

# Unit Investment Trust Funds

## METRO\$ JAPAN EQUITY FEEDER FUND

### KEY INFORMATION AND INVESTMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Month Ended January 31, 2024

#### FUND FACTS

Classification:	Feeder	Net Asset Value per Unit (NAVPU):	1.094827
Launch Date:	February 14, 2018	Total Fund NAV (in USD Mns):	1.74
Trust Fee (per annum):	0.75% based on NAV	Dealing Day:	12NN, any banking day
Minimum Investment:	USD 500	Redemption Settlement:	4 Banking Days after date of redemption
Additional Investment:	USD 100	Early Redemption Charge:	50% of income on redeemed amount
Minimum Holding Period:	7 calendar days from date of participation		

#### COOLING-OFF PERIOD

Pursuant to BSP Circular No. 857, the TRUSTOR (individual participants) shall have the right to cancel their initial subscriptions or contributions, without penalty, upon written notice to the Trustee within two (2) banking days immediately following the signing of agreement or contract evidencing their participation in the Fund. Further, the net amount of payment or delivery due the TRUSTOR shall be based on the transaction day's NAVPU when notice of redemption, termination or cancellation was received.

#### FEES COLLECTED FOR THE MONTH<sup>1</sup>

Trustee Fees:	Custodianship Fees:	External Auditor Fees:	Other Fees:
0.065%	0.003%	0.000%	0.009%
Metrobank-Trust Banking Group	Standard Chartered Bank	SGV & Co.	Others

<sup>1</sup> As a percentage of average daily NAV for the month valued at (in USD Mns): 1.76

#### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGY

The Investor Fund is a USD-denominated equity Unit Investment Trust Fund structured as a feeder fund and aims to provide market returns from a representative portfolio of stocks that comprise the Japan Equity Market by investing at least 90% of its assets in the iSHARES MSCI JAPAN ETF. The Fund's benchmark is the MSCI Daily TR Net Japan (NDDUJN Index).

#### CLIENT SUITABILITY

A client profiling process is performed prior to participating in the Fund to guide the prospective investor if the Fund is suited to his/her investment objectives and risk tolerance. Clients are encouraged to update the resulting profile every three (3) years or if there's any change in his/her personal/financial circumstances. Before deciding to invest, clients are advised to read the Declaration of Trust/Plan Rules of the Fund, which may be obtained from the Trustee, or seek an independent/professional opinion when necessary.

#### The METRO\$ JAPAN EQUITY FEEDER FUND is suitable only for investors who:

- Have an Aggressive profile.
- Want capital appreciation over the long-term by primarily investing in iSHARES MSCI JAPAN ETF
- Recommended investment horizon is at least five (5) years
- Participation in the Fund shall be open to Filipino individuals, resident and non-resident aliens and corporate accounts.

#### KEY RISKS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

You should not invest in this Fund if you do not understand or are not comfortable with the accompanying risks.

Market/Price Risk:	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to changes in the market prices of stocks/equities. It refers to the portfolio's exposure to marked-to-market valuation due to market price fluctuations of the stocks/equities.
Liquidity Risk:	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to the inability to sell or convert assets into cash immediately or in instances where conversion to cash is possible but at a price that could result in a loss. This may be caused by low trading volume due to different reasons such as securities with small or few outstanding issues, absence of buyers and/or sellers (limited buy/sell activity) or underdeveloped capital market.
Credit Risk / Default Risk:	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to a borrower's failure to pay principal and/or interest in a timely manner on instruments such as bonds, loans, or other forms of fixed income security which the borrower issued. This inability of the borrower or counterparty to make good on its financial obligations may have resulted from adverse changes in its financial condition thus, lowering credit quality of the security, and consequently lowering the price (market/price risk) which contributes to the difficulty in selling such security.
Foreign Exchange Risk:	The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. The exchange rates depend upon a variety of global and local factors, e.g. interest rates, economic performance, and political developments.
Country Risk:	The possibility for an investor to experience losses arising from investments in securities issued by/in foreign countries due to the political, economic and social structures of these countries. There are risks in foreign investments due to the possible internal and external conflicts, currency devaluations, foreign ownership limitations and tax increases of the foreign country involved which are difficult to predict but must be taken into account in making such investments.
Index Tracking Risk:	The possibility for the Fund not being able to achieve a level of return that closely mirrors the index being tracked due to operational and fund management expenses.
Other Risks:	Your participation in the UITFs may be further exposed to the risk of any actual or potential conflicts of interest in the handling of in-house or related party transactions by Metrobank. These transactions may include own-bank deposits; purchase of own-institution or affiliate obligations (stocks, mortgages); purchase of assets from or sales to own institution, directors, officers, subsidiaries, affiliates or other related interests/parties; or purchases or sales between fiduciary/managed accounts.

