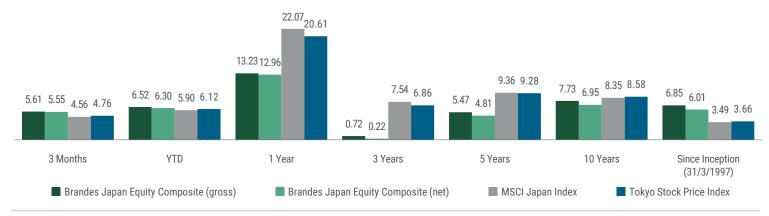
# **Brandes Japan Equity**

- Pioneer: Brandes is a pioneer in value investing, having navigated global markets for over 40 years, and managing a standalone Japan Equity Strategy for over 20 years.
- Value: The strategy consistently applies a disciplined investment process focused on uncovering Japanese companies with potentially attractive value attributes.
- Flexibility: The strategy is an all-capitalization mandate with the ability and willingness to be different than the benchmark.



## Performance (USD,%) as of 30/9/21



Source: Brandes, MSCI. Total return – gross and net of management fees. Periods of greater than one year have been annualized. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Please refer to "GIPS Composite Information" for additional information.

### Top 10 Holdings<sup>†</sup>

Company	%
Takeda Pharmaceutical Co Ltd	4.90
Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Holdings Inc	3.38
Taisho Pharmaceutical Holdings Co Ltd	3.31
Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Inc	3.24
Honda Motor Co Ltd	3.22
MS&AD Insurance Group Holdings Inc	3.10
Nissan Motor Co Ltd	3.07
Fuji Media Holdings Inc	2.91
Japan Petroleum Exploration Co Ltd	2.83
Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group Inc	2.62
Top 10 as % of Portfolio	32.58

Portfolio holdings are subject to change at any time at the discretion of the investment manager.

# Characteristics<sup>†</sup>

Brandes Japan Equity vs. MSCI Japan Index

	Brandes	Benchmark
Price/Book (x)	0.5	1.5
Price/Earnings (x)	11.7	17.7
Price/Cash Flow (x)	4.2	9.9
Dividend Yield %	3.1	2.0

Source: Bloomberg, FactSet, MSCI.

	Brandes	Benchmark
Active Share %	91.7	
Number of Holdings	68	
Weighted Average Mkt. Cap (\$bil)	12.9	55.1
Standard Deviation (3 year) %	13.82	15.04

# Exposure<sup>†</sup>

Brandes Japan Equity vs. MSCI Japan Index

By Sector	Brandes	Benchmark	Brandes Overweight/ Underweight
Financials	21.8	9.1	
Consumer Discret.	17.3	19.2	
Health Care	16.7	10.3	
Industrials	15.5	21.9	
Materials	11.4	4.8	
Communication Svcs	. 6.5	8.0	
Consumer Staples	5.9	7.0	
Energy	2.8	0.6	
Info. Tech.	0.8	14.6	
Utilities	0.0	1.0	1
Real Estate		3.5	

-20% -10% 0% 10% 20%

By Industry (Top 10)	Brandes E	Benchmar	k Brandes Overweight/ Underweight
Banks	17.0	4.6	
Pharmaceuticals	13.2	5.9	
Machinery	9.7	5.4	
Chemicals	8.1	3.8	
Automobiles	6.3	7.4	
Media	5.2	0.5	
Insurance	4.8	2.7	
Food Products	4.4	1.4	
Textiles, Apparel & Lux. Goods	s 3.7		
Metals & Mining	3.3	0.9	

-20% -10% 0% 10% 20%

Source: Brandes, MSCI.

Price/Book: price per share divided by book value per share. Price/Earnings: price per share divided by earnings per share. Price/Cash Flow: price per share divided by cash flow per share.

**Dividend Yield:** Dividends per share divided by price per share. Active Share: a measure of the percentage of stock holdings in a manager's portfolio that differ from the benchmark index. Standard Deviation: a measure of how much an investment's returns can vary from its average return.

Market Capitalization, P/B, P/E, P/CF, and Dividend Yield for each security provided by Bloomberg, L.P. Please note that Bloomberg does not provide negative numbers in the data feed. Index fundamentals are calculated from holdings data as provided by the relevant index or by FactSet Fundamentals, excluding negative numbers for consistency. Thus, index fundamentals calculated by Brandes may differ from those computed and published by index providers.

The Tokyo Stock Price Index (TOPIX) with gross dividends measures performance of all domestic common stocks listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange First Section.

†The portfolio characteristics shown relate to a single account deemed by Brandes to be generally representative of the strategy as of date noted. Not every account will have these exact characteristics. The actual characteristics with respect to any particular account will vary based on a number of factors including but not limited to: (i) the size of the account; (ii) investment restrictions applicable to the account, if any; and (iii) market exigencies at the time of investment. Data is updated on a quarterly basis.

