

# Peso Growth Fund

An investment fund option for **Affluence Max**, **Affluence Max Gold**, **Affluence Builder Series**, **Horizons** and **FlexiSure** 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 16.09 billion	<b>Fund Currency</b> Philippine peso	<b>Dealing/Valuation</b> Daily
<b>Price (NAV/unit)</b> PHP 3.409	<b>Management Fee</b> 2.25% per annum	<b>Bloomberg Ticker</b> MPPHGRW	

## Performance Return (October 31, 2019)

Peso Growth Fund (net of management fee)	1 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception
Absolute	2.25%	5.90%	11.22%	5.38%	4.99%	242.27%
Annualized	n.a.	n.a.	11.22%	1.76%	0.98%	12.38%

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.

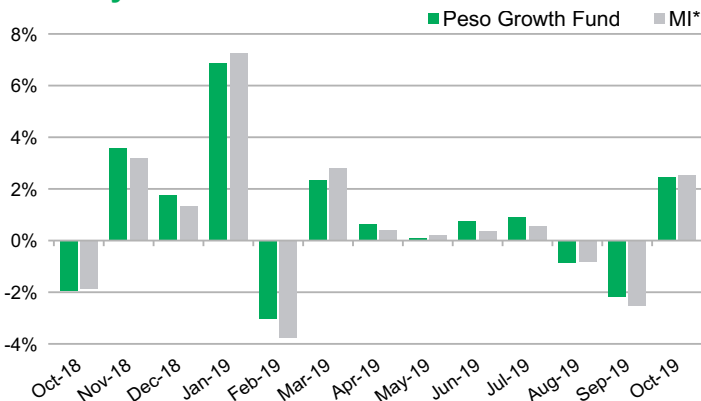
## Monthly Net Asset Value per Unit



## Top Five Holdings

Manulife Equity Wealth Fund Class I	12.3%
SM Investments	12.0%
Ayala Land	9.2%
SM Prime Holdings	8.7%
BDO Unibank	7.7%

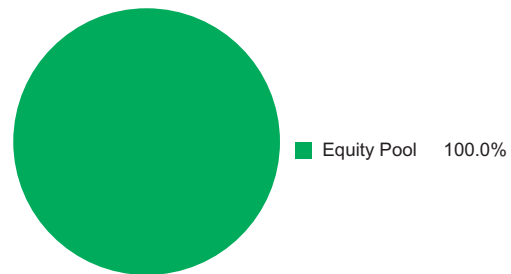
## Monthly Performance



\*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 local stock market index (PSEI) closed at 7,977, up 2.5% for the month of October. Markets reacted positively after the U.S. and China appeared to have reached some common ground during high-level trade negotiations in Washington. A partial trade deal is currently being worked out between the two countries. On the macro front, Philippine inflation continued to ease in October with a 0.8% reading. Inflation was driven by the continued decline in the heavily-weighted food and non-alcoholic beverages and transportation indices at -0.9% and -1.7%, respectively. This is consistent with the BSP's outlook that inflation has likely bottomed out in October and could start to pick up slightly in the following months as base effects start to dissipate. Food prices continued to decline despite African Swine Flu cutting the country's pork supply as consumers shifted to consuming more chicken and beef instead. With inflation well under control, the Philippine Central Bank announced another cut in reserve requirement ratios (RRR) effective December. This would be the 4th 100bps cut in reserve requirement this year, which would bring down the RRR to 14%.

The PSEI may likely find a positive catalyst in the near-term through the upcoming third quarter earnings season to help sustain its momentum above the 8,000 level. Philippine corporates are expected to deliver continued strong earnings growth of 16% for 2019. Furthermore, the overhang on the market caused by the IPOs scheduled for the remainder of the year has been greatly reduced. The supposed IPO of Metro Pacific's hospital chain, estimated at USD1.6bn got cancelled after the company decided to take a private sale route instead. As such, the market may strengthen on the news as investors redeploy raised cash in preparation for the deal. Lastly, the market environment continues to be accommodative of growth with the continuous decline in bond yields and banks' reserve requirements. 10-year bond yields were relatively unchanged month-on-month prior to the BSP's RRR cut announcement, suggesting price discovery has been fully achieved for the bond market. With the BSP's RRR cut set in December, all the Central Bank's plans for the remainder of the year have been laid out and therefore could result to minimal bond market movements for the remainder of the year.

## Outlook

Looking forward to 2020, we remain optimistic of the Philippine economy which should continue to be insulated from a global slowdown should trade war woes reemerge. 2020 economic growth will be mainly driven by government spending recovery due to the spillover of the national budget to next year, as well as favorable base effects from the 2019 budget delays. Corporate earnings are likewise expected to be healthy and expected to grow at a double-digit pace. The portfolio is tilted towards the banking and property sectors in anticipation of renewed infrastructure developments, which should result to higher funding demand and better real estate prices.

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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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