

**SUPPLEMENT DATED APRIL 9, 2019  
TO**

**FIRST INVESTORS EQUITY FUNDS PROSPECTUS, SUMMARY PROSPECTUSES AND STATEMENT  
OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DATED JANUARY 31, 2019**

**FIRST INVESTORS INCOME FUNDS PROSPECTUS, SUMMARY PROSPECTUSES AND STATEMENT  
OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DATED JANUARY 31, 2019**

**FIRST INVESTORS LIFE SERIES FUNDS PROSPECTUS, SUMMARY PROSPECTUSES AND  
STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DATED MAY 1, 2018, AS SUPPLEMENTED**

**FIRST INVESTORS TAX EXEMPT FUNDS PROSPECTUS, SUMMARY PROSPECTUSES AND  
STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DATED MAY 1, 2018, AS SUPPLEMENTED**

On April 9, 2019, the Independent Order of Foresters, the ultimate parent company of Foresters Investment Management Company, Inc. (“FIMCO”), which is the investment adviser to the separate series of the trusts listed above (the “Funds”), Foresters Financial Services, Inc. (“FFS”), which is the Funds’ distributor, and Foresters Investors Services, Inc. (“FIS”), which is the Funds’ transfer agent, announced that it has entered into the two definitive purchase agreements described below that, once completed, will result in the sale of its U.S. North American Asset Management businesses.

First, FIMCO has entered into an Asset Purchase Agreement with Macquarie Management Holdings, Inc. (“Macquarie”) whereby Macquarie, a global investment management firm headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, will purchase FIMCO’s assets related to the mutual fund management business, including the Funds (the “Transaction”). The Transaction is not expected to result in any material changes to the Funds’ investment objectives and principal investment strategies. However, upon the completion of the Transaction, Macquarie expects that each Fund will be reorganized into a substantially similar fund that is managed by Delaware Management Company, a subsidiary of Macquarie (the “Reorganizations”). The Transaction is expected to be completed during the fourth calendar quarter of 2019, pending the satisfaction of certain closing conditions and approvals, including approvals of the Reorganizations by the Funds’ Board of Trustees and Fund shareholders at a special shareholder meeting.

Second, FFS and Foresters Advisory Services, LLC (“FAS”) has entered into an Asset Purchase Agreement with Cetera Financial Group, Inc. (“Cetera”), a U.S.-based wealth management firm headquartered in Denver, Colorado, whereby Cetera will purchase FFS’ retail brokerage business and FAS’ retail advisory business. This transaction is expected to be completed in the second calendar quarter of 2019.

No shareholder action is necessary at this time. More detailed information about the Reorganizations will be provided in a forthcoming proxy statement. When you receive your proxy statement, please review it carefully and cast your vote. This Supplement is not a proxy and is not soliciting any proxy, which can only be done by means of a proxy statement.

**PLEASE RETAIN THIS SUPPLEMENT FOR YOUR FUTURE REFERENCE.**

**First Investors Total Return Fund**  
**Summary Prospectus**      **January 31, 2019**

**Ticker Symbols**  
**Class A: FITRX**  
**Class B: FBTRX**  
**Advisor Class: FITUX**  
**Institutional Class: FITVX**

**Supplemented as of April 1, 2019**

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 this and other information about the Fund, including the statement of additional information (“SAI”) and most recent reports to shareholders, at [www.firstinvestorsfunds.com/prospectuses](http://www.firstinvestorsfunds.com/prospectuses). You can also get this information at no cost by calling 1(800)423-4026 or by e-mailing [investorservices@foresters.com](mailto:investorservices@foresters.com). The Fund’s prospectus and SAI, dated January 31, 2019, as each may be amended or supplemented, and the financial statements in the annual report to shareholders, dated September 30, 2018, are incorporated herein by reference.

**Investment Objective:** The Fund seeks high, long-term total investment return consistent with moderate investment risk.

**Fees and Expenses of the Fund:** This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund. You may qualify for sales charge discounts if you invest, or agree to invest in the future, at least \$50,000 in certain classes of shares of certain First Investors Funds. More information about these and other discounts is available from your financial representative and in “Are sales charge discounts and waivers available” on page 199 of the Fund’s prospectus and in “Additional Information About Sales Charge Discounts and Waivers” on page II-60 of the Fund’s SAI. You may be required to pay a commission to your financial intermediary for Advisor Class and Institutional Class shares purchased through them. Such commissions are not reflected in the tables or the Example below.