The Fund invests only in high-credit quality assets which are evaluated using a rigorous internal scoring model required under the Trustee's accreditation process and BSP regulations. Internal risk limits and position limits together with regulatory exposure limits are monitored, reviewed and strictly adhered to on a daily basis. The Fund may also use financial derivatives solely for hedging risk exposures.

THE UIT FUND IS NOT A DEPOSIT AND IS NOT INSURED BY THE PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION (PDIC). RETURNS CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND HISTORICAL NAVPU IS FOR ILLUSTRATION OF NAVPU MOVEMENTS/FLUCTUATIONS ONLY. WHEN REDEEMING, THE PROCEEDS MAY BE WORTH LESS THAN THE ORIGINAL INVESTMENT AND ANY LOSSES WILL BE SOLELY FOR THE ACCOUNT OF THE CLIENT.

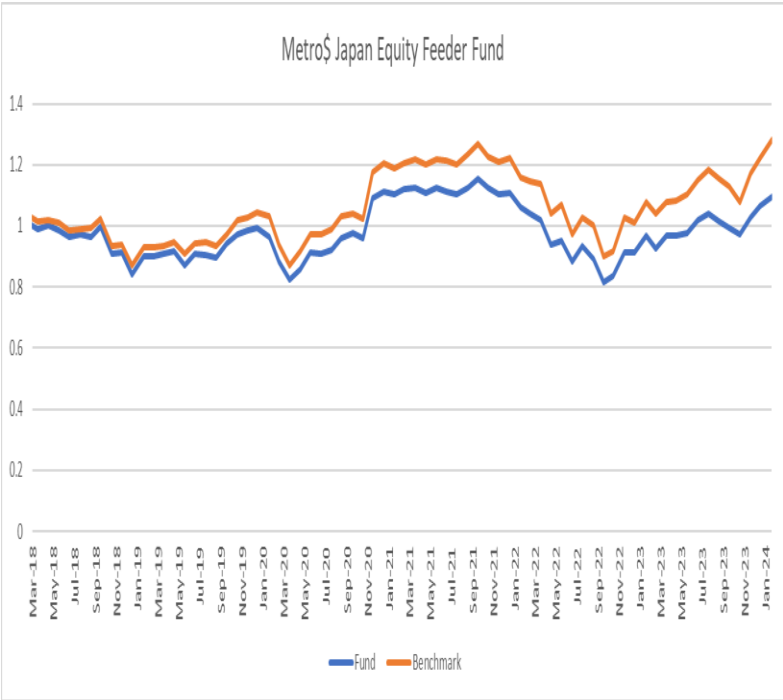
THE TRUSTEE IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY LOSS UNLESS UPON WILLFUL DEFAULT, BAD FAITH OR GROSS NEGLIGENCE.

# Unit Investment Trust Funds

## FUND PERFORMANCE AND STATISTICS as of January 31, 2024

(Purely for reference purposes and is not a guarantee of future results)

### NAVPu GRAPH



NAVPu OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS	
Highest	1.102784
Lowest	0.910472

STATISTICS OF THE TARGET FUND	
Volatility, Past 1 Year (in %) <sup>2</sup>	11.43%
Sharpe Ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.69
Information Ratio <sup>4</sup>	-1.26
Tracking Error <sup>5</sup>	1.16%

<sup>2</sup> Volatility measures the degree to which the Fund fluctuates vis-à-vis its average return over a period of time. The lower the number, the more stable the Fund's return is relative to its average return over time.

<sup>3</sup> Sharpe Ratio is used to characterize how well the return of a Fund compensates the investor for the level of risk taken. The higher the number, the better.

<sup>4</sup> Information Ratio measures reward-to-risk efficiency of the portfolio relative to the benchmark. The higher the number, the higher the reward per unit of risk.

<sup>5</sup> Tracking Error measures the deviation between the Fund's return and benchmark return since the Fund's inception. The lower the number, the more aligned the Fund's return is with the benchmark. (Starting September 2021 report the basis for the Tracking Error computation is since the Fund's inception.)

### CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception
Fund	2.955%	12.556%	5.141%	12.990%	-0.760%	21.506%	9.483%
Benchmark	4.618%	18.526%	8.126%	18.510%	7.794%	37.731%	28.014%

### PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION

Allocation	% of Fund
IShares MSCI Japan ETF	94.73%
Time Deposits	6.34%
Cash	-1.00%
Other Receivables - Net of Liabilities <sup>6</sup>	-0.06%

<sup>6</sup> Includes accrued income from investments, receivables from brokers/counterparties and unpaid expenses.

