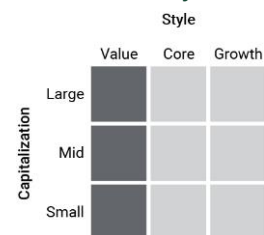


# Brandes Japan Equity

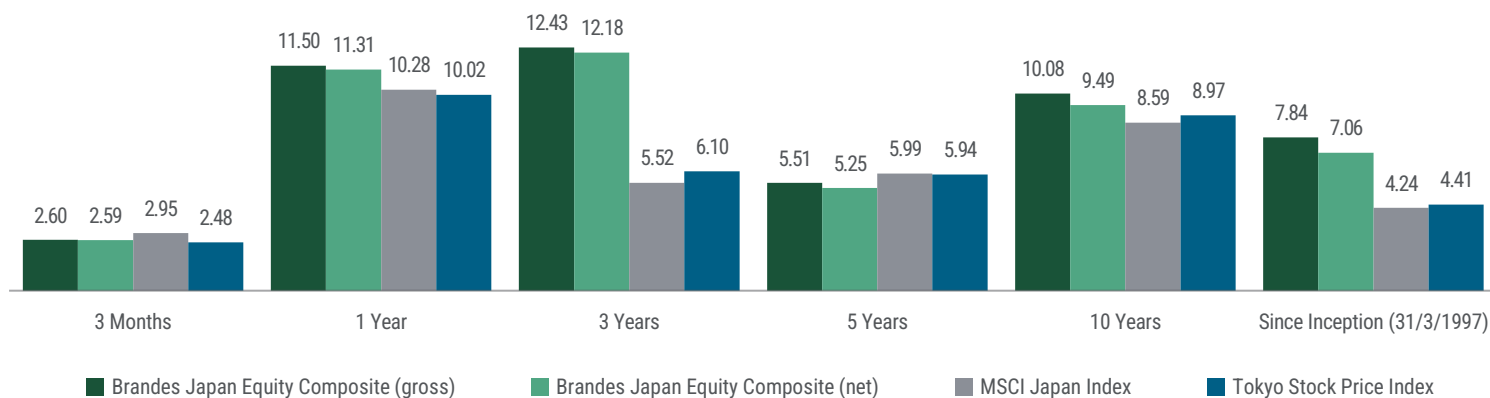
- **Pioneer:** Brandes is a pioneer in value investing, having navigated global markets for over 40 years, and managing a standalone Japan Equity Strategy for over 20 years.
- **Value:** The strategy consistently applies a disciplined investment process focused on uncovering Japanese companies with potentially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

## Investment Style Box



Source: Brandes

## Performance (GBP,%) as of 31/12/24



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.

## Top 10 Holdings<sup>†</sup>

| Company                         | %            |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Takeda Pharmaceutical Co Ltd    | 4.18         |
| Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Group Inc | 3.46         |
| Honda Motor Co Ltd              | 3.36         |
| Astellas Pharma Inc             | 2.95         |
| H.U. Group Holdings Inc         | 2.69         |
| Bridgestone Corp                | 2.65         |
| Nihon Parkerizing Co Ltd        | 2.56         |
| DeNA Co Ltd                     | 2.54         |
| Kissei Pharmaceutical Co Ltd    | 2.50         |
| Nissan Motor Co Ltd             | 2.50         |
| <b>Top 10 as % of Portfolio</b> | <b>29.39</b> |

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

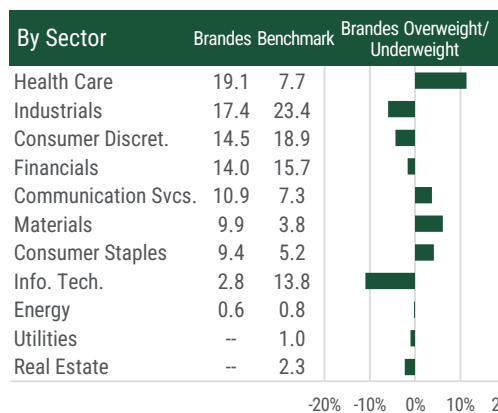
|                     | Brandes | Benchmark |
|---------------------|---------|-----------|
| Price/Book (x)      | 0.7     | 1.5       |
| Price/Earnings (x)  | 13.1    | 14.8      |
| Price/Cash Flow (x) | 8.5     | 8.9       |
| Dividend Yield %    | 3.2     | 2.2       |

Source: Bloomberg, FactSet, MSCI.

|                                  | Brandes | Benchmark |
|----------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Active Share %                   | 87.7    | --        |
| Number of Holdings               | 65      | --        |
| Weighted Average Mkt. Cap (£bil) | 12.1    | 53.7      |
| Standard Deviation (3 year) %    | 9.09    | 10.75     |

## Exposure<sup>†</sup>

Brandes Japan Equity vs. MSCI Japan Index



Source: Brandes, MSCI.