<i>Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)</i>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Advisor Class</b>	<b>Institutional Class</b>
Maximum sales charge (load) imposed on purchases (as a percentage of offering price)	5.75%	None	None	None
Maximum deferred sales charge (load) (as a percentage of the lower of purchase price or redemption price)	1.00% <sup>1</sup>	4.00%	None	None

<i>Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)</i>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Advisor Class</b>	<b>Institutional Class</b>
Management Fees	0.69%	0.69%	0.69%	0.69%
Distribution and Service (12b-1) Fees <sup>2</sup>	0.25%	1.00%	None	None
Other Expenses	0.19%	0.25%	0.15%	0.08%
<b>Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b>	<b>1.13%</b>	<b>1.94%</b>	<b>0.84%</b>	<b>0.77%</b>

1. A contingent deferred sales charge of 1% will be assessed on certain redemptions of Class A shares that are purchased without a sales charge, as described further in the “What are the sales charges?” section of the prospectus.

2. The expense information in the table has been restated to reflect a decrease in the 12b-1 fees for Class A shares effective as of April 1, 2019.

## Example

The Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods and reflects conversion of Class B to Class A after eight years. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
Class A shares	\$684	\$913	\$1,161	\$1,871
Class B shares	\$597	\$909	\$1,247	\$2,054
Advisor Class shares	\$86	\$268	\$466	\$1,037
Institutional Class shares	\$79	\$246	\$428	\$954

You would pay the following expenses on Class B shares if you did not redeem your shares:

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
Class B shares	\$197	\$609	\$1,047	\$2,054

**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 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 the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 53% of the average value of its portfolio.

**Principal Investment Strategies:** The Fund allocates its assets among stocks, bonds and money market instruments. While the percentage of assets allocated to each asset class is flexible rather than fixed, the Fund normally invests at least 50% of its net assets in stocks and at least 30% in bonds, cash and money market instruments. Derivatives are included for the purposes of these allocations.

In connection with the determination of the Fund's allocation ranges, Foresters Investment Management Company, Inc. ("Adviser") considers various factors, including existing and projected market conditions for equity and fixed income securities. Once the asset allocation for bonds, stocks and money market instruments has been set, the Adviser uses fundamental research and analysis to determine which particular investments to

purchase or sell. The percentage allocations within the above ranges are actively monitored by the Fund's portfolio managers and may change due to, among other things, market fluctuations or reallocation decisions by the portfolio managers. Reallocations outside of the above ranges are expected to occur infrequently.

The Fund's investments in stocks are normally diversified among common stocks of large-, mid- and small-size companies that offer the potential for capital growth, current income, or both. In selecting stocks, the Adviser considers, among other things, the issuer's financial strength, management, earnings growth potential and history (if any) of paying dividends.

The Fund's investments in bonds are primarily diversified among different types of bonds and other debt securities, including corporate bonds, U.S. Government securities, U.S. government sponsored enterprise securities, which may not be backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government and mortgage-backed and other asset-backed securities. The Adviser selects bonds by first considering the outlook for the economy and interest rates, and thereafter, a particular security's characteristics. The Adviser may sell a security if it becomes fully valued, its fundamentals have deteriorated, alternative investments

become more attractive or if it is necessary to rebalance the portfolio.

To a lesser extent, the Fund also invests in high yield, below investment grade corporate bonds (commonly known as “high yield” or “junk bonds”). The Adviser has retained Muzinich & Co, Inc. (“Muzinich”) as a subadviser to manage this portion of the Fund. High yield bonds include bonds that are rated below Baa3 by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. or below BBB- by S&P Global Ratings as well as unrated bonds that are determined by Muzinich to be of equivalent quality. Muzinich will consider ratings assigned by ratings agencies in selecting high yield bonds, but relies principally on its own research and investment analysis. In managing its portion of the Fund, Muzinich primarily focuses on investments it believes can generate attractive and consistent income. Muzinich may sell a bond when it shows deteriorating fundamentals or it falls short of the portfolio manager’s expectations.

In addition, the Adviser may also invest in exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) that could expose the Fund to high yield securities.

The Fund may also invest in U.S. Treasury futures and options on U.S. Treasury futures to hedge against changes in interest rates.

**Principal Risks:** You can lose money by investing in the Fund. There is no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective. Here are the principal risks of investing in the Fund:

*Allocation Risk.* The Fund may allocate assets to investment classes that underperform other classes. For example, the Fund may be overweighted in stocks when the stock market is falling and the bond market is rising.

