

**Factsheet** September 30, 2019

# Japan Core Equity Strategy

# Investment Philosophy<sup>1</sup>

We believe owning Japanese companies with strong cash generative business models, sustainable growth opportunities and trading at less than our assessment of intrinsic value, can deliver long term outperformance.

Style:	Core
Strategy Inception:	April 2013
Benchmark:	TOPIX
Number of Holdings:	40–60
Expected Tracking Error:	<8%

#### **Investment Process<sup>2</sup>**

#### **Idea Generation**

#### Ideas are sourced in a variety of ways:

- Company meetings and industry analysis
- Proprietary screens
- Other internal teams
- Sell-side research

#### **Fundamental Research**

- In-depth, three stage due diligence process consisting of:
- **Business evaluation**
- Assessment of growth opportunities
- Intrinsic valuation analysis

#### **Portfolio Construction**

- Determine entry price and position size
- Sector and style neutral
- Country weights by-product of stock selection
- Stock risk contribution assessment

## **Risk Management**

- Multi-dimensional risk management framework
  - Monitor portfolio guidelines
  - Monitor benchmark-relative risk factors
  - Compliance monitoring
  - Senior management oversight

#### Composite Performance\*

# Returns as of September 30, 2019



#### ■ Japan Active Equity Composite — Gross ■ Japan Active Equity Composite — Net ■ TOPIX

# Calendar Year Returns (%)

	2010	2017	2010	2015	2014	2013
Japan Core Equity Composite — Gross³	-15.58	25.84	8.41	14.74	-2.08	17.34
Japan Core Equity Composite — Net <sup>3</sup>	-16.09	25.09	7.76	14.05	-2.66	16.82
TOPIX	-13.73	26.55	3.46	11.69	-3.33	13.72

\*Past performance is not indicative of future results.

\*\* Returns for 2013 are partial

Performance shown is the Manulife Asset Management (Asia) Japan Active Equity Composite as of September 30, 2019 in USD. Returns greater than one year are annualized. All annual performance measures are time-weighted. Composite Inception date, April 2013

# Strategy Highlights

#### **Deep Experience**

Lead Portfolio Manager has been managing Japanese Equities since 2000

#### Repeatable Investment Process

Find enduring cash generative businesses with reinvestment options where the cash flows are

## Long-term focused but aware of short term opportunities

Long term cash flows define valuations but short term opportunities can arise from stock volatility

#### Risk Aware Portfolio Construction

Portfolios target a broad spread of idiosyncratic stock risk with no sector, stock, style or country exposure dominating

# **Deep Global Resources**

Access to the firm's deep local network of investment resources, including 450 investment professionals located in 17 countries, with a long tradition of active fundamental investing

Investment Team	Years of Experience
Edward Ritchie, ASIP	24

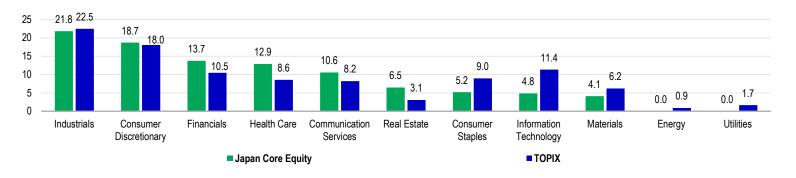
September 30, 2019

Porti	folio	Characte	ristics <sup>4</sup>
-------	-------	----------	----------------------

	Japan Core Equity Strategy	TOPIX
Wtd. Avg. Market Cap (\$M)	27,573	29,949
Number of Holdings	54	2,150
Price/Book Ratio (x)	1.32	1.15
P/E Ratio (1 Year Forward) (x)	12.32	12.75
Dividend Yield (%)	2.67	2.50
Debt/Capital (%)	42.56	46.30
EPS LT Growth Rate (%)	3.24	6.23
Active Share	79.43	

Top Ten Holdings (%) <sup>4</sup>	Japan Core Equity Strategy		
Mitsui Fudosan Co	5.1		
HOYA CORPORATION	4.8		
KDDI Corporation	4.4		
Sumitomo Mitsui Financial	3.7		
Sushiro Global Holdings	3.3		
SoftBank Group Corp.	3.1		
Toyota Motor Corp.	3.1		
Japan Tobacco	3.0		
Sekisui Chemical Co	2.7		
Shionogi & Co	2.7		
Total	35.7		

# Sector Allocation (%)4



#### About Manulife Investment Management

Manulife Investment Management is the global wealth and asset management segment of Manulife Financial Corporation. We draw on more than 150 years of financial stewardship to partner with clients across our institutional, retail, and retirement businesses globally. Our specialist approach to money management includes the highly differentiated strategies of our fixed-income, specialized equity, multi-asset solutions, and private markets teams—along with access to specialized, unaffiliated asset managers from around the world through our multimanager model.

