

# Peso Growth Fund

An investment fund option for variable life insurance products of **The Manufacturers Life Insurance Co., (Phils), Inc.**

## Investment Objective

The Fund seeks to achieve long-term capital appreciation by investing in stocks listed on the Philippine Stock Exchange, government securities and/or pooled fund/s that invest in these securities and other liquid instruments.

## Fund Information

<b>Inception Date</b> April 2009	<b>Fund Size</b> PHP 15.25 billion	<b>Fund Currency</b> Philippine peso	<b>Dealing/Valuation</b> Daily
<b>Price (NAV/unit)</b> PHP 2.649	<b>Management Fee</b> 2.25% per annum	<b>Bloomberg Ticker</b> MPPHGRW	

## Performance Return (April 30, 2021)

Peso Growth Fund (net of management fee)	1 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception
Absolute	-1.23%	-10.78%	7.99%	-21.93%	-15.98%	165.96%
Annualized	n.a.	n.a.	7.99%	-7.92%	-3.42%	8.46%

*Past performance is not an indication of future results. Information about the portfolio's holdings, asset allocation, or country diversification is historical and is not an indication of future portfolio composition, which will vary.*

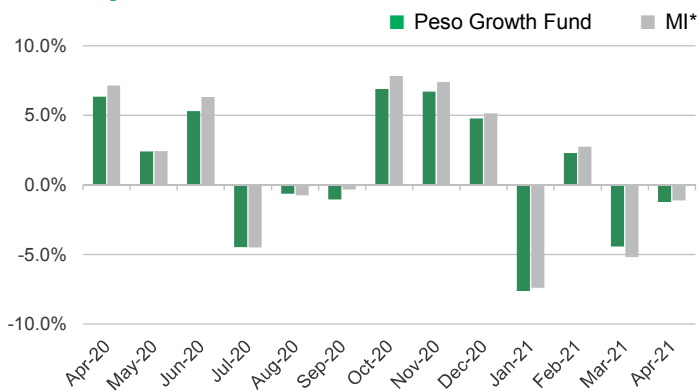
## Monthly Net Asset Value per Unit



## Top Five Holdings

SM INVESTMENTS CORPORATION	15.39%
Manulife Equity Wealth Fund Class I	10.40%
SM PRIME HOLDINGS INC	9.77%
AYALA LAND INC	9.59%
AYALA CORPORATION	7.93%

## Monthly Performance



\*Market Indicator = 100% Philippine Stock Exchange Index

## Portfolio Breakdown

### Asset Allocation (at Market Value)



As per the fund's Investment Policy Statement, initial subscriptions are invested in fixed 100% Equity Pool. The investments of the Equity Pool consist of stocks listed on the Philippine Stock Exchange and term deposits.

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## Market Review

The PSEI was down 1.1% for April at 6,370.87 as market sentiment continued to be weighed down by new highs in COVID daily cases, capacity strained hospitals, and the extension of tighter quarantine restrictions. There was a slight easing of quarantine measures from ECQ to MECQ in NCR and its surrounding provinces (“NCR Plus”) beginning April 12. The government allowed limited dine-in for restaurants at 10% capacity, while curfew hours were shortened to 10pm to 4am.

There were also concerns on the possible delays in economic recovery as the pace of the ongoing vaccination efforts remain slow. Since March, only 1.8 million vaccine doses have been administered. The Philippines has received a total of 4 million COVID vaccine doses, with another 8 million doses expected to arrive in late May. The aim of government is to vaccinate as much as 70 million people by end of the year.

April inflation rate remained flat at 4.5% y/y. Food prices moderated as it rose 5% m/m from a 6.2% rise m/m in March. We expect inflation in the medium term to remain manageable with the BSP lowering its 2021 forecast to 3.9% from 4.2% while increasing 2022 forecast to 3% from 2.8%. Currently, the government has reduced the tariff for rice importation alongside the lowering of import duties on pork.

## Outlook

First quarter corporate earnings results kicked off in April with a few companies already reporting better quarter on quarter earnings trajectory albeit still tracking below pre-Covid levels. We continue to remain cautiously optimistic in equities as we expect earnings recovery to be felt more in the second half of the year. We believe that overall corporate earnings are on track to recover to pre-pandemic levels by 2022. Our preference remains in cyclical sectors like banks and real estate as these will both be the winners as the economic recovery unfolds. We are now more selective on defensive sectors like telco, energy, utilities, and consumer due to rising input costs and prefer names that have strong brand equity and expanding market share. We also have introduced into the portfolio a handful of quality small cap stocks that we think will deliver above average earnings growth when the economy recovers.

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The investment fund option for The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company's variable life insurance product is managed by Manulife Asset Management and Trust Corporation.

The Fund mentioned in this document is specific to variable life insurance contracts and is not considered a mutual fund. Yields depend on interest and foreign exchange rate levels, both of which may fluctuate. Other factors that affect yield include changes in the credit standing of the issuers and changes in the value of the stocks and dividends received. Further, investments of the Fund may provide that their values be determined based on prices or yields of other securities, instruments or foreign currencies, and such provisions may result in negative fluctuations in the value of these investments and, in turn, the Fund's yields. Thus, the performance of the separate account(s) is not guaranteed and the value of the policy could be less than the capital invested. THE VARIABLE LIFE POLICYHOLDER SHALL BEAR ALL INVESTMENT RISKS. Past performance of the Fund is not necessarily indicative of future performance. Yields are not guaranteed.

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