*Credit Risk.* A debt issuer may become unable or unwilling to pay interest or principal when due. The prices of debt securities are affected by the credit quality of the issuer and, in the case of mortgage-backed and other asset-backed securities, the credit quality of the underlying loans. Securities issued by U.S. Government-sponsored enterprises are

supported only by the credit of the issuing entity.

*Derivatives Risk.* Investments in U.S. Treasury futures and options on U.S. Treasury futures to hedge against changes in interest rates involve risks, such as potential losses if interest rates do not move as expected and the potential for greater losses than if these techniques had not been used. Investments in derivatives can increase the volatility of the Fund’s share price and may expose it to significant additional costs. Derivatives may be difficult to sell, unwind, or value.

*Exchange-Traded Funds Risk.* The risks of investing in an ETF typically reflect the risks of the instruments in which the ETF invests. In addition, because ETFs are investment companies, the Fund will bear its proportionate share of the fees and expenses of an investment in an ETF. As a result, the Fund’s expenses may be higher and performance may be lower.

*High Yield Securities Risk.* High yield debt securities (commonly known as “junk bonds”) have greater credit risk than higher quality debt securities because their issuers may not be as financially strong. High yield securities are inherently speculative due to the risk associated with the issuer’s ability to make principal and interest payments. During times of economic stress, high yield securities issuers may be unable to access credit to refinance their bonds or meet their credit obligations.

*Interest Rate Risk.* In general, when interest rates rise, the market value of a debt security declines, and when interest rates decline, the market value of a debt security increases. Interest rates across the U.S. economy have recently increased and may continue to increase, thereby heightening the Fund’s exposure to the risks associated with rising interest rates. Securities with longer maturities and durations are generally more sensitive to interest rate changes.

*Market Risk.* Stock prices may decline over short or even extended periods due to general economic and market conditions, adverse

political or regulatory developments or interest rate fluctuations. Similarly, bond prices fluctuate in value with changes in interest rates, the economy and circumstances directly involving issuers. Adverse market events may lead to increased redemptions, which could cause the Fund to experience a loss or difficulty in selling securities to meet redemptions. Certain investments may be difficult or impossible to sell at a favorable time or price when the Fund requires liquidity to make redemptions.

**Mid-Size and Small-Size Company Risk.** The market risk associated with stocks of mid- and small-size companies is generally greater than that associated with stocks of larger, more established companies because stocks of mid- and small-size companies tend to experience sharper price fluctuations. At times, it may be difficult to sell mid- to small-size company stocks at reasonable prices.

**Prepayment and Extension Risk.** When interest rates decline, borrowers tend to refinance their loans and the loans that back mortgage-backed and other asset-backed securities suffer a higher rate of prepayment. This could cause a decrease in the Fund's income and share price. Conversely, when interest rates rise, borrowers tend to repay their loans less quickly, which will generally increase both the Fund's sensitivity to rising interest rates and its potential for price declines.

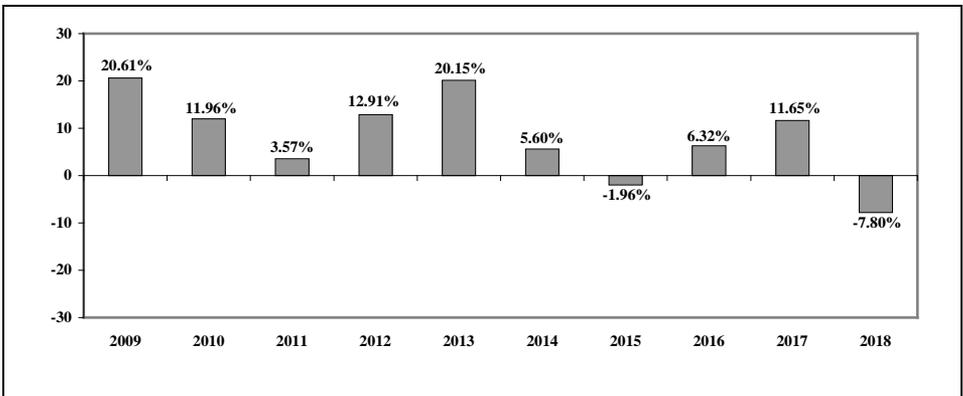
**Security Selection Risk.** Securities selected by the portfolio manager may perform differently than the overall market or may not meet expectations.