The information provided in this material should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell any particular security. It should not be assumed that any security transactions, holdings or sectors discussed were or will be profitable, or that the investment recommendations or decisions we make in the future will be profitable or will equal the investment performance discussed herein. Strategies discussed are subject to change at any time by the investment manager in its discretion due to market conditions or opportunities. The Brandes investment approach tends to result in portfolios that are materially different than their benchmarks with regard to characteristics such as risk, volatility, diversification, and concentration. International and emerging markets institute to certain risks such as currency fluctuation and political changes; such risks may result in greater share price volatility. The declaration and payment of shareholder dividends are solely at the discretion of the issuer and are subject to change at any time.

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#### **GIPS Composite Information**

Composite Name: Brandes Japan Equity Benchmark: MSCI Japan Index Reporting Date: December 31, 2020

- (1) The measure of dispersion is the asset-weighted standard deviation for annual period gross returns in USD of all portfolios in the composite for the full reporting period. Beginning in 2017, dispersion is not presented for periods with less than 2 accounts in the composite. Prior to 2017, dispersion is not presented for periods with less than 6 accounts in the composite.
- (2) The three-year annualized ex-post standard deviation measures the variability of the monthly gross composite returns and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period.
- \* The net and gross annual returns, calculated in USD, presented for the Brandes Japan Equity composite were calculated on a time-weighted and asset-weighted, total return basis, including reinvestment of all dividends, interest and income, realized and unrealized gains or losses and are net of brokerage commissions, execution costs, and any applicable foreign withholding taxes, without provision for federal and state income taxes, if any. Cash and cash equivalents are included in performance returns. Beginning January 1, 2018, Brandes Investment Partners includes Brandes Investment Partners, L.P., Brandes Investment Partners (Europe) Limited, Brandes Investment Partners (Asia) Pte Ltd. and the Brandes Investment Partners & Co. assets sub-advised by Brandes Investment Partners, L.P. For the period from 1/1/06-12/31/17 the SMA Division of Brandes was excluded from the GIPS firm definition. The firm was redefined to reflect the dissolution of the SMA Division and the firm bringing those former SMA Division assets into compliance with the GIPS Standards.

This composite was created in 1991. The inception date is 3/31/1997.

Prior to April 2014 accounts were removed from the composite when an account's market value falls below US\$50,000 due to capital withdrawals.

The Brandes Japan Equity Composite seeks to achieve long-term capital appreciation by investing primarily in equity securities of Japanese issuers.

From 2010 through 2018 the composite performance after management fee returns are determined by reducing the gross of fee returns monthly by the highest applicable fee schedule per account. Composite performance after management fee returns were determined by using the highest applicable fee schedule per account in January – September 2019. As of October 2019, actual fees are used with the exception of select portfolios to which the applicable fee schedule was applied for the entire year to better reflect our typical management fees. Standard fee schedule - First \$25 million 0.90%; Next \$25 million 0.90%; Next \$100 million 0.80%; Amounts over \$150 million 0.70%. Brandes' investment advisory fees are detailed in Part 2A of its Form ADV. Brandes claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Brandes has been independently verified for the annual periods 1995 through 2020.

A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. The Japan Equity Composite has had a performance examination for the periods since inception through year end 2020. The verification and performance examination reports are available upon request.

A list of composite and limited distribution pooled fund descriptions, a list of broad distribution pooled funds, and policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS Reports, are available upon request. Contact client service at 800-237-7119 or write 4275 Executive Square, 5th Floor, La Jolla, California 92037, P.O. Box 919048, San Diego, California 92191-9048 or email ClientService@Brandes.com. GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

Investors should not rely on prior performance results as a reliable indication of future results.

(a) The MSCI Japan Index with net dividends is designed to measure the performance of large and mid cap segments of the Japan market. MSCI has not approved, reviewed or produced this report, makes no express or implied warranties or representations and is not liable whatsoever for any data in the report. You may not redistribute the MSCI data or use it as a basis for other indices or investment products. The benchmark returns are not covered by the report of independent verifiers.

Annual Performance %				Composite Characteristics				Annualized 3 Year Standard Deviation % (2)		
Period	Composite Gross*	Composite Net*	Benchmark (a)	Assets \$ Millions	Number of Accounts	Internal Dispersion (1)	Non-Fee Paying Accounts (%)	Total Firm Assets \$ Millions	Composite Gross	Benchmark (a)
2020	-5.22	-5.51	14.48	812	7	0.88	0	18,595	13.74	15.29
2019	16.53	15.61	19.61	920	8	0.19	0	21,451	9.90	10.33
2018	-11.93	-12.65	-12.88	790	8	0.14	2	22,106	11.39	11.57
2017	21.20	20.22	23.99	945	8	0.23	2	25,578	11.18	12.31
2016	13.25	12.31	2.38	819	8	0.16	2	22,971	12.41	12.89
2015	20.61	19.62	9.57	748	7	0.29	2	20,666	11.69	13.26
2014	-0.37	-1.17	-4.02	674	7	N/A	2	20,722	12.22	12.88
2013	24.16	23.19	27.16	791	7	N/A	2	21,464	13.54	14.70
2012	2.94	2.08	8.18	898	6	0.18	1	22,171	13.95	14.45
2011	-7.65	-8.37	-14.33	972	8	0.86	<1	26,658	16.46	16.97