Data as of 31/12/24.

**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/C/F, 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 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.

Non-U.S. dollar composite and benchmark returns shown were calculated and converted using the exchange rate fluctuations between the two currencies of the stated U.S. dollar returns.

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 investing is subject to certain risks such as currency fluctuation and social 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® Report

Composite Name: Brandes Japan Equity

Benchmark: MSCI Japan Index

Reporting Date: December 31, 2023

(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 2013 through September 2019 composite performance after management fee returns were determined by reducing the gross of fee returns monthly by the highest applicable fee schedule per account. 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. For periods where actual fees were used to calculate the net return, a model fee representing the standard fee schedule is applied to any non-fee paying accounts included in the composite.

Standard fee schedule - First \$25 million 0.95%; 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 2023.

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 2023. 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 P.O. Box 919048, San Diego, California 92191-9048 or email ClientService@Brandes.com.

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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.

(b) The TOPIX Index with gross dividends is Japanese YEN based and calculated based on all the domestic common stocks listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange First Section. The total returns for the index prior to 12/31/1998 are not available; therefore returns are derived by combining the price index returns and corresponding month-end yields (the source of this index information is FT Interactive Data Corporation). From 12/31/1998 to present time, the returns for the TOPIX index are calculated on a total return basis. The source of the index information is FactSet Research Systems Inc., a leading provider of financial and economic information. USD conversion of the index is calculated by FactSet using the spot rate at 16:00 Greenwich Mean Time. 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) | Benchmark (b) | Assets \$ Millions        | Number of Accounts | Internal Dispersion (1) | Total Firm Assets \$ Millions | Composite Gross                            | Benchmark (a) | Benchmark (b) |
| 2023                                   | 21.10            | 20.81          | 20.32         | 20.04         | 523                       | 5                  | 0.19                    | 21,705                        | 13.18                                      | 15.14         | 14.59         |
| 2022                                   | -0.92            | -1.18          | -16.65        | -14.87        | 483                       | 5                  | 0.16                    | 17,238                        | 15.33                                      | 17.37         | 16.90         |
| 2021                                   | -0.72            | -0.99          | 1.71          | 1.08          | 590                       | 6                  | 0.12                    | 20,179                        | 13.10                                      | 13.73         | 13.65         |
| 2020                                   | -5.22            | -5.51          | 14.48         | 13.04         | 812                       | 7                  | 0.88                    | 18,595                        | 13.74                                      | 15.29         | 15.22         |
| 2019                                   | 16.53            | 15.61          | 19.61         | 19.25         | 920                       | 8                  | 0.19                    | 21,451                        | 9.90                                       | 10.33         | 10.49         |
| 2018                                   | -11.93           | -12.65         | -12.88        | -13.73        | 790                       | 8                  | 0.14                    | 22,106                        | 11.39                                      | 11.57         | 11.78         |
| 2017                                   | 21.20            | 20.22          | 23.99         | 26.55         | 945                       | 8                  | 0.23                    | 25,578                        | 11.18                                      | 12.31         | 11.94         |
| 2016                                   | 13.25            | 12.31          | 2.38          | 3.46          | 819                       | 8                  | 0.16                    | 22,971                        | 12.41                                      | 12.89         | 12.56         |
| 2015                                   | 20.61            | 19.62          | 9.57          | 11.69         | 748                       | 7                  | 0.29                    | 20,666                        | 11.69                                      | 13.26         | 12.96         |
| 2014                                   | -0.37            | -1.17          | -4.02         | -3.33         | 674                       | 7                  | N/A                     | 20,722                        | 12.22                                      | 12.88         | 12.83         |
| Annualized Performance %               |                  |                |               |               | 1 Year                    |                    | 5 Years                 |                               | 10 Years                                   |               |               |
| Brandes Japan Equity Composite (gross) |                  |                |               |               | 21.10                     |                    | 5.64                    |                               | 6.69                                       |               |               |
| Brandes Japan Equity Composite (net)   |                  |                |               |               | 20.81                     |                    | 5.24                    |                               | 6.05                                       |               |               |
| Benchmark (a)                          |                  |                |               |               | 20.32                     |                    | 6.91                    |                               | 4.97                                       |               |               |
| Benchmark (b)                          |                  |                |               |               | 20.04                     |                    | 6.84                    |                               | 5.44                                       |               |               |