*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.*

**Performance:** The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The bar chart shows changes in the Fund's performance from year to year for Class A shares. The table shows how the Fund's average annual returns for 1, 5, and 10 years compare to those of a broad measure of market performance for equity securities and an index that is a broad measure of market performance for fixed-income securities. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Prior to January 31, 2018, Muzinich did not serve as a subadviser to the Fund. Updated performance information is available by visiting [www.firstinvestorsfunds.com](http://www.firstinvestorsfunds.com) or by calling 1 (800) 423-4026.

Sales charges are not reflected in the bar chart, and if those charges were included, returns would be less than those shown.

**Total Annual Returns For Calendar Years Ended December 31**



During the periods shown, the highest quarterly return was 11.16% (for the quarter ended June 30, 2009) and the lowest quarterly return was -9.97% (for the quarter ended September 30, 2011).

### Average Annual Total Returns For Periods Ended December 31, 2018

	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years	Life of Class (If less than 10 yrs)
<b>Class A Shares</b>				
(Return Before Taxes)	-13.12%	1.32%	7.31%	--
(Return After Taxes on Distributions)	-15.26%	0.00%	6.23%	--
(Return After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares)	-6.32%	0.52%	5.54%	--
<b>Class B Shares (Return Before Taxes)</b>				
<b>Advisor Class Shares (Return Before Taxes) (Inception Date: 4/1/13)</b>	-7.54%	2.89%	--	4.65%
<b>Institutional Class Shares (Return Before Taxes) (Inception Date: 4/1/13)</b>	-7.45%	2.95%	--	4.74%
S&P 500 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	-4.38%	8.49%	13.12%	10.75%
ICE BofAML U.S. Corporate, Government & Mortgage Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	0.00%	2.61%	3.44%	1.87%

The after-tax returns are shown only for Class A shares and are calculated using the highest individual federal marginal income tax rates, do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes and will vary for other share classes. Actual after-tax returns depend on an investor's tax situation and may differ from those shown. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold their Fund shares through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts. The return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund shares may exceed the return before taxes due to an assumed tax benefit from any losses on a sale of Fund shares at the end of the measurement period.

**Investment Adviser:** Foresters Investment Management Company, Inc. ("FIMCO") is the Fund's investment adviser and Muzinich serves as the subadviser to a portion of the Fund.

**Portfolio Managers:** The Fund assets managed by FIMCO are managed primarily by Sean Reidy, Director of Equities, and Rajeev Sharma, Director of Fixed Income. Mr. Reidy has served as Portfolio Manager of the Fund since 2018 and Mr. Sharma has served as Portfolio Manager of the Fund since 2017. The portion of the Fund managed by Muzinich is managed primarily by Clinton Comeaux and Bryan Petermann, Portfolio Managers of the Fund since 2018.

**Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares: Class B shares of the Funds are closed to new accounts and new investments (excluding reinvestment of dividends, exchanges and other limited transactions).** You may purchase or redeem shares of the Fund on any business day by: contacting your financial intermediary in accordance with its policies; writing to the Fund's transfer agent at: Foresters Investor Services, Inc., Raritan Plaza I, Edison, NJ 08837; or calling the Fund's transfer agent at 1(800)423-4026. The minimum initial purchase for Class A shares, Class B shares and Advisor Class shares is \$1,000. The minimum initial purchase for Institutional Class shares is \$2,000,000. The minimum initial purchase is reduced for certain types of accounts and also for accounts that are eligible to be opened under a systematic investment plan. Subsequent investments can be made in any U.S. dollar amount.

**Tax Information:** The Fund's distributions are generally taxable, and will be taxed to you as ordinary income or long-term capital gains, unless you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or individual retirement account, in which case the withdrawal of your investment from a tax-deferred arrangement may be taxable.

**Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries:** The Fund is primarily sold to retail investors through its principal underwriter, Foresters Financial Services, Inc. ("FFS"), which is an affiliate of the Fund's adviser, and both are subsidiaries of the same holding company. FFS representatives receive compensation for selling the Funds. The Fund also may be sold through unaffiliated broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries, that receive compensation for selling First Investors Funds. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing representatives, broker-dealers or other financial intermediaries to recommend First Investors Funds over other funds. For more information ask your representative or your financial intermediary, see the Fund's SAI or visit Foresters Financial's or your financial intermediary's website.

[Link to Prospectus](#)  
[Link to Statement of Additional Information](#)

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