The Japan Active Equity strategy aims to own companies with strong cash flow generative business models, growth opportunities and trading at less than our assessment of intrinsic value, which can deliver long term outperformance. There is a \$2 million asset requirement to be eligible for inclusion in the composite.

TOPIX (First Section) Index (Total Return) expresses fluctuations in the market capitalization of all domestic stocks listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

The indices referenced herein are broad-based securities market indices and used for illustrative purposes only. The indices cited are widely accepted benchmarks for investment performance within their relevant regions, sectors or asset classes, and represent non-managed investment portfolios

This information has been provided by Manulife Investment Management. All material is compiled from sources believed to be reliable and correct but accuracy cannot be guaranteed. This is not to be construed as an offer to buy or sell any financial instrument nor does it constitute an offer or invitation to invest in any fund managed by Manulife Investment Management and has not been prepared in connection with any such offer. This information does not constitute, and should not be construed as, investment advice or recommendations with respect to the securities and sectors listed.

References to securities, transactions or holdings should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell a particular security and there is no assurance that, as of the date of publication, the securities remain in the portfolio. Additionally, it is noted that the securities or transactions referenced do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended during the period referenced and there is no guarantee as to the future profitability of the securities identified and discussed herein.

For prospective investors in the US, UK, European Economic Area and Canada: This piece is for Institutional, Professional, Adviser and/or Qualified Investors only (not to be used with or passed on to retail clients).

For prospective clients in Hong Kong: This piece is distributed by Manulife Investment Management (HK) Limited for Professional Investors use only and as such, is not approved under the Securities and Futures Ordinance (SFO) or the Companies Ordinance and shall not be distributed to non-Professional Investors in Hong Kong.

For the information of investors from other jurisdictions: Availability of the services described herein may be limited by applicable law in certain jurisdictions and none of this document and any related materials may be distributed or published in any jurisdiction, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Further limitations on the availability of the advisory services described herein may be imposed.

Source for information shown is Manulife Investment Management, unless otherwise noted

- <sup>1</sup> The material contains information regarding the investment approach described herein and is not a complete description of the investment objectives, risks, policies, guidelines or portfolio management and research that supports this investment approach. Any decision to engage Manulife Investment Management should be based upon a review of the terms of the prospectus, offering documents or investment management agreement, as applicable, and the specific investment objectives, policies and guidelines that apply under the terms of such agreement. There is no guarantee investment objectives will be met. The investment process may change over time. The characteristics set forth above are intended as a general illustration of some of the criteria the strategy team considers in selecting securities for client portfolios. Client portfolios are managed according to mutually agreed upon investment guidelines.
- <sup>2</sup> No investment strategy or risk management techniques can guarantee returns or eliminate risk in any market environment.
- <sup>3</sup> Gross performance results do not reflect the deduction of investment management fees which when deducted will reduce returns and are net of commissions and foreign withholding tax. Net performance results reflect the application of the highest incremental rate of the standard investment management fee schedule to gross performance results. Actual fees may vary depending on, among other things, the applicable fee schedule and portfolio size. Investment management fees are available upon request.
- <sup>4</sup> Portfolio characteristics Holdings, sector weightings, market capitalization and portfolio characteristics are subject to change at any time and are based on a representative portfolio. Holdings, sector weightings, market capitalization and portfolio characteristics of individual client portfolios in the strategy may differ, sometimes significantly, from those shown. This information does not constitute, and should not be construed as, investment advice or recommendations with respect to the securities and sectors listed, portfolios in the strategy may differ, sometimes significantly, from those shown. Top ten holdings information shown combines share listings from the same issuer, and related depositary receipts, into a singular holding to accurately present aggregate economic interest in the referenced company.

Manulife Investment Management claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). To receive a complete list and description of Manulife Investment Management's composites and/or a presentation that adheres to the GIPS standards, contact Institutional Sales at 1-888-332-7132, or visit us at www.manulifeam.com.

Manulife Investment Management, the Stylized M Design, and Manulife Investment Management & Stylized M Design are trademarks of The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company and are used by it, and by its affiliates under license. Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC and certain of our affiliated registered investment adviser firms may market and provide investment management or advisory services, under the brand name "John Hancock Investment Management". This is a brand name only, not an entity separate from Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC.