reimbursement pursuant to a settlement between the SEC and Millennium Partners, L.P., Millennium Management, L.L.C., and Millennium International Management, L.L.C., which amounted to \$0.04 per share outstanding as of June 23, 2009.
- Reflects a non-recurring reimbursement pursuant to a settlement between the SEC and Bear, Stearns & Co., Inc. and Bear, Stearns Securities Corp., which amounted to \$0.03 per share outstanding as of May 21, 2009.
- Net investment income (loss) per share and ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets reflects a special dividend received by the fund which amounted to the following amounts:

	Per share	Percentage of average net assets
Class A	\$0.14	0.54%
Class B	0.13	0.51
Class C	0.14	0.52
Class M	0.14	0.53
Class R	0.18	0.66
Class Y	0.15	0.56

- Reflects a non-recurring reimbursement from Putnam Investments relating to the calculation of certain amounts paid by the fund to Putnam in previous years for transfer agent services, which amounted to \$0.02 per share and 0.07% of average net assets for the period ended June 30, 2006.

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For more information about Putnam International Equity Fund

The fund's SAI and annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders include additional information about the fund. The SAI is incorporated by reference into this prospectus, which means it is part of this prospectus for legal purposes. The fund's annual report discusses the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the fund's performance during its last fiscal year. You may get free copies of these materials, request other information about any Putnam fund, or make shareholder inquiries, by contacting your financial representative, by visiting Putnam's website at putnam.com/individual, or by calling Putnam toll-free at 1-800-225-1581.

You may review and copy information about a fund, including its SAI, at the Securities and Exchange Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. You may call the Commission at 1-202-551-8090 for information about the operation of the Public Reference Room. You may also access reports and other information about the fund on the EDGAR Database on the Commission's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may get copies of this information, with payment of a duplication fee, by electronic request at the following E-mail address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing the Commission's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-1520. You may need to refer to the fund's file number.

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