Sector Allocation of the Target Fund	
Industrials	22.14%
Consumer Discretionary	19.36%
Information Technology	14.82%
Financials	12.64%
Health Care	8.12%
Communication	7.15%
Consumer Staples	5.60%
Materials	4.84%
Real Estate	3.11%
Utilities	1.13%
Energy	0.81%

### TOP 10 HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND

Name	% of Fund
1. TOYOTA MOTOR CORP	5.71%
2. SONY GROUP CORP	3.32%
3. MITSUBISHI UFJ FINANCIAL GROUP INC	2.86%
4. TOKYO ELECTRON LTD	2.35%
5. KEYENCE CORP	2.32%
6. HITACHI LTD	1.94%
7. SHIN ETSU CHEMICAL LTD	1.92%
8. SUMITOMO MITSUI FINANCIAL GROUP INC	1.76%
9. MITSUBISHI CORP	1.59%
10. NINTENDO LTD	1.55%

### RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Related Party	Transaction	Market Value (in USD Mns)
MBTC	Time Deposit Placement	0.08

Investments in the said outlets were approved by the Trust Committee. Likewise, all related party transactions are conducted on an arm's length and best execution basis and within established limits.

### TARGET FUND FACTS

**Name of Target Fund:** iShares MSCI Japan ETF  
**Fund Currency:** US Dollar  
**Fund Manager:** BlackRock Fund Advisors  
**Inception Date:** March 12, 1996  
**Benchmark:** MSCI Japan Index

**Domicile:** United States of America  
**Regulator:** Securities and Exchange Commission  
**Administrator, Custodian and Transfer Agent:** State Street Bank & Trust Company

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Target Fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of Japanese equities. Fund Performance Report and relevant information about the iShares MSCI Japan ETF can be viewed and downloaded through [www.iShares.com](http://www.iShares.com).



For other details, you may visit our website at [www.metrobank.com.ph](http://www.metrobank.com.ph) or contact us at 8-8700-700 or email us at [customercare@metrobank.com.ph](mailto:customercare@metrobank.com.ph)



# Unit Investment Trust Funds

## INVESTMENT POLICY

A. The Fund may be invested and reinvested in the following instruments:

- USD-denominated units/shares in collective investment schemes subject to the conditions under BSP Circular 767
- USD-denominated deposits
- Other traded money market instruments
- Other USD-denominated Investments allowed under BSP regulations

B. The Investor Fund may invest a minimum of 90% of its fund in the Target Fund and a maximum of 10% in cash, deposits and other money market instruments. The investment of the Investor Fund in any Target Fund shall not exceed 10% of the Total Net Asset Value of the Target Fund.

## OUTLOOK AND STRATEGY

The fund increased by 2.95% for the month of January. Japanese equities lagged in 2023 and started strong in 2024 as the Nikkei remains on-track to test the all-time highs that was last seen in 1990. Policy uncertainty remains a headwind for Japan.

The market's over-optimism on rate cuts ignites volatility.

The Bank of Japan (BOJ) left policy rates unchanged following the deadly earthquake earlier in the month, reinforcing the stance of highly accommodative rate environment. The BOJ continues to evaluate the wage inflation and examine the feasibility of continuing its massive stimulus program. Japan aims to ensure that growth in disposable income exceeds price increases.

Japan's core CPI YoY inched lower to 3.7% from 3.8%, joblessness also declined to 2.4% from 2.5%, while retail sales contracted from 1% MoM to -2.9%, as household spending further contracted by 2.9%. Investors and Japanese authorities remain focus on the country's wage growth, aiming to achieve a second consecutive year of wage growth. PPI grew 0% YoY, as manufacturing PMI fell further into contraction, from 48.3 to 47.9.

In January, Japanese market continued its bullish run after lagging its developed market peers in late 2023. The Nikkei has rallied to its highest level since 1990. Japanese equities are currently in bullish consolidation at key resistance levels, a break from either the top or bottom will dictate the movement in coming months. Meanwhile, global equities continued to push higher, powered by the magnificent 7 as the "AI chase" continued. Although markets have become severely overbought, it is important to note that markets can stay irrational for extended periods, with valuations extending beyond 10-year historical averages. Healthcare has also emerged a prominent theme as the weight loss drugs becomes the consumer's solution to obesity.

The fund is capitalizing on favorable dollar time deposit rates, offering a 60-day yield of 5.20%.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company is regulated by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP). For any inquiries and complaints relating to Trust Products and Services you may (1) call our hotline: 8-8700-700 (Mondays-Fridays from 9:00am to 6:00pm); (2) send an email to [customercare@metrobank.com.ph](mailto:customercare@metrobank.com.ph); or (3) visit our website at <https://www.metrobank.com.ph/invest/uitf> to know more. You may also file complaints at BSP Financial Consumer Protection Department at (632) 8708-7087 or [consumeraffairs@bsp.gov.ph](mailto:consumeraffairs@bsp.gov.ph). To know your rights under BSP Circular No. 857 (Regulations on Financial Consumer Protection), please access a copy at the BSP website ([www.bsp.gov.ph](http://www.bsp.gov.ph)).



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